

Newton, pastor of Druid Hills Missionary Baptist Church, and Dr. James P. Newberry, pastor of Morningside Missionary Baptist Church had lunch with us and made brief talks to the Church. These last two paragraphs were taken from Elder Virgil F. Agan Journal Record of my Ministry.

SEE APPENDIX D CHURCH DEDICATION JANUARY 11, 1959 ON PAGE 90.

SEE APPENDIX E DEDICATION SERMON BY ELDER M. T. THOMAS ON PAGE 93.

Conference January 21, 1959 a motion by Brother Lyon and seconded by Brother McLendon, it was agreed to renew our note for \$40,000 with the Citizen Southern National Bank. Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. stated he felt any anxiety on the part of the membership over the finances of the church were unwarranted, that members should not discuss expenses but work happily towards greater cooperation and fellowship. He suggested it might be wise to have a supper at the Church twice a month with this in mind. The supper would be every other Wednesday night.

A beautiful etching of the new church, made by Brother Wilbur Kurtz, was displayed. The Clerk was instructed to write Brother Kurtz a letter of thanks and advise him the conference gave him a rising vote of appreciation for this outstanding gift to the church.

The matter of joining the Primitive Western Union was brought up and it was agreed the matter would be discussed at each prayer meeting preceding the February 18 conference, at which time action will be taken.

Conference February 18, 1959 equipping the kitchen was mentioned and the prices submitted by two bidders were discussed. Motion by Brother Enoch Hicks, Sr., seconded by Brother L. A. Warnock and approved, it was agreed to have the kitchen equipment installed as soon as possible.

A brief final discussion was made on the matter of the Church's joining the Primitive Baptist Western Association. Several members were given an opportunity to express themselves for and against membership. A motion was then made by Brother Langley Irvin to have the vote. This was seconded by Brother J. T. Lyon and carried. A standing vote, tallied by the church clerk, was taken, resulting in twenty-three votes for joining and eight votes against joining. These results being another clear indication of the fine unity of purpose pervading all actions now being taken by the Church. After the vote all present stood up and rendered a completely unanimous vote in favor of membership in the association.

Conference March 18, 1959 a report was made on the progress of furnishing the kitchen. It was reported that most of the equipment was in place and connections with utilities were being made. Members were invited to inspect the kitchen to view the beautiful appearance and function design of the units.

Brother Earl McLendon reported on progress on the furnishing of the pastor's study. The drapes had been selected, the fireplace installed, the pastor's desk delivered, rugs laid, a nice chair and table in place and a sofa ordered. Many complimentary remarks were made on the rarely beautiful effect achieved in this room.

It was noted that Sister C. G. Battle had presented a beautiful banquet size, hand crocheted tablecloth to be used by the Ladies Circle in the manner most advantageous to the Church. Brother Enoch Hicks announced that the committee appointed to select four new Deacons was ready to make their recommendations. After much prayer and deliberations he said, the

following were offered: Brother Earl McLendon, Brother Ollis Elton, Brother Langley Irvin, and Brother Charles Scott. Brother Lyon spoke for the entire Church when he said he thought the committee had done a fine job and Elder Agan stated he did not believe they could have done a better job.

Conference June 24, 1959 the matter of the chandeliers for the sanctuary was brought up and Brother Cannon made a motion, seconded by Brother J. T. Lyon, that Brother Hicks acquire them as soon as possible and have them installed. The motion was carried. Brother Fred Cannon, Jr. announced that Sister Carolyn McEntire had presented the church with some very nice nursery furniture. She was given a rising vote of appreciation for this much needed equipment.

Ordination services were held Tuesday Night, July 7, 1959 at 8:00 P. M. for the following: Brother Earl McLendon, Brother Langley Irvin, Brother Charles E. Scott and Brother W. Ollis Elton.

The presbytery was composed of representatives from two local Primitive Baptist Churches, Trinity and Fellowship. From Fellowship were Elder Donald Lloyd, supply pastor, and deacons H. C. Routen and Jake Chastain. For Trinity were Elder J. E. Fuller and Brother J. S. Harper. Elder J. E. Fuller who read the 14 Articles of Primitive Baptist Faith, made examination of the candidates. The Candidates indicated their belief in the doctrine as set forth.

The prayer of Ordination was given by Elder Agan on request of Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. Elder Agan gave the charge to the candidates, saying each had been familiarized with the duties of a deacon and with the scriptures bearing on their conduct and their being an example to all the church in living sober devoted lives.

The Atlanta Deacons present were Brother's Robert B. Woodall, Fred Cannon, Sr., John T. Dunn, Enoch Hicks, Sr., and L. A. Warnock.

Conference August 19, 1959 the clerk read a letter she had prepared petitioning the Primitive Western Association for membership. The letter was approved. Delegates to the association were selected and approved: Sister Rena Williams, Brother and Sister L. A. Warnock, and Sister Joe Wilson.

The matter of acquiring a sign for the front of the church was discussed and conforming in design with the architecture of our church.

The Family Night Dinners (Fellowship Dinners) have gotten off to a wonderful start on becoming a regular feature of our church life. The great happiness and fellowship enjoyed by all those who have been attending has truly been an inspiring experience. Each night the attendance has increased, the food has been better, and the warmth of true loving association enveloped the entire assemblage.

Conference December 23, 1959 Elder Agan gave a quotation on cost of yard work given by Brother Lanier. It was agreed that we would go ahead and fix the east curb and do the planting on this side. It was also agreed that Sister Fred Cannon, Sr. would ask to confer on this job with Brother Lanier.

Conference January 20, 1960 Brother Irvin stated that Brother Wilbur Kurtz had been authorized to draw plans for a sign for the front of the Church.

The need for rock for the east drive was discussed and Brother Joe Bryan stated he thought he could get two loads free, he *would* do this and report.

Conference April 20, 1960 Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. Chairman, Board of Deacons made the following recommendations to the church as follows:

1. "The Deacons feel that our church membership should be made up of active members only. We define an active member as follows: One who, unless providentially hindered, attends the majority of church services and supports the church financially according to the blessings they have received.
2. We further recommend that each delinquent member be contacted in person or by letter by the deacons, requesting that they advise the church as to whether or not they wish to comply with this policy in the future or whether they prefer to be taken off the church membership roll."
3. We recommended to the church that this policy be adopted and that each member be mailed a copy of this part of the minutes.

The conference approved these recommendations and a copy of the minutes was sent to each member.

The clerk was instructed to write letters to Sister Carolyn McEntire, Brother Fred L. Cannon, Jr., and Brother Fred Brantley thanking them for their great generosity in giving their bonds to the church to apply on the special collection made to bring our church finances up to date.

Conference May 18, 1960 the Church discussed the matter of Brother .J. Harley Chapman, Jr. Being with us from the first of September until Collage begins at Emory, during which time he will give considerable time to the church and the pastor, we to give room and expenses, and take special collection for him. It was further discussed that we would have him to supply for us when Elder Agan, our pastor is away.

Brother Dunn advised that the Board of Deacons had recommended that the Treasurer be authorized to renew the note at the Citizens and Southern National Bank for \$35,500 for a period of one year at rate of five and one half percent and that the Church Clerk prepare and mail a letter to the Bank, expressing our sincere appreciation of their kindness. Brother Lyon, seconded by Sister Jamie Wilson made a motion to this effect, and the motion was carried.

**ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
MAY 1960**

TO ALL BRETHREN AND SISTERS OF THE ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Dear Fellow Member:

We are now midway the second year in our beautiful new church building, for which we are most grateful and thankful. We were late in receiving the necessary faith to build our new Church; however things have moved fast since we started this project and we have been wonderfully blessed. We now seem to have some growing pains but with our continued faith and the splendid cooperation of our Brethren and Sisters we will be able to overcome them. Christ gives victory to believers in Him.

It was in the fall of 1953 that we began trying to raise money to buy a lot for the new Church. Our budget the year was \$7,500.00. Under the splendid leadership of our most beloved Chairman of the Board of Deacons, the late Mike E. Everett, and our Pastor, and after thinking seriously over the matter, we agreed to try a plan the church had never tried before - the Envelope System. This plan has been in effect ever since that time and has worked wonderfully. Without it we do not believe we would have been able to build our Church; however, we feel that it can be improved upon.

At the beginning of the present year, the Deacons discussed over and over the budget for the current year. We felt that with anything less than \$500.00 per week, or \$26,000.00 per year, we could not meet our payments on bonds, our notes at the bank, and pay our regular expenses, plus the necessary repairs on the church building. This budget was discussed and approved in church conference.

We have consistently fallen behind in our budget and, although the membership and our friends have been marvelous in responding when we have had to raise money, it causes some embarrassment to ask for donations before a congregation, some of whom do not belong to the Church. In an effort to avoid the necessity of asking for special pledges, we are asking our membership to help us by filling the attached card and returning it to our Treasurer, who, of course, is done in complete confidence. The information on how much each member feels he can give for the year is of great assistance to the Finance Committee.

We realize and can fully appreciate the fact that possibly some of our members might not be sympathetic to this plan; however, we would like to hear from you and have your suggestions. All of us do not see through the same glasses but please do not let the idea deter you from fulfilling your obligation to your church. If you respond it will be appreciated - if you do not, we will not be offended. This certainly is not an assessment. It is free and voluntary on your part as to the amount you state you can give. It is between you and the Lord. Give as he has prospered you.

After thinking seriously over this matter we have reached the definite conclusion that the idea is sound in every respect. It is our Prayer that you will weigh the facts as we have. When you have done so, it is our belief that you will agree the plan is good.

We know that many of our members are not financially able to give much, but regardless of the amount you can give, be it ever so small or large, we will know what we can depend on. Think this over in prayer and meditation and accept it in the spirit in which it is written.

For your convenience in replying, we enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

In Christian Love and Fellowship, we are

Most Sincerely

BOARD OF DEACONS

ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

By *Fred L Cannon, Sr.* Chairman

Conference September 21, 1960 Sister Julia Cannon gave her report on the church sign. She informed the conference that Mr. Mark Buttrell had given the cheapest bid with Williams Brothers to build the sign, which would cost approximately \$447, not counting the lighting, and would not run over \$500. The cost breakdown is as follows. \$185.00 to build; \$25.00 material; \$50.00 brick and mortar; \$100.00 electric conduits; \$50.00 3 control parts; \$25.00 base and \$12.00 letters, for a total \$447.00.

Sister Cannon also advised the Conference that the Brotherhood had voted to raise the money to pay for the sign.

Sister Irene McLendon announced that the circle, under Sister Eslie Lyon, undertook the project of providing cabinets for the nursery, and that were now installed and ready to use. Everyone was invited to see them after the meeting.

Brother Elton read the list of officers and teachers of the Bible Study that were selected to serve.

Superintendent	Brother Doug Bryan
Assistant Superintendent	Sister Eslie Lyon
Beginners	Sister Alma Sims and Sister Audrey Townley
Primary	Sister Margaret Cox and Sister Mary Dunn
Juniors	Sister Dianne Ash
High Juniors	Sister Evelyn Mann
Intermediates	Sister Carolyn McEntire
Junior Adults	Brother Joseph J. Wilson
Young Married	Adults Brother Earl Bishop
Adults	Brother Ollis Elton; assistant by Dr. J. T. Lyon
New officers for the youth Fellowship	
President	Brother Danny Cox
Vice President	Brother Bill Townley
Second Vice President	Sister Linda Bryan
Third Vice President	Sister Rosemary Dunn
Secretary	Brother Rodney Elton
Treasurer	Brother David Townley

ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

The Board of Deacons
Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church
Attention: Mr. Fred L. Cannon, Sr., Chairman

Dear Brother Fred:

At the regular Monthly Meeting of the Ladies Circle held on October 5, 1960, the ladies present voted unanimously to sponsor and continue the Youth Program which our church set up for the month of September.

Recognizing the fact that the survival of any church is dependent upon its youth. The ladies further agreed to assume the responsibility of raising \$100.00 per month for the purpose of paying Youth Director, Elder J. Harley Chapman Jr. and to cover any incidental expenses which may arise, relative to the program. It is understood that this amount is to be over and above the contributions presently received into the treasury.

We Ladies realize that this project will take work and perseverance. However, we feel that our young people are deserving of our efforts.

Please count on us for \$100.00 per month for the continuation and promotion of Youth Work.
Yours in Christian Faith,
Irene McLendon, President, Ladies Circle.

Conference October 1960 it was announced that the new sign for the front of the church was nearing completion and would soon be ready for erection. The Brotherhood agreed to pay for the Sign.

The Ladies Circle was prepared to assume financial responsibility for the payment of \$75.00 per month to Elder J. Harley Chapman, Jr. And \$25.00 per month toward supplies for uses in the Youth work. This was approved by a motion by Brother Doug Bryan and seconded by Brother R. B. Woodall.

It was agreed that the conference should officially call Elder Chapman as assistant to the pastor of our church and in this connection provides him with an official title.

Brother Lanier was consulted and his advice followed with reference to the planting of all shrubbery around the church building and grounds. Thanks for a job well done.

Conference May 24, 1961 Brother Fred Cannon made a motion that the Church approves the renewal of the bank note held by the Citizens and Southern National Bank. This was seconded by Brother Langley Irvin and motion carried.

Brother Carmon explained to the Conference that he had discontinued placing the cola syrup in the church, from the Red Rock Company, proceeds from the sale of which were to apply on the Church Building Fund. He explained that buyers could pick the cola syrup up from the Red Rock Company, at which time they would sign a purchase order with payment to be made to the Church Treasurer for application on the Church debt.

Conference July 19, 1961 a lengthy discussion of the financial condition of the church followed. Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. reminded the church that the loan with the Citizen and Southern National Bank was an open loan, and that the bank had recently advised that it would let the church has a loan for 10 years if it could reduce the present indebtedness from \$79,000 to \$65,000. Many people spoke in favor of this step if the necessary \$14,000 could be raised. Among these were Brother and Sister John T. Dunn, Brother Doug Bryan, Sister J. T. Lyon and Brother Earl Bishop. It was pointed out that younger members should not be saddled with this indebtedness, since the older members of the present congregation incurred it. A motion to go ahead with the refinancing of the indebtedness was made by Dr. J. T. Lyon seconded by Brother Doug Bryan and carried. Elder and Sister Agan offered \$500 on this fund provided the remaining amount was secured. This was followed by pledges of approximately \$2,000.00 more by several at the conference. A rally was scheduled then for August 9, 1961 to raise the balance.

Conference September 20, 1961 the Bible Study officers were elected:

Superintendent	Brother Doug Bryan
Asst. Superintendent	Brother Langley Irvin
Teachers	
Adult Class No. 1	Brother Dr. J. T. Lyon
Adult Class No.2	Sister J. T. McEntire
Young Married Adults	Brother Russell Mercer
Young Unmarried Adults	Brother Joe Wilson
High Intermediates	Sister Margaret Cox
Low Intermediates	Sister Evelyn Mann
High Juniors	Sister Diane Ashe
Low Juniors	Sister Mary Dunn
Beginners and primary	Sister Alma Sims and Sister Audrey Townley

Conference December 20, 1961 Brother McLendon gave a report on the refinancing of the church indebtedness. The report indicated that the Citizen and Southern National Bank had proposed the following: that if we will get our cash contributions up to \$10,000 thereby reducing our indebtedness to \$65,000. They would make us a loan for that amount for a ten-year period to be repaid on the basis of a 15-year loan, which would be a little less than \$550.00 per month. Normally, a 10-year loan is repaid at the rate of \$710.00 per month. This new loan will pay our entire present indebtedness, all bonds will be redeemed, the bank to have a first mortgage on our church property. The Citizen and Southern National Bank will make this loan, PROVIDED the members would individually guarantee at least half of the amount, using for this purpose the bank's form of guaranty. Each member is to stipulate the amount he or she would guarantee. If the church would never be able to pay the loan, and then each member would be liable for whatever amount he or she guaranteed; however, the mortgage on the church property would come first against the loan and that would back up the guarantees. If this plan of refinancing is executed, we will retire our bonds March 1, 1962; and, in that event, we should mail out notices to our bondholders in January. The 22 members, who were present at this conference, signed guaranties to totaling \$17,000.00. On motion by Brother Cannon and seconded by Dr. J. T. Lyon, the church unanimously agreed to accept the Bank's proposition and authorized the committee to proceed with the execution of this plan.

Conference January 24, 1962 Brother McLendon read a resolution prepared by the attorney covering the proposal of the church to be submitted in lieu of official bylaws. The resolution was approved and authorized the deacons to execute note to Citizen and Southern National Bank evidencing a loan to refinance the church for \$65,000 at five and one half % interest. The attorney advising the church provide a set of bylaws and also that the church declare its deacons empowered to act as trustees of the church. A motion was made and seconded the church did certify that the deacons were authorized to attend to civil or legal matters in behalf of the church. The Clerk read a letter from Elder Agan in which he requested that the church accept his resignation from pastoral duties, effective September 1, 1962. A motion to accept the resignation was offered by Brother Dr. Lyon and seconded by Brother John T. Dunn, and carried

Special Called Conference February 28, 1962 Elder Agan told of his appreciation of quotes the marvelous things the church had meant to me during the years. Now, I am concluding my work. In your conference tonight, you will please me best now, and for the years to come, if not one member ever poses my name for pastor. I will pray every moment for you and for your pastor.

The Church called Elder John Shelton Mikell as pastor for the coming year.

Conference April 18, 1962 the total amount of our indebtedness was stated to be \$64,631.00.

Elder John S. Mikell declines the call April 19, 1962.

Conference May 23, 1962 Brother Fred Cannon, Jr. asked for clarification on the procedure in use for reporting on the names of new members to the church. The clerk explained they were

placed immediately on a permanent master list, placed on the working membership list stating the date of admission and other pertinent data was also being placed in the file containing the minutes. In addition to this, it was agreed that henceforth the names would also be listed in the minutes of the conference held on the month of the admission.

Special conference May 9, 1962 the church unanimously called Elder Hoyt B. Simms to be her pastor, the call was for an indefinite period of time. Elder Hoyt B. Simms accepted the call. Conference August 13, 1962 Sister Rena Williams and Sister Marie Everett accepted the responsibility of supervising the work on the parsonage. Brother's John Buie and Robert Woodall were appointed to do the work or employ the workman to help them. The Williams Brothers Lumber Company agreed to sell all material at cost, and Sister Rena Williams is giving the front window. All members participating in the work will be paid \$2 per hour for their time, giving back to the church whatever they can as a contribution. In this manner a member can give either a cost contribution or time. Brother Enoch Hicks and Brother Langley Irvin have accepted the responsibility of raising the \$1,500 needed to cover the cost of repairs to the parsonage.

The officers for the coming year 1962 - 1963 were elected.

Superintendent	Brother Langley Irvin
Assistant Superintendent	Brother Max DeVane

Teachers

Adult Class No.1	Brother Joe Massey and Dr. J. T. Lyon
Adult Class No. 2	Sister Carolyn McEntire and Brother Langley Irvin
Adult Class No.3	Brother Clay Coburn and Brother Max DeVane
Adult Class No.4	Brother Floyd Moye
Intermediate Class No. 1	Sister Margaret Cox and Sister Sylvia Chapman
Intermediate Class No.2	Sister Diane Wilson and Brother James Bishop
Juniors	Sister Mary Dunn
Beginners	Sister Alma Sims
Nursery	Sister Audrey Townley

Conference September 26, 1962 the following financial report was given:
The initial amount set up for repairs of parsonage and moving: \$1,500.00
Total repair to date: \$1,376.97
Total paid on pledges - \$1,085.00
Balance to be paid \$291.97
Regular Expenses due on October 1:
Church Note \$531.12
Parsonage Note \$ 76.50
Minister's Support \$270.83
Birdwood 25.00
Yardman and Janitor 90.00
Total Due October 1 \$993.45
Less Cash Bank Balance - 442.67

Immediate Cash Needed \$550.78

Brother Fred reported that Brother Hicks had advanced the \$1,000 paid Elder Agan and he had received \$427 on this amount, leaving a balance of \$573 due.

It was pointed out that with:

Balance due on Repairs \$291.97

Immediate cash needed \$550.78

Balance on \$1,000 due \$573.00

Total due \$1,415.75

Adding to this total due of \$1,415.75 the necessary cash balance to be maintained in the bank account, the Church actually needed \$2,000 ready cash. Brother Christian made a motion that we raise what we could on Sunday morning and anything else needed to cover the debts we borrow on a 90-day note. The motion was carried.

The next Sunday the morning's collection was \$276.21, bringing the ready cash needed from \$550.78 to approximately \$250 since Williams Brothers could wait for their check.

Conference October 17, 1962 Elder Simms expressed a desire that we have a concise financial report printed monthly and handed out the members in order to keep them aware of the financial status of the church. Brother Fred Brantley made a motion and carried to this effect.

Conference October 17, 1962 on behalf of the young ladies of the church, Sister Mildred Sims reported that these sisters desired to organize a day circle to work along with the night circle for the good of the church, it was brought out that the younger mothers would be better able to attend a day circle where at night it was almost impossible with young children. They would therefore be in position to participate in the activities of the church. A motion was made and carried. The Mary Martha Circle was started.

The Brotherhood meeting was mentioned and Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. suggested that the meeting be held on Saturday week at noon at the Pig 'N Whistle on Ponce de Leon. This met with approval of the men of the church.

Some members expressed a desire to retain the bulletin with the Church drawing as produced by Mr. Kurtz and not the color picture of the church as proposed.

Conference November 21, 1962 on Sunday night December 2, 1962 a reception for Elder and Sister Agan after the Sunday Evening Services. In this was everyone would be able to visit with the Agan's during the fellowship hour. Sister Twila Moye made a motion that refreshments are served on this night in honor of the Agans and was approved by the church.

Sister Frances Coburn, President of the Mary Martha Circle, announced they would be responsible for these refreshments.

Sister Irene McLendon, President of the Ladies' Night Circle, announced a benefit dinner would be held Saturday, December 8, at the Church in conjunction with a Bazaar. She also announced that a rummage sale would be held that same day, with half of the proceeds of all three activities going to the church and the remaining half to be divided between the two Circles, as both would be sponsoring these events.

Conference December 19, 1962 Sister Irene McLendon reported the two circles had cleared \$432 above expenses on their last combined project of a dinner, bazaar, and rummage sale, and they

had given to the church one half of the proceeds, \$216. She also reported the food for the dinner had been donated and expressed sincere appreciation to everyone who had supported the project. The Brotherhood and the Ladies Circles had several Dinners planned for the rest of the year. Elder Simms expressed a desire that several dinners be held each year, designed to pay off the Church debt.

December 31, 1962 the Church paid 2,141.00 Bond Redemption, \$36,072.56 Bank Loan Payments, \$3,115.24 interest on bank loan, \$809.91 Parsonage loan, \$108.09 interest on Parsonage loan and \$1,000 to Brother Enoch J. Hicks Sr.

Conference February 20, 1963 Brother Earl McLendon reminded the church of the shortage in the Church funds and pending current debts, which had to be met immediately. The Deacons told the conference to have a special prayer that the Lord continues to bless us in a special way to keep the Church going and help us meet our debts. Elder Simms asked Brother Floyd Moye to lead in this special prayer, begging God to burden our hearts to do what was right along this line. The membership remains at 161.

Conference March 20, 1963 a letter from Glazener Memorial Primitive Baptist Church advising they were extending an arm for a new church in the Sandy Springs Area, with full time services to begin second Sunday in May 1963, with Elder J. Harley Chapman, Jr. Preaching. They made two primary request; one, that we be much in prayer; and two, that we visit them. Brother Fred Cannon, Sr. made a formal request that he be put on an inactive status as a deacon because of inability to attend meetings. Brother Ollis Elton be place on the inactive list because he lived out of town.

Dr. J. T. Lyon, on behalf of the church, expressed thanks for all Brother Fred had done and made a motion the Church grants him this privilege. The motion was seconded and carried by a rising vote of thanks in appreciation.

Conference April 17, 1963 Brother John T. Dunn made a motion that we invite the School of the Prophets for the January 1964 Session and the motion was approved. Sister Lucille Bishop announced that a Beef Supper was being sponsored by the Fidellis Circle on Saturday April 27, from 4 P. M. to 8 P. M. It was also announced that some sort of entertainment was being planned for about 6:30 or 7 P.M. The proceeds of this project were to be applied to the church obligations.

Conference May 22, 1963 Elder Simms said his thoughts revolved around a mortgage burning, resulting from funds raised under some special. He pointed out that the Church needs painting and we need a working capital for our Treasurer so that he might work at ease. He cited the wonderful work done in reducing the balloon note by \$1,000 during the past year and praised the Ladies' Circles for their cooperation and contributions. Brotherhood is to have a Spaghetti Supper on Saturday June 29.

Conference July 17, 1963 the Treasurer was requested to give a report on the letter, which had been sent out relating to the finances of the church. Brother Earl McLendon reported that 28 replies had been received with a total of \$725. He stated that it was the recommendation of the Deacons to wait another week or so for any other replies and then place a report of the results in the Sunday Bulletin.

Reports on painting the Church; Brother John T. Dunn reported his Brother in law had made a bid of \$480, including the paint, and \$97 less if we furnish the paint. This was to include two outside coats on the Church and steeple, one coat on the metal windows, with caulking, scraping, etc. To be including.

Elder Simms received a bid from Mr. W. F. Bowers, recommended by Williams Brothers Lumber Company and his bid was \$1,024 for the complete job, including paint. The Deacons had discussed Elder Radford's situation and the church would take a love offering on Sunday Morning to help with the recent serious illness of his son. Dr. J. T. Lyon made a Motion and was carried. Membership is 162.

Conference June 26, 1963 finances were discussed generally with Elder Simms opening the discussion by citing the following items to the church:

- 1. Estimates needed on the paint job, if painters were to be hired.**
- 2. Volunteers needed to paint the Church, if the members were to do it.**
- 3. Elder Simms pointed out the weekly budget is \$400 per Sunday and we are about \$100 short each Sunday.**
- 4. The paint job must be done and the church kept in good state of repairs. Already window facings might have to be replaced, as edges are rotten from lack of paint.**
- S. The balloon note is not coming down as church had anticipated.**
- 6. General fund is not holding up.**

The Treasurer pointed out that the Church was already \$1,400 short of the budget for the first six months of the year. It was decided to use the letter first, then if the goal of \$2,000 was not reached, funds would have to be solicited on Sunday morning. Membership is 162.

Conference November 20, 1963 Brother McLendon reported that a check of \$125 had been given by the Ladies Circles to apply to the balloon note.

The church was reminded to make plans for the School of the Prophets. Elder Simms pointed out we would have from 25 to 55 Ministers. Breakfast would be served in the homes; six meals would be served at the Church. Membership 163.

December 31, 1963 the Church paid \$540 in bond redemption, \$1,322.11 Balloon Note, \$5,076.63 on Bank Loan and \$3,158.92 on interest on loan.

Conference January 22, 1964 Sister Frances Coburn was requested to give a report on the finances in connection with the School of the Prophets. She reported that the only outstanding expenses left were in the amount of \$20. A rising vote of thanks was given to Sister Coburn for a wonderful job she had done. The total number of ministers was about 36. Membership is 159.

Conference May 20, 1964 Elder Simms advised the Church the Deacons recommended to the Church that the Home coming be the Sunday of the week's meeting. The church set a goal of \$5,000 to reduce the balloon note on the indebtedness and that a letter is sent out with reference to this action. Membership is 154.

Conference July 22, 1964 Elder Simms advised that the church did not have sufficient funds in the treasury to cover the current bills. The Church was reminded that the church did not like the

idea of fund raising drives on Sunday Mornings, and that this would be the last resort. It was agreed that on the forthcoming Sunday Morning Elder Simms would inform the Church of the deficit before morning offering and request the cooperation of its members to bring the funds back to normal. After the services the church would be advised as to whether the sufficiency had been reached; and if not, funds would have to be raised presently.

After conference the church entered into a short prayer service on behalf of its sick and especially for Brother Fred Cannon, Sr.

September 1, 1964 is 157.

Conference October 21, 1964 Brother Earl McLendon announced that the Ladies' Circles had already given \$125 and from a recent dinner and bazaar they had contributed an additional \$500 to go on the balloon note. Brother Cecil Arledge and his wife had donated a complete new set of light bulbs for the Sanctuary, with the cost amounting to \$32.45. The clerk was instructed to write a note of appreciation to the Arledges who live in Virginia.

Appreciation and thanks were extended to Brother Langley Irvin for the work he had done on the driveway, having distributed 23 or 24 tons of gravel which had been hauled in to repair the drive.

Conference November 18, 1964 the Brotherhood was initiating a program to get the driveway paved around the Church. They were in the process of receiving bids, and the price submitted thus far had been \$2,000. It was pointed out that there were other repairs needed also; such as, the interior of the Church needed painting, especially the sanctuary. The Brotherhood hoped to make a drive to reach the combined amount needed to cover the cost of the driveway and interior repairs in the amount of \$2,500 to \$3,000.

December 31, 1964 the Church paid \$445.00 in bond redemption, \$1,821.33 Bank Balloon Note, \$5,7773.45 Bank Loan payments, \$2,866.32 in interest on the loan.

SEE APPENDIX F CHURCH DIRECTORY AND YEARBOOK 1965 ON PAGE 100.

Conference January 20, 1965 Elder Simms announced that the Deacons had discussed the budget for 1965, and proposed that it remain the same as for 1964 which is approximately \$20,000 on total expenditures.

Brother Earl McLendon suggested that since there was only one payment remaining on the personage, that we now apply these \$75 monthly payments to our balloon note. That was a unanimous vote that we do so.

The church was deeply grieved at the passing of our beloved Deacon, Brother Fred Cannon, Sr., on January 19, 1965. Even though Brother Fred will be greatly missed, the memory of what he has meant to our Church will live on. Membership is 171

Conference February 17, 1965 Brother Earl McLendon announced the Sister Hendricks had passed away; since Elder Hendricks and she had meant so much to the Church, he sent flowers upon the approval of Elder Simms. Dr. Lyon made a motion that the flowers be paid from the church funds, and the motion was carried.

Conference April 21, 1965 Brother Clay Coburn reported that \$688 had been collected on the drives with \$76.65 being spent for supplies and leaving a balance of \$611.35. He stated the Brotherhood had been promised other Moines which had not been received as yet but which was expected shortly.

The matter of whether to have a benefit supper during the Spring Meeting; with donations only was introduced. The Church was advised the Deacons had discussed this possibility and had agreed to leave this matter in the hands of the Brotherhood. Membership is 170. May 19, 1965 membership is 173.

Conference July 21, 1965 Brother Earl McLendon reminded the Church of the Balloon note which stood between \$28,000 and \$29,000 against the Church Building. He felt that since we had a good balance in our treasury that it would be well to reduce the balloon note by \$1,000, and made a motion to that effect. Dr. Lyon seconded the motion; and after much discussion, the action was carried by a majority vote.

The treasurer's report showed May and June balances of \$1,471.71 and \$1,514.85 respectively. The best report in many years.

The Church was deeply grieved at the loss of its oldest member, Sister Julia McWilliams on September 23, 1965. This brings our membership to 172.

Conference October 27, 1965, a letter from Brother Earl McLendon was read, tendering his resignation as Deacon and Treasurer of the Church. Brother McLendon stated his reason for resigning was based on rumors and statements which had reached him that had indicated the services he had rendered were detrimental to the welfare of the Church. He requested that any trouble he had caused be accepted as an error in judgment rather than insincerity of purpose. Those present were very concerned and his resignation was not accepted. Brother Loren Wilson suggested that something should be done to straighten the matter out. He felt there had probably been a misunderstanding.

Elder Simms expressed feelings of concern and stated that that Brother Earl definitely should be retained as a Deacon and Treasurer. He suggested that he and the Deacons ought to get together and go in a group to see Brother McLendon in an effort to discuss the situation with him personally and try to clear up any misunderstanding.

A motion to this effect was proposed by Brother Joe Massey and was carried unanimously. Brother Loren Wilson made a motion that the Conference give Brother McLendon unanimous vote of the Church's confidence in him as a person and as the Treasurer and a Deacon of our Church. Everyone concurred by giving him a rising vote. Membership is at 172

Conference November 17, 1965 Elder Simms recommended that the church officially notify Brother McLendon of our sincere and unanimous feelings to retain him as Treasurer and as an active Deacon; and if he wished to have help in the way of an acting Treasurer, then the church would do something about this.

Upon this suggestion, Deacons Langley Irvin, John T. Dunn, Ollis Elton, and Joe Massey gave complete verbal agreement to Elder Simms' statement and commended Brother Earl for the good work he has done, both as a Deacon and Treasurer. It was the wishes of each that he reconsiders and remains active in both capacities. It was also pointed out that he was a Charter Member of

the Church and that he had carried us through rough places in the building of our Church. Elder Simms further reminded the church that a Deacon can only become inactive and the status of Deacon can be taken from him only through laxity and undisciplined action on his part. A motion was received to have the clerk write Brother McLendon, requesting that he reconsider what had been done; and if he needed help, the Church would give it to him; and that they certainly did not want to lose him either as a Deacon or as Treasurer. A unanimous rising vote gave full approval to this motion.

Elder Simms expressed a desire for the Church to have a homecoming Day, with all proceeds received that day to go toward reducing the Church Indebtedness. A motion was made and approved.

December 31, 1965 the Church paid \$1,151.91 on the Balloon Note in 1965. The Church paid \$6,840.40 on bank loan and \$2,526.45 on interest on the Bank loan.

Conference January 19, 1966 a letter from Brother Earl McLendon was read, he stated that he had tried to be prayerful in his meditations and had reached only one conclusion; that is, if the Church is still of the unanimous opinion to have him serve as Treasurer, then he would resume his duties as such. He further stated that since the Church did not wish to accept his resignation as Deacon, then he desired to be placed on an inactive status.

Dr. Lyon made a motion that the position of Treasurer be turned back to Brother Earl and that since he had requested to be placed on an inactive status as a Deacon, that this also be granted. The motion was carried unanimously.

Brother Robert Woodall had also requested to be placed on an inactive status, because of his being unable to drive at night and attend the Deacons' meetings and conferences. Brother John T. Dunn made a motion that Brother Woodall be placed on the inactive status, and the motion was carried.

Brother Cecil Arledge gave 12 shares of Sun Oil Stock to the church and was sold for \$725.32. Dr. Lyon made a motion that \$500 be put on the balloon note and the remainder left in the church treasurer.

It was also pointed out that as of December the total due on the Church was \$41,66.24 and Balloon Note balance was \$17,027.00. The Church was reminded that at the first of the year we had set up a budget of \$20,000. Our total cash received in 1965 was \$22,747.83 with total disbursements of \$22,606.68.

Elder Simms suggested that we could take the balance due on the Balloon Note of \$17,927 and divide by six years or 72 months and make a monthly payment in that amount. Brother Dunn pointed out this would amount to approximately \$250 per month and that he felt the church was not able at this time, based on present contributions, to apply this much to the note monthly. Brother Ollis Elton stated the Deacons did not know what to apply to the Balloon Note except as the Treasurer received contributions earmarked from individual members, Ladies Circle and etc. He also stressed the need for a set amount for each year and begged the church to give the Deacons some idea as to their desire in this regard, with this matter to be taken up again at the February conference, after the members had time to consider the matter seriously. Membership is 170.

Conference February 23, 1966 Brother Langley Irvin had contacted a company regarding the front banisters donated by Sister Jeanette Hendrix; he had received her check and the iron banisters would be installed within a week or ten days.

The budget was then presented, item by item, representing a total annual figure of \$24,685 as compared to the past year's budget of \$22,606.68 and including \$500 on the new song books. This would be about \$475 per week needed in contributions necessary to cover the budget. The Budget was passed.

Brother Enoch F. Hicks promised \$100 on the songbooks, since the \$500 mention in the Budget was not sufficient to cover the cost of those ordered.

Conference March 23, 1966 a report was given on the pavement fund and with the \$20 donated by Brother Wilbur Kurtz, total stands at \$2,106.80. Figures had been received with regard to the cost of the paving and at \$1.52 per yard it had been estimated that a total of \$3,134.24 would be needed or a balance of \$1,027.44.

Elder Simms reminded the Church that when he was called as its pastor, the church had called him on indefinite bases, meaning that we would not have a call time unless the church and or pastor deemed it necessary to make a change. He stated that he felt we should have a call, so he would like to have it known that we would have a call in April. This would give him time to give an answer in May, should he be called again. Membership is 169.

Conference April 20, 1966 Brother Massey read a letter from Brother Earl McLendon, requested that "due to unanticipated events and unforeseen circumstances", he would like to tender his resignation as church treasurer effective April 30, 1966, and that someone be named to assumed the office as of May 1, 1966. It was his further desire to be excused from service on any committee of the church and he asked acceptance of his resignation from any committee on which he was presently serving. Motion made by Brother John T. Dunn, seconded by Brother Ollis Elton and carried.

It was necessary to elect a new treasurer; Brother Howard Force was elected Treasurer. Brother Clay Coburn reported on the progress of the paving project. Two bids were received with the MacDougald Warren bid at \$3,129.68, being approximately \$500 more than the other was. Brothers Enoch Hicks, Jr., Clay Coburn and John T. Dunn expressed the option that, although this bid was higher, they felt a better quality of work could be expected from MacDougald Warren and they would like to see the work awarded to this company. This was agreed to and Brother Clay Coburn was instructed to go ahead and make arrangements for the driveways to be paved, with the Church to assume any indebtedness the Brotherhood might not be able to pay. This was after a motion to this effect was made by Brother John T. Dunn, seconded by Brother Fred Brantley and passed.

The call for a pastor for the coming year was held and Elder Hoyt B. Simms was called unanimous by a rising vote by all present. Membership is 170.

Conference September 21, 1966 it was recommended that the Church sign should be rebuilt with brick and is relocated at approximately 20 feet from its present position. Brother Loren Wilson suggested that the sign be built in accordance with the design of the church, Brother Fred Brantley made a motion that this be done. The Church approved this. Brother Earl Bishop made a motion that before the work was done that Brothers, Loren Wilson and Clay Coburn work with

the Deacons in determining the cost, and reported back to the Church the cost making sure the cost is not too high. The motion was carried.

It was recommended that the paved parking area should not be marked with lines, that was previously approved by the Church, but it now seemed more desirable to omit the lines. A motion was made and carried. Membership is 174.

Conference October, 1966 Brother Langley Irvin reported an architect had inspected the sign in the yard and advised it needed repairing on top only. Since this was the case, the Deacons were now recommending that the sign be repaired and not be moved at this time. The architect stated it was a nice sign and should be repaired. Motion was made and carried that this be done. Membership is 174.

Conference May 25, 1966 Brother Clay Coburn announced that only \$26.20 was needed on the paving of the drives. The marking of parking spaces on the Church grounds was discussed. Brother Merritt Spear could borrow a machine to mark the drive, and the only cost involved would be that of the paint. Brother E. J. Hicks made a motion to give the Brotherhood the authority to go ahead with the machine marking of the drive with a \$50 limit set for the rental of the machine and paint. Membership is 170.

Conference January 18, 1967 the budget for \$24, 650.00 was approved, \$4,286.00 on the loan principal, and \$2,087.00 interest and, \$3,000.00 on the Balloon payment. The 1966 budget was 25,614.00.

Church membership last conference was 177 and now is 175.

Conference February 22, 1967 it was noted that Sister Blackwell's daughter, Mrs. Bloodworth has presented the Church with a \$400 check in memory of her mother, and a minute book of Mount Beulah Primitive Baptist Church from may 1872 to March 1909. This book has been cherished by Sister Blackwell throughout her life time, and it was her desire that it be made the property of the Atlanta Church provided the Church wants it as a record and will exercise care in reserving and protecting it.

Brother Massey advised that the cost of beautification of the yards; the cutting of the trees in front and laying new sidewalk would total \$489.20. He further stated that it was the recommendation of the Deacons that the gift of \$400 is used for this purpose, and a plaque is placed in the foyer in remembrance of Sister Blackwell. Motion was made and carried. Membership is 175.

Conference March 29, 1967 Elder Simms suggested that Sister Evelyn R. Mann Ex-clerk and Brother Earl McLendon, Ex-treasurer be recognized with token remembrances for outstanding performance over their long tenure in office. A committee was appointed to investigate appropriate remembrances. The Committee consists of Brother and Sister Clay Coburn, and Brother and Sister Joe Massey. It was agreed that letters of appreciation would accompany each gift. Sister Marie Everett was placed on committee instead of Sister Coburn, April 19, 1967. Brother Loren Wilson made a motion that small Dogwood trees be planted along the front of the Church property to keep the tradition of beautification that has prevailed for so long on Ponce de Leon. The motion was carried and passed. Membership is 174.

Conference July 19, 1967 Elder Simms stated that he felt led of the Lord to give up the church, and that the Church should call another pastor. He advised the Church to make plans toward calling a pastor by seeking the Lord's will in much prayer. Dr. Lyon *said* that he believed God impressed the pastor when *it was time for him* to go, and that if we did enough praying God *would send* us someone *else*. Many members spoke *about Elder Simms leaving*.

Brother Joe Massey said he appreciated Elder Simms and would like to keep him on as pastor. However, Brother Simms has been led to leave, he moved that we accept his resignation. Brother Elton seconded the motion and was carried. Membership is 173.

Conference August 2, 1967 Elder R. L. Mitchell was call to be the pastor. Elder Mitchell declined the call

Conference August 9, 1967 Elder Charles Carrin was called to be the pastor. Elder Carrin declined the call.

Conference August 20, 1967 *Elder Emory Jackson was called* to be the pastor. Elder Jackson accepted the call for September 1, 1967. Membership is 170.

Conference January 10, 1968 Brother Howard Force stated the balance remaining on the church note with the Citizen and Southern National Bank was \$21,484.33. Brother Force pointed out that approximately 50 months remain on the life of this note and the note principle can be paid off within these 50 months by making only the regular monthly payment, special payments on the note will allow it to be paid off sooner. The balloon note has already been paid in full. The budget for 1968 is \$25,026.94, \$6,373.44 for the loan and \$1,071.00 for the Balloon note.

Conference July 10, 1968 Elder Jackson was called for another year and he accepted.

Conference January 8, 1969 the budget was \$26,168.00 and \$6,700 to be paid on the church note.

Conference April 29, 1969 Elder Jackson was called for another year, and he accepted.

Conference October 15, 1969 Brother Howard Force stated that the balance due on the Church note was \$3,781.04.

Conference December 17, 1969 Brother Elton made a motion that the Church licenses Brother Loren Wilson. Brother Langley Irvin seconded this motion and the motion was unanimously carried. Those attending the conference gave Brother Wilson the right hand of fellowship.

Conference January 7, 1970 a budget was approved of \$26,750.00, \$2,000. To be paid on the bank note.

Conference February 25, 1970 the Deacons presented the conference with the idea of having a mortgage burning service when the church debt is completely paid. A date for the service was discussed and a motion was made that we contact Elder Agan to see if he can attend as our speaker of the day. Let the Deacons work out the date that would be satisfactory with him. This date being either April 19 or 26 if possible. This motion was seconded and carried. The Deacons and Elder Jackson had met previously and had set up a committee to plan the note burning service. The name of the committee members was not available due to Elder Jackson's sudden illness.

Conference April 8, 1970 Elder Jackson announced the Mortgage Burning Service would be April 19, 1970. He had with him the mortgage payments, which should be canceled at the courthouse and a letter to be returned to the Citizen and Southern National Bank. Brother John T.

Dunn said he and Brother Langley Irwin would take care of the paper and make copies to be burned at the ceremony. Brother Earl Bishop offered to bring his tape recorder in order that the church would have record of our mortgage burning ceremony. On suggestion of Sister Pat Force the church stood in favor of having the clerk make some notes of this service for insertion in church history.

Special conference May 6, 1970 Elder Jackson was called as the pastor and declined the call due to poor health.

Special conference July 1, 1970 Elder Charles Carrin was called to be the pastor, and he accepted.

Special conference July 19, 1970 a love offering for Elder Emory Jackson, our pastor, who had to resign because of ill health. The entire Sunday Morning collection, July 26, would be given as an expression of our love and appreciation for him and Sister Jackson for their untiring efforts expended on our behalf during his pastorate with us. The motion was carried unanimously.

Conference November 4, 1970 Brother Scott said the church was in need of a new roof, a motion was made, seconded, and carried that the Deacons check into this matter and make a decision as they see fit.

Elder Carrin made a statement that he would like to see Brother Loren Wilson made Minister of Evangelism, and Brother Walton Gibbs made Minister of Youth. This would be no cost to the Church.

Conference January 6, 1971 it was suggested that Brother Charles Alexander, a noted preacher from Liverpool, England, be invited to be our guest speaker for our spring meeting. It was pointed out that Brother Alexander is very close, but does not hold true to be the exact same doctrine that we preach as Primitive Baptist; however, it was agreed that his coming would be a great asset to the denomination. The exact cost of his coming was not known, but he would probably be speaking at several other places, and this would cut the cost. After discussion, it was unanimously agreed that we should ask Brother Alexander to come and that the meeting would be widely publicized and call a "Sovereign Grace Conference".

The budget of \$28,550.00 was approved.

Conference July 7, 1971 it was stated those three bids were received to paint the exterior of the church. The Deacons will discuss the bids with Brothers Harry Hanson and Merritt Spier and see if we have enough funds. The conference voted to change the color of the building trim from white to cream to match the mortar in the bricks. The motion was carried.

Special conference August 15, 1971 the purpose of the meeting was to decide as to whether the Church would effect a long-term lease for a 12-acre Governmental plot to Lake Lanier. Elder Carrin advised he had talked with a Mr. Patterson of the Corps of Engineers of the Federal Government, who had two sites available. The first plot consisted of 12 acres near Flowery Branch with nearly one half mile of waterfront. There is a good road to this plot, and it has county water and lights adjoining which would be available. The second was 6 acres larger, but no access to the plot; the Church would have to by access to the plot, and does not have county water. The cost of leasing would be between \$20 to \$40 per year on a 20-year lease.

The Church must present to the Government a planned program of phased development; an outline of improvements which are planned from year to year. No houses or trailers can be on the property, however camping facilities are allowable. It was agreed that Elder Carrin and the Deacons, plus any of the men of the Church, would meet the following Saturday at 10 A. M. and look the property over.

Sunday, September 19, 1971 the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church was presented a painting of Dr. John Gill by Brother John R. Stokes. The church gave a rising vote of appreciation for this lovely gift, which Brother Stokes had painted. Brother John R. Stokes later painted all the former Pastors of the church.

Conference November 3, 1971 Brother Langley Irvin reported the painting of the Church was finished. He advised that Brother Merritt Spier let the Church have the paint at cost, for which Brother Irvin expressed appreciation.

There has always been at least one Ladies' Circle. In the beginning, the faithful would meet and inspire one another to a more consecrated service. The pioneers have all passed on, but there were always younger ones to take up the banner. The Circle has made many contributions to the Church from time to time both in promoting the various activities of the Church and, also in raising funds for the use of the Church.

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church suffered a great loss when God in his infinite wisdom called Sister Exie Ellen Woodall from her midst on March 18, 1972.

With sadness in her heart, the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church records the death of her beloved Deacon Charles E. Scott, on March 27, 1972.

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church was saddened at the loss of her member, Dan D. Huff, Sr. on March 21, 1972.

The budget of \$28,685.00 was approved.

Sunday May 7, 1972 Brother Lee Price was license to the work of the ministry.

Sunday July 9, 1972 Brother Earl Bishop was license to the work of the ministry.

July 9, 1972 the membership was 181.

Minutes of the presbytery for the ordination of Deacons in the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church October 13, 1972, were Brothers Wilson H. Dyer, John R. Stokes, and Vinson Trippe. Deacon Ollis Elton read the Articles of Faith to the candidates and examined them relative to their belief of, adherence to, these Articles of Faith of this Church. Elder John Hendricks delivered the ordination prayer. Elder Charles C. Carrin delivered the charge to the newly ordained Deacons. Membership is 179.

Special Conference on Wednesday night, January 17, 1973 during the Seventy- fourth Session of the Minster's School, for the purpose of ordaining Brothers Earl Bishop and Loren H. Wilson to the work of the gospel ministry.

The budget of \$32,595.00 was approved.

It is with sad hearts that the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church records the death of her Beloved member and Deacon Robert B. Woodall, Sr., on January 11, 1973.

Special Conference April 29, 1973 Brother Irvin announced that plans to install the new carpet have been finalized. Motion made by Sister Evelyn Stokes that the old carpet be used in the Bible Study section of the Church, motion received second and was approved. This expense is to be added to that of laying the new carpet.

September 26, 1973 membership is 179.

The budget for the year 1974 is \$32,735.00 and was adopted.

September 12, 1974 membership is 178.

Dr. J. T. LYON

Memorial to Dr. J. T. Lyon. It is with sad hearts and a sense of deep loss that the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church records the death of her beloved member for more than fifty - three years, Brother J. T. Lyon, on December 15, 1975. Brother Lyon was born on July 23, 1889 in Yatesville, Georgia. His Family later moved to Tifton, Georgia where most of his youth was spent. He came to Atlanta in 1910. For many years he was a partner in Lyon - Dowdy Dental Laboratory; and several years prior to his retirement in 1974 he had been associated with Dr. J. W. Lynn. He was married to the former Eslye Williams in 1935. Having united with the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church on May 22, 1922, he was always a faithful and extremely dedicated member. A brother of great spiritual magnitude, he found much joy in the church and in giving of himself to the cause of his Lord and Master. Dr. Lyon was one of the leaders in building this Church building.

September 10, 1975 membership is 173.

The budget of \$35,175.00 was approved.

July 21, 1975 subject Historical Atlanta (H-A) District for Ponce de Leon Avenue and Fairview Road. On April 11, 1975, the National Park Service placed Ponce de Leon Ave. N. E. and Fairview road N. E. on the National Register of Historical Places. This citation includes the stretch from Moreland Ave. to the city limits of Decatur and includes the properties along both sides of Ponce de Leon Ave. and Fairview road. Druid Hills Civic Association sent the letter, and includes the H-A Historic Atlanta District Regulations.

"No structure within an Historic Atlanta District may be erected, demolished, or removed in whole or part, nor may the exterior architectural character of such structure be altered until an application for a building permit has been submitted to the Atlanta (Urban) Design Commission and approved by it, except as provided in Section 37.80. See minutes July 21, 1975.

February 17 - 19, 1976 the Church hosted the eighty fourth session of the Primitive Baptist Ministers School with 62 Elders and 25 wives present. They stayed in the homes and several Elders stayed at the church. The Holy Spirit filled the House and everyone enjoyed the beautiful preaching. The food was delicious and all had a great time.

The budget of \$34,775.00 was approved; the amount is down from last year due to loss of members.

Conference May 2, 1976 Elder Charles Carrin was called unanimous for another year. Elder Carrin resigned to be our pastor. On June 2, 1976 Elder Carrin said "we know not the way of the spirit. Wednesday night at the close of the Prayer Meeting hour I replied to the Church's second

request that I remain as pastor. I accepted the call. When the first call was extended the door of my acceptance was absolutely closed. There was not so much as a hair-line of light showing through, nor did it once occur to me that the Church would re-call or that I would be directed other than I was at the first. There was no question in my mind as to what I should do. I fear God too much to play games of hide-and-seek about matters of His Kingdom. The servant of God should not stop to weigh personal consequences before deciding whether or not he will go at God's bidding. He must go. Abraham is our chief example as the "father of the faithful" and even though there could never be a suitable substitute to take the place of his son, Isaac, Abraham was fully ready to sacrifice him as God directed. So it must be with us. ---And please, don't make the mistake of thinking this attitude is reserved just for ministers. It isn't. We have all been through a period of testing on Moriah's windy slopes but now home and Hebron lie before us. In God's gracious love we can descend the mount together. What is my principal feeling about the whole experience? At this moment I am more elated than I have been in years. And I think many of you share the same feeling. At tonight's service I want us to talk about how we can translate that elation into activity". stated Brother Carrin"

Conference September 12, 1976 Elder Carrin asked the Church to consider having the State of Georgia Archives copy our church minutes and records and put on permanent record there. A motion was made by Brother Elton, duly seconded, and carried that we have our church records filmed and filed at the State Archives. Membership is 168.

LEONA A. SUTTON

It is with sad hearts that the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church records the death of her beloved member, Sister Leona Anderson Sutton, on July 14, 1976.

Sister Sutton was born on July 21, 1888 in Wayne County, Georgia where her youth was spent. She was married to Columbus L. Sutton in 1910 and they moved to Fitzgerald, Georgia, where her children were born and reared. Though widowed at an early age after only ten years of marriage, she was a shining example of motherhood, one who with courage and determination brought her children up lovingly always instructing them in the ways of the Lord.

She united with the Fitzgerald Primitive Baptist Church in 1921 and was baptized by the late Elder J. Fred Hartley. In 1940 she moved with her daughter, Sister Evelyn Stokes, to Jacksonville, Florida, and later lived in Hampton, Virginia and Charleston, South Carolina. It was in 1953 that she came to Atlanta where she lived until three years prior to death, when because of declining health, she moved to Bethany Home Vidalia, Georgia.

Having united with the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church on March 25, 1953, she was always a faithful and devoted member, and she was happiest when she was participating in the church services. An unassuming woman, hers was a life outstanding in the beauty of walking quietly through faith. We thank the Lord for having had her in our midst and we cherish the memory of her example.

Funeral services were conducted on July 15, 1976. At Patterson Spring Hill by Elder Hoyt B. Simms. Interment was on July 16, 1976, at Rocky Creek Primitive Baptist Church Cemetery, Colquitt County, Georgia.

Survivors include, two daughters, Sister John (Geneva) Hines of Hogansville, Georgia, and Sister John R. (Evelyn) Stokes, Atlanta, Georgia; one son Mr. Leonard L. Sutton, Jacksonville, Florida; and two Grandchildren, one great-grandchild.

The Church extends its heartfelt sympathy to her love ones. It is our prayer that the Lord in His tender mercy will comfort and guide them in their loss.

Be it resolved that a copy of this memorial be presented to her family, a copy retained for church records, and a notice be sent to The Banner Herald.

Submitted in love, the Committee - Sister's Jamie Wilson, Rena Williams, Esie Lyon, and Betty Dasher.

Conference November 7, 1976 Brothers Glenn Cunningham, Howard Force, and Guy Dasher were set aside for ordination as Deacons for the Church. The Ordination would be on January 29, 1977. Membership is 175.

Conference May 1, 1977 Brother Charles Alexander from England was invited to preach one Sunday.

Special Conference December 4, 1977 the Fidellis Circle converting the Bible Study Room adjacent to the pastors study to a Church Library. Paneling the room with ~ inch paneling to be hand stained. Installation of twenty feet long, eight foot high, three adjustable bookshelves. Picture molding to be installed around ceiling. Fireplace vented to outside to be installed in the location of center rear window. This window is to be closed without changing the exterior appearance of the Church. A mantel is to be installed. Carpet and Draperies with all hardware installed. The estimated cost is \$3,000.00 of which Brother Hicks and his mother, Sister Gertrude Hicks, will donate \$1,000.00. The remaining balance would be taken care of by the Fidellis Circle with donations from all those wishing to participate. Motion made by Brother Hicks, seconded by Brother Bill Strevel, Sr. and approved.

January Elder Charles Carrin resigned as pastor and his last Sunday will be July 29, 1978.

The budget was \$45,675.00 and was adopted.

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church met in a Special Call Conference on Saturday evening, May 20, 1978. Elder Billy Akins was called to serve the church. The Church rose in a unanimous vote to call Elder Akins. It was decided he should be phoned and advised while the congregation waited. Brother Force made a call to Elder Akins and reported back to the church that Elder Akins accepted the call stating that he had felt burdened about the Atlanta church and was waiting for the call. Elder Akins began his work the first Sunday in August.

Special Conference on Sunday morning May 6, 1979 Elder Billy Akins was called for the year, August 1, 1979 through July 1980.

The budget was \$42,740.00 and was adopted.

May 2, 1979 Committee meeting on the By Laws of the Church and worked out the changes that was written April 22, 1979. May 23, 1979 the By Laws was approved.

January 13, 1980 the total budget of \$44, 625.00, was approved and adopted. After several calls the Church is without a Pastor for the year 1980 - 1981.

January 11, 1981 Elder Herbert Chapman was called to be the Pastor. Budget for 1981 is \$44,090.00 was approved and adopted.

February 1, 1981 a letter was read from Elder Herbert Chapman stating that he accepted the call to the pastoral duties of the church effective August 1, 1981, and started July 1, 1981. September 13, 1981 the present membership is 151.

**Budget for 1982 is \$48,353.00 was approved and adopted.
Budget for 1983 is \$49,580.00 was approved and adopted.**

**April 24, 1983 Elder Herbert Chapman was called for the next year.
Budget for 1984 is to keep the same budget until August 1984.
Elder Herbert Chapman asked not to be considered for the call.**

**April 8, 1984 Elder Loren Wilson was called to Pastor for the coming year, and he accepted.
Budget for 1984 - 1985 is \$51,600.00.
September 10, 1984 membership is 140.**

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church will host the Southern States Bible Conference in June 17 - 20, 1985, at South Georgia College Campus.

**The two furnaces in the annex are no longer functional and they need to be replaced. Brother Max Bowers secured an estimate for \$3,300.00 for the new systems.
September 14, 1985 membership is 127.**

**April 20, 1985 Elder Loren Wilson was called to be Pastor for the next year.
Sister Mamie Ramsey's family donated \$1,000.00 for a speaker system, in 1985, and January 11, 1986 the speaker was installed at the cost of \$859.00.
Present membership is 127.**

Special conference February 9, 1986 for the purpose of electing new Deacons. The four men to receive a majority were Brother's Max Bowers, Clay Coburn, Enoch Hicks, and Bill Strevel. Brother Bill Meek made a motion, seconded by Alan Proctor, to approve the four new Deacons. Motion carried.

Conference March 8, 1986 Brother Max Bowers made a presentation for correcting the drainage system problem with the driveway, and the cost not to exceed \$3,000.00. Brother Max discussed the need to update our cooling systems. The downstairs unit needs to be replaced, and the approximate cost to be \$6,500.00 to \$7,000.00, and additional insulation needs to be installed. Motion was made and carried.

**Elder Loren Wilson was called for the next year.
September 11, 1986 present membership is 103**

**Special conference April 4, 1986 for the purpose of ordaining Brother's Max Bowers, Clay Coburn and Enoch Hicks.
Elder Wilson called for the assembly of a presbytery, which consisted of Elder Loren Wilson, Elder Earl Bishop, Deacon's John T. Dunn, Howard Force, Glen Cunningham, Joe Massey, Lyndon Harris, and Darryl Harris.
Elder Wilson was elected moderator and Darryl Harris, clerk. Brother Howard Force questioned them to their belief in the Articles of Faith. Elder Wilson prayed the ordination prayer. Elder Bishop, using Scriptures from Acts chapter 6 and others, charged the candidates to faithfully maintain the qualifications of deacon, handle the tasks that come before them, and to**

keep themselves in the love of God. Elder Wilson charged the church to encourage their deacons, volunteer to help them, and to expect enough of them but not too much. The church extended the right hand of fellowship to the new deacons and their wives by the presbytery. Bill Strevel was previously ordained in the Old Line Primitive Baptist Church. Conference May 2, 1987, Elder Loren Wilson was called for the next year.

April 6, 1986 the Church by Laws was amended and approved
Budget for the year 1986 - 1987 is \$70,030.00.
September 14, 1987 the present membership is 101.

Budget for the year 1987 - 1988 is \$77,900.00.
The Church will use supplies for the year August 1, 1988 - August 1, 1989.
Membership is 95. Budget is \$67,000.00

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church voted in conference August 6, 1989 to call Elder Lee Price to be our pastor for the coming year. Elder Lee Price accepted the call, in August.
August 13, 1989. Brother Max Bowers said they had a bid of \$2,455.00 for new carpeting and a new kitchen floor and have plans to put in central air conditioning and other repairs to be done. A motion was made and approved that these repairs be done.
September 10, 1989 membership is 82.
Budget is \$63,740.00

Call conference on May 20, 1990 Elder Lee Price was called on an indefinite period.
Painting of the church was still in progress and some areas were finished, January 13, 1991.
The painting was finished on the Church by March 10, 1991. The Parsonage had a new roof installed and some wood had to be replaced and painting was done.
The inside of the Church needed painting and would be about \$4,000.00 and put it in good repair.
July conference July 28, 1991 the Church would host the Southern States Bible Conference in June 1992, motion was made and passed.
September 9, 1991 membership was 68.

The Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church met on Friday May 1, 1992 for the purpose of Ordaining Brothers Wade Bowers and Raymond Motes to the office of Deacon.
Membership is 64 September 11, 1992.

Elder Lee Price resigned from the Church, and the Church will use supplies for the coming year.
Membership is 59, September 17, 1993

January 9, 1994 the proposed budget is \$45,000.00 without a pastor and \$55,000.00 with a pastor, this is not a formal budget.

March 27, 1994 the Church in conference voted to call Elder Scott Riner. Elder Scott Riner accepted the call, and starts his ministry June 1, 1994. The Parsonage was painted inside and outside, the front porch, walk and driveway was widen.
September 16, 1994 membership is 64.

March 12, 1995 the Church voted to fix the gutters and begin a project to repair and repaint the Church on the outside and the inside, replacing the lights in the Fellowship room, hallways and pastors study a total of \$13,500.00.

September 14, 1995 membership is 68.

October 23, 1995 the Ladies circle installed new Draperies and lights in the dining room.

September 12, 1996 membership is 71.

September 11, 1997 membership is 71.

A new computer was purchased for the church and installed and the Church has a Web page on the Internet.

November (Thanksgiving) 1998 will mark the 40th anniversary of our building's first service was to the dedication to the service and ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ. December 6, 1998 a rededication and remembrance Service will be held.

March 8, 1998 Elder Scott Riner gave up the church to attend Southern Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky. A Fish fry was held at the church April 18, 1998 for a farewell fellowship for the Riner's. A love offering will be taken for their needs.

Call Conference Elder Hoyt Simms was called to be our pastor for the coming year.

Elder Simms accepted the call and will start January 1, 1999. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

The Lord has greatly blessed the Fidelis Circle in their efforts to upgrade the Fellowship Hall over the years. The Ladies cooked and sold dinners, lunches, bake and yard sales to help payoff the Church Debt. In the last two years Brother AI Dunn painted the Fellowship Hall. Brother Ed Burchfield built four 3- tier dollies for the flower room to stack flowers on and also a cheat on wheels to store Christmas decorations. Sister Frances Cauthen upholstered a sofa and 3 chairs in the Pastors study.

A new icemaker, stove, and refrigerator were purchased for the kitchen. White blinds, 5-light Brass Chandeliers and window treatment for the dining room. Plans are underway to upgrade the kitchen with new sinks, cabinets, and counter tops in the near future.

The Mary Martha Circle was active during the 60's through the 80's doing a great work for the church. The Church is very thankful for all the two Circles have contributed to the Church. Thanks to you all for the work that you have done.

The Brotherhood was very active for many years and completed several projects for the Church; one was the paving of the drives and parking lot in the 60's.

Thanks to each member, friend and visitor who have made this great House of God a place to Worship.

SEE APPENDIX V ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH ROLL OF MEMBERS ON PAGE 157.

**TO: Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church Date:
Congregational Membership**

July 16, 1988

FROM: Max A. Bowers, Bylaws Committee Chairman

SUBJECT: Possible dissolution of Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church Corporation Charter and Church Bylaws.

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

During our last regular held conference, June 12, 1988, those in attendance appointed this committee to investigate and report on the feasibility of dissolving or at least streamlining the present church bylaws. This report was to be presented at our next regular held conference, August 14, 1988.

On July 3, 1988, Pastor Wilson asked for a special conference to be called and conducted on July 17, 1988, regarding subject matter. The dissolving of our Church Corporation charter and bylaws is a very serious consideration and placed a heavy spiritual burden on this committee. Needless to say, we have prayed fervently to our Lord for guidance in this matter. In searching the Scriptures for guidance, before proceeding with this report, we found solace in the following passage.

Proverbs 16:3 Commit thy works unto the Lord, and thy thoughts shall be established.

For legal aspects of this possible action please refer to the questions and answers by attorney Gary Meinken. You can readily see the legal hazards of membership exposure to lawsuits and other possible liabilities. Results are higher insurance rates, and more stringent requirements to even qualify for insurance. Possible loss of local, state and federal tax benefits.

Surely you are all aware that our church conferences are not very well attended by the membership in general. Plainly speaking this means that only a few people make decisions that concern the administration and overall welfare of this church. In facing this serious reality you must use extreme prudence and wisdom in Voting as to dissolving the corporation charter and bylaws of this church.

As an example, should you vote to dissolve the corporation charter and bylaws, at any regular or special called conference only a small group of people could vote to radically change the spiritual profile of this church, or most anything they so desired, and it would be legal.

The present system does offer checks and balances to safeguard against such possible situations. We would like to call your attention to the names of the men who signed our petition to incorporate back in 1958.

Mr. Enoch Hicks, Sr.

Mr. Fred Cannon

Mr. Mike Everett

These were Very capable, wise, and successful business men, and very strong spiritual leaders of this church. They worked hard and diligent in the building and erection of this church. There were many others of equal business acumen and spiritual integrity involved also. I think we must give due diligence and considerations to their wise Counsel spiritual leadership and foresight.

It is recommended that we keep the church corporation as is and maintain our tax advantages, low insurance rates, and membership protection from possible lawsuits and other exposures. The present bylaws could be streamlined to some degree, but should be kept in some form as they do insurance a semblance of order in our conferences. Our Lord is certainly a God of order and not the author of confusion. We see His order clearly demonstrated in the Book of Numbers as He organizes and instructs the people of Israel in its infancy.

The recommendation to keep the present corporation and bylaws in effect was certainly not intended to impede, hinder, stifle, or cause stagnation of the spiritual growth in this church, and its worship of the Lord. It just doesn't seem logical that dissolving the corporation could bring about a spiritual revival in the church. Surely there must be other ways to come together in unity and fellowship to worship and praise God with effective witnessing and outreach. If so, He will add those to the church that are being saved.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, this report was prepared for your information, and prayerfully, you will seek God's will in your decision in voting on this critical issue.

May His will be done.
Submitted in Christian love,

Max A. Bowers

Max A. Bowers, Chairman Bylaws Committee

GARY SCOTT MEINKEN
Attorney at Law

1800 Century Boulevard
Suite #864
Atlanta, Georgia 30345
July 13, 1988 (404) 636-4181

Max Bowers
125 Bon Ami Court
Fairburn, Ga. 30213

RE: Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, Inc.
(A domestic nonprofit corporation)

Dear Mr. Bowers:

As per our discussion on July 5,1988 and per your requests so noted in your letter to me dated July 9,1988, the following is a brief outline memorandum on the legal ramifications concerning the above-named corporation:

1.) A corporation which has commenced to conduct affairs may dissolve and wind up its affairs in the following manner: a) If there are members entitled to vote thereon, the board of directors shall adopt a resolution recommending that the corporation be dissolved and directing that the question of dissolution be submitted to a vote at a meeting of members entitled to vote Thereon, which may be either annual or a special meeting. Written notice stating that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of such meeting is to consider the advisability of dissolving the corporation shall be given to each member entitled to vote at such meeting in accordance with the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or action by the directors. A resolution to dissolve the corporation shall be adopted upon receiving at least two thirds of the votes which members present at such meeting are entitled to cast.

b) Upon the adoption by the members or by the board of directors, as the case may be, of a resolution to dissolve the corporation, the corporation shall cease to conduct its affairs except insofar as may be necessary for the winding up of such affairs, shall immediately cause notice of the proposed dissolution to be mailed to each known creditor of the corporation, and shall proceed to collect its assets and apply and distribute them according to Georgia law.

c) Upon the adoption by the members or by the board of directors, as the case may be, of a resolution to dissolve the corporation, a statement of intent to dissolve shall be executed by the corporation as provided by Georgia law.

Page 2 of3

RE: Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, Inc.

d) The statement of intent to dissolve, whether by the members, or by the board of directors, shall be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing as provided by Georgia law.

e) Upon the filing by the Secretary of State of a statement of intent to dissolve, whether by the members or by the board of directors, the corporation shall cease to carry on its business, Except insofar as may be necessary or appropriate for the winding up thereof, but it's corporate existence shall continue until the time provided by Georgia law elapses.

2.) Once a non-profit corporation is dissolved, then that legal entity no longer exists under the eyes of the Federal, State or local authorities. Thus any and all tax exemptions claimed by this entity as a non-profit and or charitable organization cease to be.

3.) Upon dissolution of the corporation, and if affairs want to be continued, then a new form of organization needs to be chosen so that the business affairs may be carried out. If another corporation is not formed, then the individual members are personally liable for the continuation of the church's affairs and legal obligations thereto.

4.) If the corporation is dissolved, then the insurability of this organization is in question, and insurance rates could be effected. Thus this should be completely reviewed with the churches current insurance carriers prior to any dissolution, so that the organization is insured during the transition period and afterwards.

5.) Georgia recognizes three forms of ownership. These being proprietorship, partnership, and corporation. If the church chooses to be an association then the ownership of its assets and liabilities would fall under the form of ownership that it organizes under.

6.) If the church chooses another form of organization other than a corporation, then the individuals of such organization would more than likely be responsible for any tax obligations that arise.

7.) If the church chooses not to be a corporation, then it would lose its protection of limited liability that it had under the Georgia Corporate Code. This could mean that the Individual members would be liable for the debts of the church if not properly insured or protected otherwise.

8.) Currently, there are no known advantages in dissolving the present charter of incorporation for the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, Inc. And it is recommended that dissolution would not be in the best interest of said organization.

The information contained in this letter was written after reviewing the corporate charter and bylaws, and reviewing the purpose of said organization. Said church

Page 3 of 3

RE: Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, Inc.

**should make further investigations prior to making any changes in the form of its organization, and should seriously consider its tax liabilities and obligations as well as its liability exposure.
Sincerely,**

Gary S. Meinken

**Gary S. Meinken
Attorney-at-Law**

GSM/ku

**BYLAWS
ATLANTA PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH**

ARTICLE I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church shall be to bear witness to the Lordship of Jesus Christ for his praise to be accomplished through:

1. Making God known through Jesus Christ and his message of reconciliation;
2. Offering Christian fellowship and concern;
3. Leading people into God's presence in a worshipful community;
4. Providing such education, training and opportunity for service as is necessary for realizing the fullness of Christian Discipleship.
5. Seeking through cooperation with others to extend the kingdom of God throughout the earth; and
6. Endeavoring to keep the unity of the spirit in the bond of peace. Ephesians 4:3.

ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church, referred to herein as the "Church" shall consist of all persons whose names appear on the Church membership Roll. All authority of the church is vested in the Church in conference. The authority of all officers of the church is derived from the church in conference, and is subject to it.

A. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP.

Applications for membership may be received on anyone of the following bases:

- 1 After a public profession of faith in Christ, and thereafter upon baptism as expressed in Romans 6: 1-6, that is by immersion in water: or
2. Upon receipt of a church letter of dismissal and recommendation from some other church of like faith and order: or
3. By statement, acceptable to the church, of previous membership after baptism in a church of like faith and order.

All applications for membership, as outlined above, whether by profession of faith, by statement, or by letter, shall be received under the watch care of the Church until such time as they are baptized, their Church Letter is received and accepted, or their application is otherwise disposed of by the Church. Candidates shall receive the right hand of welcome at the time of their initial move to membership. Congregational Action on admission to membership will be by unanimous vote of those present and voting.

B. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

Membership may be terminated only in the following manner:

-1-

1. Upon death of the member; or
2. Upon issuance of a church letter of dismissal and recommendation for membership in another specific church of like faith and order; or
3. Upon a member's joining a church of another denomination, or
4. Upon withdrawal of fellowship by the church from a member as provided by the Holy Scriptures and more particularly in Mathew 18:15-17, I Corinthians 5, Luke 17:3 and Ephesians 5:11.

- Action on any of the above shall be by vote of the church in conference as provided herein.

VOTING OF MEMBERS.

On any matter coming before the church for its determination, each member present shall be entitled to one vote which shall be exercised in person and not by proxy unless otherwise provided; and all such matters shall be determined at a regular or special conference of the church held in accordance with these bylaws. Such determinations shall be made by a vote of a majority of the members present and voting.

ARTICLE III. OFFICERS.

1. Pastor
2. Deacons
3. Chairman of Deacons
4. Vice-Chairman of Deacons
5. Secretary or Clerk
6. Treasurer
7. Assistant Treasurer
8. Moderator
9. Assistant Moderator
10. Parliamentarian (The presiding officer at any meeting may, at his discretion, appoint a parliamentarian to advise him on parliamentary procedure.)

ARTICLE IV. DEACONS

A. THE DEACONS. The deacons under the authority of the church in conference shall administer the business affairs.

B. MEMBERSHIP OF THE DEACONS. The Deacons shall consist of the present Deacons as shown by the records of the church and of such additional Deacons as the church may hereafter elect as such.

C. QUALIFICATIONS OF A DEACON. A Deacon shall be a member of the Church in good standing and who has the qualifications for a deacon as set forth in the spirit of Acts 6:3 and I Timothy 3:8-13, and such other qualifications as the church may from time to time prescribe.

D. MEETINGS A QUORUM. The deacons shall meet regularly at such time and place as they may

-2-

determine. The Chairman of the Deacons, the Pastor, or a majority of the active deacons may call special meetings by giving notice thereof to each active deacon. A majority of the active Deacons shall constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of the active deacons present at any meeting held in accordance herewith (and at which a quorum is present) shall be sufficient to decide on any matter before the deacons for consideration.

E. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEACONS. Except as hereinafter provided, the deacons shall:

1. Recommend to the church in conference such policies, practices and procedures, as they deem advisable.
2. Together with the Pastor, shall implement and give direction to all such policies, practices and procedures as shall be voted by the Church in conference.
3. As herein authorized by the church, shall administer the business and secular affairs of the church; and, to the extent provided for in these bylaws and vested in them by the church, the deacons shall have full authority to do and perform all things reasonably necessary in connection therewith.
4. Prior to the end of each fiscal year, the deacons shall cause to be prepared and submitted to the church a budget for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall include estimates as to the anticipated liabilities, cost and expenses of conducting the affairs of the Church during such year and an estimate of the total amount of the anticipated gifts of the church during each year for benevolence, denominational activity, etc. The church shall adopt the annual budget. Unusual or large expenditures not stated in the budget and exceeding \$500.00 will require approval of the church. The deacons shall not have power to borrow money or sell or encumber any real estate belonging to the church unless the church in accordance with these bylaws authorizes such transaction.
5. The board of deacons may establish such committees as they see fit and affix their duties as they may from time to time prescribe.

F. TERMS OF OFFICE. The deacons shall serve for life as long as they remain members of this church unless they are removed for cause or placed on emeritus status by the church.

ARTICLE V. DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND DEACONS

A. The duties of the officers and Deacons of this Church shall be in addition to those enumerated in previous Articles, such as are properly and usually imposed upon Deacons and officers of like churches.

B. The Chairman of the Deacons and the Secretary or Clerk of this Church shall be, and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures to such contracts, deeds, indentures, notes, certificates, and other papers and documents as may be necessary and proper for procurement of

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any and all loan or loans of the church, or for the creation of any and all

obligations for and on behalf of the Church or for any other purposes, when said loan or loans for said obligations or any other undertaking and purposes have been duly approved by the members of the Church in conference. Such signatures shall be by and for this church.

C. THE TREASURER. The treasurer shall receive all Moines paid into the Church and shall disburse them in accordance with the budgets provided for herein. Unbudgeted items shall require approval of the deacons. Appropriate accounting records shall be maintained to satisfy the Church and all Federal, State, and local government regulations.

D. THE SECRETARY OR CLERK. The Secretary or Clerk shall keep a true account of the proceedings at all conferences and shall be responsible for all official Church correspondence and records that are not delegated to other officers herein.

ARTICLE VI. ELECTIONS

A. A Pastor shall be chosen and called by the church annually during the month of April or as soon as practical after a vacancy occurs.

B. The pastor to be called shall be selected in the following manner:

For Pastoral calls a majority means 75% of those voting.

1. At a pastoral call conference, opportunity will first be given for prayer and discussion of the subject of calling a pastor.

2. Next, a vote will be taken to determine if the church is ready to proceed with a call. If the vote is less than a majority the conference will be dismissed after another opportunity for prayer and discussion.

3. If a vote is to proceed, voice recommendations will be taken for pastor from the floor. No member shall speak for longer than one minute about the same candidate.

4. A secret ballot vote will be taken as provided by the deacons.

5. If a minister receives a majority of votes he will be considered the one who is called. A vote of acclamation and support for the called minister will be taken.

6. (A) If no minister receives a majority of votes, a secret ballot will be taken of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes.

(b) If no minister receives a majority of votes, it will be considered that the church is not of a united spiritual mind. After another period of prayer and discussion, the conference will be dismissed and the church urged to seek further guidance through prayer on the issue.

7. Another call conference will be set at the discretion of the pastor and deacons. At this conference the same procedure will follow. As many call conferences as are necessary will be set until the mind of the church is together and expressed by a majority vote for the minister.

C. All pastoral call conferences shall be announced to the church at least one week prior to the said conference.

D. The pastor shall not preside at any call conference even though he may have been elected as the moderator for the fiscal year.

E. A notice shall be mailed to the membership at least one week prior to the FIRST call each year. If the first annual call is not successful then subsequent calls for that year need not be announced by mailed notice but the time and date thereof shall be announced to the church at the unsuccessful call or in a regular Church Meeting.

F. ABSENTEE BALLOTS. Absentee Ballots will not be considered.

G. DEACONS. The deacons shall consist of at least six but no more than twelve active Deacons of the Church. Selection of new deacons shall be by secret ballot in conference. The deacons shall annually, at their July meeting, elect a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman to serve for a term of one year.

H. All other Church positions excepting those specifically provided for in these bylaws shall be elected by the church at the July conference each year for the term of one year. The Church in conference as needed shall fill vacant positions.

ARTICLE VII. MEETINGS.

A. Regular conference of this church shall be held on the second Saturday bi-monthly, beginning January 1979 unless otherwise agreed.

B. Special conferences may be called by two or more Deacons, the Pastor and one or more of the Deacons, or by someone designated by them to do so, by announcement at least one week prior to the date set for the same and at all regular services until conference is held. Only the specific business for which the conference was called will be transacted at a special conference. Special conferences of an urgent nature may be called by majority consent of the Deacons any time.

Admissions for membership shall be handled as set forth in ARTICLE II.

Section A. Admission to membership.

C. The Deacons shall hold their meetings at such time and place as they may determine.

D. The Church shall annually select a moderator to preside over conference for the ensuing year unless otherwise provided for herein. Such Moderator may be the Pastor or any Deacon. In the absence of the Moderator or the Assistant Moderator, a moderator will be chosen by the congregation.

E. In the absence of specific rules governing parliamentary procedure not covered by these bylaws, "Roberts Rules of Order" shall apply.

F. Regular worship services shall consist of Sunday morning and evening preaching and Wednesday Evening Prayer Service. Educational Training Service shall consist of Sunday morning Bible Study and Sunday Evening Primitive Baptist Youth Fellowship (PBYF)

ARTICLE VIII. QUORUM

The members of the church present at any regular or special conference duly called and announced shall constitute a quorum.

A. RTICLE IX. CHURCH STAFF

The Deacons and the Pastor will direct the work of the Church staff. Personnel may be employed by the Pastor or Deacons upon recommendation and authorization from the Church in conference.

ARTICLE X. GENERAL

- A. General duties of all personnel and general procedures for operation of the Church business shall be detailed in the "Policies and Procedures Manual" that is approved by the Church.**
- B. Matters pertaining to vacations, sick leave, holidays, fringe benefits, shall be detailed in the "Policies and Procedures Manual"**

ARTICLE XI. COMMITTEES.

- A. A nominating committee composed of seven members shall propose to the membership the names of persons to serve in various capacities and positions of the Church and shall contact, prior to nomination, all persons proposed for Church positions. Ex-officio members of the Nominating Committee shall be the Pastor and the Chairman of the Deacons. The remaining five members shall be appointed by the Church in conference during the month of May each year.**
- B. Standing Committees shall be elected by the members upon recommendation of the Nominating Committee, to assist in specific functions of the Church.**

C. Special Committees may be appointed to fulfill a specific purpose by the Pastor, the Deacons, or the Church. Such special committees shall be dissolved when their specific task is accomplished and in no event shall their term be for longer than one year.

ARTICLE XII. AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by a majority vote of those voting, there being a quorum present as hereinbefore provided, at any regular or duly called conference of the Church, provided, however, that notice of any proposed amendment and the form of the amendment have been published and given to the members two weeks prior to the meeting at which said proposed amendment is to be presented.

ARTICLE XIII. EFFECTIVE DATE

The foregoing Church Bylaws, upon adoption by the Church in conference at which a quorum is present shall become effective immediately, and shall supersede any other set of bylaws, which may have been previously adopted.

ADOPTED IN SPECIAL CONFERENCE May 23, 1979

MODIFIED IN SPECIAL CONFERENCE April 6, 1986

MODIFIED IN SPECIAL CONFERENCE AUGUST 7, 1988

Brother Enoch Hicks, Jr. made a motion to amend the bylaws Article VI section B to change the 75% to a simple majority of 51%. Seconded and passed by a majority vote.

MODIFIED IN CONFERENCE September 9, 1990.

Motion was made and seconded to change Article VI section B to 75% and not a simple majority to call a Pastor.

APPENDIX A

BOULEVARD PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH 1921

August 11, 1921

After song service and prayer by Elder Hull, the Church met in conference. Elder Simms made a statement and confession for certain statements made by him last Thursday night and asked the Church to forgive him for same.

Brother G. D. McLendon also made a similar confession for hasty statements made by him. Elder Simms then stated that whereas there was a difference of views between the membership of our Church on the question of making membership in a Secret Order a test of Church fellowship, that he therefore offered the following resolution:

THE VOTE

"All who favor the policies and doctrines held sacred by all the faithful Primitive or Old School Baptist from time immemorial, especially with reference to free Masonry, and all other secret societies whose religious practice are at variance with the blessed religion of our Lord Jesus Christ, and who are willing to be content with the understanding and agreement upon which this Church was constituted, and who will not fellowship the above named secret orders in the Church, will now stand and remain standing until you are counted."

REVERSE VOTE

" All who are opposed to the order of all true Primitive Baptist in their declaration against Free Masonry and other kindred institutions and who are now opposed to the understanding and principles upon which this Church was constituted, and who are in favor of fellowshiping free masonry in the Church will now rise and stand until you are counted."

Brother W. K. Stewart then offered a substitute motion which was seconded and carried almost unanimously that the Church should vote by ballot and on the direct question at issue whether the Church will make membership in Secret Orders a bar to fellowship or not. During some little discussion about the wording of the ballots, Brother L. D. Bums offered the following Resolutions.

NOTE: Resolution was withdrawn and struck from the minutes.

In the meantime Brother Stewart kept insisting that his motion which had been carried be voted upon.

Brother Stewart also suggested at this time, that as Brother Simms was not well that we as a Church pay his expenses for rest somewhere away from Atlanta and that the members of the Church would pledge themselves not to discuss this question nor allow it to come in the Church for settlement in his absence.

Brother Simms would not agree to this, stating that he could not live thirty days under the suspense nor could he live in the Church if it voted contrary to the position he was standing upon. Finally the vote was taken upon the wording of Elder Simms resolution and carried by a vote of 24 to 22.

The following resolution was read and adopted upon motion and second.

RESOLVED: THAT THIS MATTER IS SETTLED, but left in such condition that it can yet disturb the fellowship of the Church in the future, we therefore decree, that if at any time in all

the future of this Church this question shall disturb it and cause dissension and division that faction holding to the principles already agreed to as above, shall be entitled to all the property of this Church, such as houses of worship, pastor's homes, etc., with all the records of the Church whether that faction be the majority or the minority.

**NOTE: Above was read, prepared and put before the Church by the moderator.
Motion to adjourn was carried.**

**W. W. Harden; Clerk
A. V. Simms; Moderator**

**Atlanta Georgia
December 13, 1921**

**W.W. Harden, D.D.S.
Dentist
Atlanta, Georgia**

I appreciation of this gift and to the memory of its worthy donor the Church was christened "Glazener Memorial.

Brother Glazner was a man of excellent traits of character, frugal and temperate in his manner of life; sincere, honest, and charitable in all his dealings with men; and above reproach as a Christian.

The large concourse of friends, among whom were a number of sorrowful Colored people who had long been tenants of his, attending the lasts sad rites, and viewing his body for the last time on earth bespeak for him an expression of his sterling character stronger than words. One of his favorite hymns was "How Firm A Foundation", and this was very expressively sung at the funeral exercises.

Durand H. Smith, a close friend, brother and Elder in the Church, of whom he was a member, preached a very appropriate and feeling funeral discourse.

Truly a good man has gone to his Eternal Rest. We hope to meet him in that Home of Glory.

Dr. W. W. Harden, Atlanta, Georgia.

No date on letter, written around 1922.

Dear Brother Walter;

Your letter T-hand. I am truly sorry that Brother Harden refuses to use his influence for the peace of the Church. He has said repeatedly in our conference that he did not want secret orders in the Church but there was no use in turning them out, as they could be "loved out of it. But now when the time comes to love them he refuses to "love.""

Since you was here, and while I was in Valdosta, the Church held her regular conference and a letter was read from Dr., Stewart, requesting a letter of dismissal as he was moving away to La. The Church granted it. Brother McLendon took this advantage of calling for a letter for himself, wife and Earl. It was all so unexpected that the Church, without consideration, granted the request. When I reached home they were all confused over what they had done and ordered the Clerk, Brother Burns, not to deliver the letters until the next conference. I am trying to get those to let Brother and Sister McLendon have their letters, as they have already been granted, and too for the further fact that since the settlement made when you was here last there is no charge against him. I do not know whether they will be willing to do this, owing to the fact as they say, that the calling for these letters was only done to stir and confuse the Church again after the settlement was made, supposed to be in good faith. But Earl's case is different, He so, far stubbornly refuses to give up his masonry, and unless he does, he will not only fail to get his letter, but will surely be excluded from the Church. The Church has borne so long and has endured this matted in waiting on the hope that she could save this dissatisfied element that I think they do not believe the Church means to exclude anyone on this issue. So I think a good turning out is about all we can do to uphold the dignity of the Church and the majesty of God's law.

I note what you say about your next trip to Plant City. Would it be agreeable with you to let me make that trip this time? I certainly would like to be at brother's trial, and feel that I owe it to him. Elder Smith can fill my place here, as some of the brethren feel that he is not having the opportunity he should have for the development of his gift. Or, if you would like to come at that time it would be all right.

Elder Crouse's resignation is all right provider he means it. But I have known people to resign their positions when they were reasonably sure their resignations would not be accepted. We shall see what we shall see. I should like for Elder Barwick to hold on provided he would bend just enough to allow a sensible and brotherly discussion of the reasons for Old Baptist in opposing secret oath bound institutions. But if he will not I am willing for him to resign. The cause of Christ is much dearer to me than either or both of these brethren.

Let me hear from you real soon.

Your brother in Trials

Elder A. V. Simms

BOULEVARD PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

Preamble and Resolutions of Agreement,

Whereas the Boulevard Primitive Baptist Church of Atlanta Georgia has been severely and bitterly tried during the past few months because of a division among her members brought about by undue agitation of the question of her members affiliating with Secret Orders; and Whereas they have endeavored to retain fellowship for one another, through opposing the positions which each contesting party has held; and Whereas they now wish to be at peace, to reassert their confidence in each other and to rededicate themselves to one another and to God in most solemn and fraternal manner, feeling that they are willing to bear with each other for the sake of peace and the cause of Christ:

Therefore be it resolved;

1. That we, the members of said Boulevard Primitive Baptist Church do believe that the Church of Jesus Christ is sufficient in all Spiritual matters for God's dear people, and that in her a large field of Christian labor is opened to each and all of God's Children, and while we humbly exhort one another to abstain from secret affiliations such as may serve to pollute the sacred altar of the most high God, nevertheless we shall leave the course of each other individually to stand before the bar of personal conscience, so long as moral and orderly standards of living are maintained;

2. That we firmly exhort each other to good works in the Church, which are ordained of God as recorded in His Holy Word and insist upon each other keeping their bodies under subjection and their lives unspotted from the world, that our Church may stand for the highest that there is in moral and spiritual life here upon earth;

3. That we solemnly commit ourselves to an upright and orderly walk before God and man, and mutually confess all errors in which we may have sinned against each other;

4. That the exhortations of the Gospel and the teachings of God's Word shall be insisted upon, and that such questions as do not involve moral turpitude or religious idolatry and fanaticism shall be dealt with in exhortation and fraternal love rather than in drastic disciplinary manner;

5. That we consent humbly in the presence of one another to the great out-standing truth as taught in the word of God, that the Church of Jesus Christ should stand first in the hearts and minds of her members, and that no member has a legal, moral or spiritual right to neglect the Church of Christ for any other institution among men, or allow any such institutions to interfere with their allegiance to the Church of Christ and to their brethren and sisters;

6. That we promise to bear with one another, exhorting one another in love, pleading with each other in fraternal affection, and helping each other to overcome the temptations of the world, and to abstain from violent action towards each other with regard to matters of individual conscience, as long as questions of heresy, fornication, and immoral conduct are not involved;

7. That in all matters involving the peace and prosperity of the Church, no action of the Church shall be taken until after public announcement of the intention of the Church to deal with said

matter shall have been made in open conference at least one month preceding said action; and that a majority vote of members present in regular conference shall decide the matter and be the voice of the Church;

8. That it shall be the duty of all members to submit themselves humbly to a free and unprejudiced voice of the Church, and that the right of any member to withdraw from the Church shall not be denied so long as there are not charges involving moral turpitude against said member;

9. That a copy of this Preamble and Resolutions shall be spread upon the minutes of this Church, and shall be read as often as the Church may deem proper before the whole Church.

Agreed to in open conference this, the __ day of __ 1922.

Signed: Moderator Clerk of the Church.

No date on letter, around January 1922

APPENDIX B PEACHTREE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH

WHEREAS the PEACHTREE PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH was duly constituted in Atlanta, Fulton County on the 28th, day of May, 1920 by a presbytery consisting of Elder J. Walter Hendricks, Moderator and Elder Walter M. Blackwell, Clerk, after which the said church called Elder A. V. Mimms, Pastor, elected G. D. McLendon, church Treasurer and W. E. Gray, Church Clerk, and

WHEREAS the members of said church, now numbering thirty eight, are not financially able to build a creditable house of worship in the said city of Atlanta, and having agreed among themselves at a business meeting of said Church held in the said city of Atlanta on June 3, 1920 to subscribe of their means and to contribute the same for the purpose of buying a suitable lot on which to erect a church edifice and to provide a dwelling house for our pastor of the said church in the said city of Atlanta to be occupied by the said pastor during the time which he shall serve the said church as pastor, and having at the same time and place appointed a building committee duly authorized by the said church to select and purchase a lot and provide a dwelling house for the pastor as aforesaid, the said building committee of which G. D. McLendon was elected Chairman, did, on June 18th 1920, purchase a vacant lot size one hundred feet by one hundred fifty six feet on the Southeast comer of West Peachtree and Eleventh streets, fronting 100 feet on West Peachtree street and running back along Eleventh Street toward Peachtree street 165 feet, more or less to an alley, and

WHEREAS the members of the said church, after buying the said lot for the sum of Sixteen Thousand Dollars, find that they are not able among themselves to build a house of worship that would do justice to the Primitive Baptist Denomination and be an honor to God in the Said city of Atlanta, and having also agreed at the said business meeting aforesaid that such a building would cost no less a sum than ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS, they now agree, as they did agree in a conference meeting of said church held in the said city of Atlanta, Ga. On June 10th 1920, to solicit subscriptions among other brethren and friends in Atlanta and elsewhere to secure the necessary funds which to erect the said church structures in the said city of Atlanta, and by the signature of the said church Treasurer, witnessed by the Chairman of the Finance committee of the said church who was elected to his office in the said conference meeting of the said church on the said 10th day of June, 1920, do hereby covenant and agree with the undersigned that all subscriptions and donations herein given shall be used for church purposes and that in order to obtain most liberal contributions, a period of three years from June 15th 1920, be allowed in which to make final payment of subscriptions, one fourth of each subscription or such part as can conveniently be paid by subscriber, to be paid in on or before August 15th 1920, and the balance to be closed by note or notes maturing on dates as will suit the convenience of subscriber and also meet the requirements of the building funds of said church during the said period as aforesaid.

Attest

A. F. Patterson

Chairman of Finance Committee

G. D. McLendon

Church Treasurer

CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY

This is to certify that *Dr. W. W. Harden* a member of our church is authorized to solicit subscriptions and donations as aforesaid, personally, and through the aid of friends. Done by act of the church in conference this 10th day of June 1920.

W. E. Gray
Church Clerk

H. H. Smith
Moderator

I, _____ hereby authorize _____ of _____ to solicit subscriptions and donations as stated above. Chairman of Finance committee.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST

We, the undersign, each for himself, hereby agree to subscribe and contribute of our means the several amounts set opposite our respective names for use and purposes herein expressed, and it is further agreed and understood between the said church and ourselves in order that we may make very liberal contributions to such a good cause, that we are to pay in one fourth of his subscription or such proportion thereof as can be conveniently done, on or notes maturing on dates as will best suit the convenience of each subscriber as to his part and meet the requirements of the building funds of the said church structures during the succeeding three years from June 15th, 1920.

It is further agreed and understood, mutually, that when each of us whose name is subscribe hereto has paid in full the amount set opposite his name, this agreement to be no longer binding upon the one so paying his subscription and that each of us is liable only for the payment of the amount that each such one has subscribed until the same has been paid or satisfied. Make checks payable to G. D. McLendon, Treasurer.

NAMES	ADDRESSES	AMOUNTS.
_____	_____	_____

August to December 1921 Inasmuch as our church is divided over the secret order question, the church disbanded, and later constituted the Atlanta Primitive Baptist Church.