

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

1873 - 1987



Rev. Frederick D. Favors, Pastor

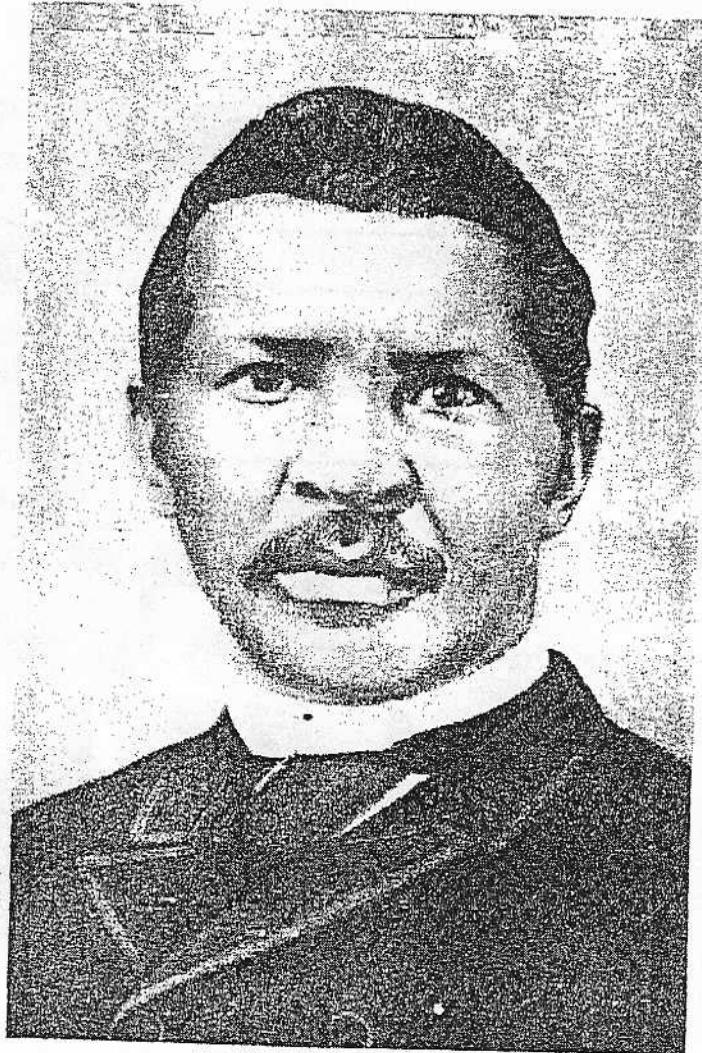
Springfield Baptist Church

*523 Pine Street
Thomson, Georgia 30824*



Rev. Benjamin F. Granade
1873 - 1882

In 1873 Springfield was born with the organization by a small band of Christian workers: these were Rev. Benjamin F. Granade, Dea. Horace Taylor, Brother Lee Wellmaker, Sister Mary Taylor along with Rev. Ellington and Mr. Stockton of the caucasian Baptist Church. They felt this meaning for Springfield : "Spring" meant the head, the beginning of a great stream, never still, continuing to rise and go! "Field" meant, of course, a plant bed, where we draw the tender plants and start them off to grow. The first church building was a small structure which once had served as a school called Columbia Institute. Rev. Granade and followers secured this building from its owner, Mr. Dock Smith, for \$250.00. Later, 3/4 acre of land was bought on which a hiproof building was constructed with an addition of two more acres. Brother Ed Smith was licensed to preach during Rev. Granade's pastorate. After nine years of faithful leadership, Rev. Granade was called to this heavenly home.



Rev. Gad S. Johnson
1883 - 1892

In 1883 a new Shepherd was called - the Rev. Gad S. Johnson. As the church continued to grow, the small structure was replaced by a larger one with a Pulpit set purchased. Brothers Sip Taylor, Henry Davis, and Mike Lazenby were licensed to preach. Deacons serving during both Rev. Granade's and Rev. Johnson's ministries were: Brothers Allen Hollimon, Jow Dorsey, Joshua Jones, Blandon Dill, Jordan Shanks, Jessie Shanks, West Paschal, Ples Showers, and Horace Taylor. After nine years, the Pulpit became vacant.



Rev. J. W. Whitehead
1893 - 1938

Again in 1893 God worked in a wonderful way in giving us the leader, Rev. J. W. Whitehead. In addition to the spiritual growth, other improvements made included the placing of a large window in the center front purchase of an Organ and Piano, and building of a Choir stand for Choir, and chairs with some carpeting. The Sunday School and BYPU were organized and served as host for the State Convention in 1912. Brothers Willie Harmon and Henry Showers were licensed to preach. Deacons ordained were: Brothers Sidney Shank, Peter Richard, Franklin Shank, John Winfrey, Patron Bullard, Ples Showers, Ephriam Dunn, John Bell, Augustus Shanks and Albert Demons. Deacons coming from other churches were: Brothers Frank West, John McElroy, Charlie Bens, J. D. White, and Emanuel Dorsey. After almost 45 years of service in 1938, Rev. Whitehead kept a date with his master.



REV. J. H. West
1938 - 1983

In keeping with his wishes, a son of Springfield, who was sanctioned as Assistant Pastor, was placed in charge a month after Rev. Whitehead's passing. After serving in such role for almost two years, Rev. West was installed as Pastor on March 14, 1940. New spiritual emphasis included the changing of Sunday School from afternoon to morning sessions, reinstating the June revival, expanding worship from one-Sunday a month to every-Sunday, with many added to the christian fold. Afte a life given to God and man and serving as Pastor of Springfield for 45 years, Rev. West was called to his heavenly home on August 16, 1983, followed by the funeral that placed his body on the church grounds in loving memory and appreciation. To continue his serving, The J. H. West Scholarship Fund in his memory was begun with approx. \$3,000.00 now and growing. During Rev. West's leadership Brothers Jacob Bentley, Tommy Burgess, Jr., and Wallace Massey were licensed to preach. Brother Jacob Bentley was ordained as a minister. Deacons ordained were: Brothers J. B. Demons, Isaac Demons, Ronnie Norris, Carvee N. West, John H. West, Harrison Brinson, Walter Jones, Johnnie Murray, H. E. Dean, E. G. Long, Sr., Tom West, Rob Willie Shields, Roy Pettis, Charlie Lowe, John Jackson, R. L. Norris, Marion Paschall, George T. Drake, Joseph D. Greene, Alton Petett, Johnnie Walker, John A. Bowman, Eugene Brinson, James Isom, Henderson Roberson, Sr., Tommy Burgess, Jr., Tommy Burgess, Sr., and Otis Jenkins. Deacons coming from other churches were: Brothers A. T. Wilson, S. M. Dagget, J. D. White, E. V. Petett, and James Lamar.



Rev. F. D. Favors
1984 -

In 1984 after more than a year without a Leader-Shepherd God worked in a wonderful way in giving us the Leader, Rev. Frederick D. Favors on 1 October. Rev. Favors Installation Service was held on 25 November. New spiritual emphasis includes: instituting a Christmas Day Prayer-Breakfast, forming of the following Committees of Groups: Tutorial, Cultural, New Members, Medical Awareness, Evangelism Department, and Photography; for wider involvement Male Chorus formed; new role for Visitation Committee includes distributing monthly Love Gift to our sick & shut-in members; support of a Prison Ministry, instituted weekly Bible study; and full time Secretary-Clerk added. 42 members added to the christian fold with 30 by Baptism, and 11~~2~~ by Christian Experience. In 1986, 13 new members were Baptized, 6 joined by Christian Experience, and 1 under Watchcare. Church Van purchased, annual Educational Program instituted, first group of people were trained using the Evangelistic Task Force Model, sponsoring of a Girl Scout Troop. Sis. Gussie Brinson was crowned as "Mrs. Springfield" in Operation '86. Dedicatory service for the Dean-West Education Center and the J. H. West Fellowship Hall held on July 13, starting of our Deapartmentalized Sunday School on August 31, and Sis. Mary Johnson assigned to work with the Youth Choir which has shown a vast increase under her leadership. Since our last Anniversary, 32 new members were Baptized, 8 joined by Christian Experience, and 5 by Letter. Springfield was host for the General Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc. Regional Mini-Congress for Districts 1, 6, 8, & 10 on March 26. Our church paper name was changed on September 1 from the "Fellowship Echoes" to "The Springfield Voice". In our effort to reach out and serve people, 14 of our Mission in Action ladies were trained as Resource Mothers to form a McDuffie County Mother-to-Mother Program with Springfield being selected as contact point for this area by CONTINUUM, Alliance for Healthy Mothers and Children, a state-wide non-profit organization, and organing of "The Amazing Grace Choir for members 55 and older and others interested in gospel singing on October 3.

A Prayer For This Church

Almighty Father of all mankind, we pray that this church may be always a fit place for Thy presence. At its doors, may there be a welcome for all souls. In its school, may little children be taught about the kindness of the Good Shepherd. Here may young men and maidens come to be prepared for the struggle of life. In this church, may both Youth and Age face aright the problems of our day. Here may the strong become aware of their need of Thy power, the weak obtain courage and the poor and desolate find friends and help. Here may doubts be dispelled as mists before the rising sun. Here may those beset by temptation find deliverance, may wanderers from God find joy in return and may those living in sin escape from its power. Here may souls be baptized into holy faith and bring forth fruits meet for repentance. In this sanctuary, may the sacrament of bread and wine give mystic communion with Christ and fellowship in His sufferings. At this altar, may there be joined, by true marriage, hearts steadfast in love. Here may the ministry be magnified and young men imbued with zeal to enter this sacred work. From this pulpit, may there be preached words of comfort, admonition and divine truth. Here may the Law of Love be set forth as the Law of Life and the foundation of justice. With quiet devotion, may the Prince of Peace be here adored. In His name, may the spirit that makes for Peace be cherished and the spirit that makes for War be cast out. Grant that Thy children may abide here in concord and explore together the joys of the life of the spirit. May their faith be certified by good works and just stewardship, and may their sacrificial giving send the Gospel to the ends of the earth. In this Thy dwelling place, may all uncharitableness perish and all selfish desires fade away in the light of Thy presence. And so may this church, through its manifold ministry, be a means of grace and blessing to those within it. When any go elsewhere, may its influence for good be shed abroad, to the Glory of God. All this we ask, in the name of Christ, that His Kingdom may come, and the will of God be done here and everywhere. Amen.

SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HISTORY

“A PAST TO CHERISH--A FUTURE TO FULFILL”

PASTORS WITH A VISION:

REV. BENJAMIN F. GRANADE
REV. GAD S. JOHNSON
REV. J. W. WHITEHEAD
REV. JOHN HENRY WEST
REV. FREDERICK D. FAVORS

DEDICATED TO CHRIST FOR 128 YEARS

THE THREE R'S:

REDEEMING GOD'S PEOPLE
RECLAIMING GOD'S PROMISES
REINFORCING GOD'S PRESENCE

HISTORY OF SPRINGFIELD MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

“A PAST TO CHERISH---A FUTURE TO FULFILL”

THE LORD HAS BEEN GOOD TO US!

IN THE SPIRIT OF GRATITUDE TO OUR HEAVENLY FATHER BY WHOSE FAVOR, INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE WE HAVE COME TO THE 128TH ANNIVERSARY OF THIS CHURCH. WE HAVE HEARTS FILLED WITH GRATITUDE AND PRAISE FOR THE WAY OUR CHURCH HAS BEEN RAISED UP AND BLESSED IN THIS COMMUNITY. IN LOVE FOR OUR BELOVED CHURCH AND IN REVERENT MEMORY OF ALL THOSE WHO BY SERVICE DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS HAVE BEQUEATHED TO US THIS VALUABLE CHURCH AND PROPERTY, WE COME TO THOSE MOMENT OF SHARING WITH YOU OUR HISTORY WITH GRATEFUL APPRECIATION. WE DO THIS REMEMBERING THE SACRIFICES OF THE FATHERS, UPON WHOSE FOUNDATIONS WE ARE BUILDING.

IN 1873 SPRINGFIELD WAS BORN WITH THE ORGANIZATION BY A SMALL BAND OF CHRISTIAN WORKERS. THESE WERE REV. BENJAMIN F. GRANADE, DEA. HORACE TAYLOR, BROTHER LEE WELLMAKER, SISTER MARY TAYLOR ALONG WITH REV. ELL ELLINGTON AND MR.. STOCKTON OF THE CAUCASIAN BAPTIST CHURCH. THEY FELT THIS MEANING FOR SPRINGFIELD: “SPRING: MEANT THE HEAD, THE BEGINNING OF A GREAT STREAM, NEVER STILL, CONTINUING TO RISE AND GO! “FIELD” MEANT, OF COURSE, A PLANT BED, WHERE WE DRAW THE TENDER PLANTS AND START THEM OFF TO GROW. THE FIRST CHURCH BUILDING WAS A SMALL STRUCTURE WHICH ONCE HAD SERVED AS A SCHOOL CALLED COLUMBIA INSTITUTE. REV. GRANADE AND FOLLOWERS SECURED THIS BUILDING FROM ITS OWNER, MR.. DOCK SMITH, FOR \$250.00. LATER 3/4 ACRES OF LAND WAS BOUGHT ON WHICH A HIROOF BUILDING WAS CONSTRUCTED WITH AND ADDITION OF TWO MORE ACRES. BROTHER ED SMITH WAS LICENSED TO PREACH DURING REV. GRANADE’S PASTORATE. AFTER NINE YEARS OF FAITHFUL LEADERSHIP, REV. GRANADE WAS CALLED TO HIS HEAVENLY HOME.

IN 1883 A NEW SHEPHERD WAS CALLED - THE REV. GAD S. JOHNSON. AS THE CHURCH CONTINUED TO GROW, THE SMALL STRUCTURE WAS REPLACED BY A LARGER ONE WITH A PULPIT SET PURCHASED. BROTHERS SIP TAYLOR, HENRY DAVIS, AND MIKE LAZENBY WERE LICENSED TO PREACH. DEACONS SERVING DURING BOTH REV. GRANADE’S AND REV. JOHNSON’S MINISTRIES WERE: BROTHERS ALLEN HOLLIMON, JOW DORSEY, JOSHUA JONES, BLANDON DILL, JORDAN SHANKS, JESSIE SHANKS, WEST PASCHAL, PLES SHOWERS, AND HORACE TAYLOR. AFTER NINE YEARS, THE PULPIT BECAME VACANT.

AGAIN IN 1893 GOD WORKED IN A WONDERFUL WAY IN GIVING US THE LEADER, REV. J. W. WHITEHEAD. IN ADDITION TO THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH, OTHER IMPROVEMENTS MADE INCLUDED THE PLACING OF A LARGE WINDOW IN THE CENTER FRONT, PURCHASE OF AN ORGAN AND PIANO, AND BUILDING OF A CHOIR STAND FOR CHOIR, AND CHAIRS WITH SOME CARPETING. THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BYPU(BAPTIST

YOUNG PEOPLE UNION) WERE ORGANIZED AND SERVED AS HOST FOR THE STATE CONVENTION IN 1912. BROTHERS WILLIE HARMON AND HENRY SHOWERS WERE LICENSED TO PREACH.. DEACONS ORDAINED WERE: BROTHERS SHOWERS, EPHRAIM DUNN, JOHN BELL, AUGUSTUS SHANKS, AND ALBERT DEMONS. DEACONS COMING FROM OTHER CHURCHES WERE: BROTHERS FRANK WEST, JOHN MCELROY, CHARLIE BENS, J.D. WHITE, AND EMANUEL DORSEY. AFTER ALMOST 45 YEARS OF SERVICE, IN 1938, REV. WHITEHEAD KEPT A DATE WITH HIS MASTER.

IN KEEPING WITH HIS WISHES, A SON OF SPRINGFIELD, WHO WAS SANCTIONED AS ASSISTANT PASTOR, WAS PLACED IN CHARGE A MONTH AFTER REV. WHITEHEAD'S PASSING. AFTER SERVING IN SUCH ROLE FOR ALMOST TWO YEARS, REV. J. H. WEST WAS INSTALLED AS PASTOR ON MARCH 14, 1940. NEW SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS INCLUDED THE CHANGING OF SUNDAY SCHOOL FROM AFTERNOON TO MORNING SESSIONS, REINSTATING THE JUNE REVIVAL, EXPANDING WORSHIP FROM ONE SUNDAY A MONTH TO TWICE A MONTH, WITH MANY ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD. DURING REV. WEST'S LEADERSHIP BROTHER JACOB BENTLEY WAS ORDAINED AS A MINISTER. DEACONS ORDAINED WERE: BROTHERS J. B. DEMONS, ISAAC DEMONS, RONNIE NORRIS, CARVEE N. WEST, JOHN H. WEST (BUS), HARRISON BRINSON, WALTER JONES, JOHNNIE MURRAY, H.E. DEAN, E.G. LONG, SR., TOM WEST, ROB WILLIE SHIELDS, ROY PETTIS, CHARLIE LOWE, JOHN JACKSON, R. L. NORRIS, MARION PASCHALL, GEORGE T. DRAKE, JOSEPH GREENE, ALTON PETETT, JOHNNIE WALKER, JOHN A. BOWMAN, EUGENE BRINSON, HENDERSON ROBERSON, SR., JAMES ISOM, TOMMY BURGESS, JR., TOMMY BURGESS, SR. AND OTIS JENKINS. DEACONS COMING FROM OTHER CHURCHES WERE: BROTHERS A. T. WILSON, S. M. DAGGETT, J. D. WHITE, E. V. PETETT AND JAMES LAMAR.

OUR TIME LINE OF IMPROVEMENT

1940-1944 - NEW STOVES, REPAIR OF CHURCH, PURCHASE OF BAPTIZING SUIT, MATRON CLUB ORGANIZED, USHER BOARD REVIVED, OTHER DEPARTMENTS ENLARGED WITH MATRON CLUB DIRECTING THE CARPETING AND HANGING OF MIRRORS IN EACH VESTIBULE. THE BAPTIST TRAINING UNION (BTU) BROUGHT 18 CHAIRS. AN ANNEXATION CONSISTING OF CHOIR STAND BEHIND THE PULPIT, INDOOR POOL, WITH ROOMS FOR CHOIRS, USHERS, DEACONS AND PASTOR'S AREA.

1946 - MONTHLY CHURCH BULLETIN INITIATED WITH SIS. CLARA WEST AS EDITOR (MINIMUM EQUIPMENT PROVIDED BY CHURCH).

1948 - BRICK STEPS PLACED AT FRONT ENTRANCES WITH AN ART WINDOW PROJECT SPONSORED BY THE TRUSTEE BOARD AT A COST OF \$1,415.00 WITH DEDICATION ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN AUGUST. THE COURTESY GUILD AND WOMAN'S COUNCIL WERE ORGANIZED AND SPONSORED A SUMMER WEEKLY STORY HOUR FOR 6 WEEKS AND A DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL WITH AN ENROLLMENT OF 130 PUPILS AND 15 STAFF MEMBERS. THIRTY(30) CHILDREN COMMITTED THEMSELVES TO CHRIST!

1951 - A PULPIT BIBLE WAS PURCHASED BY SISTER ROBBIE DEMONS FOR \$35.00. a CIRCULAR ART WINDOW PLACED IN THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH FOR \$700.00. BETWEEN THE TWO ENTRANCES - ONE USED FOR MEN - THE OTHER FOR WOMEN. THE SENIOR CHOIR PURCHASED BAPTIST HYMNALS. A TITHING PROGRAM OF GIVING WAS BEGUN.

1956 - TWO WINDOW FANS PURCHASED WITH THE FUNDS RAISED IN A DRIVE LED BY SISTER MARY LOWE. LATER A NEW WATER COOLER WAS BOUGHT BY THE PULPIT AID CLUB AND SIX GAS HEATERS BY THE CHURCH.

1957-'58 - BEAUTIFICATION PROJECT COMPLETED AT A COST OF \$1,500.00 WITH THE DEACONESS, DEACON AND TRUSTEE BOARDS SHARING THE PAINTING. THE EDUCATIONAL BUILDING WAS ALMOST COMPLETED, WITH HOT WATER HEATER AND 200 CHAIRS PURCHASED BY CHURCH, A GAS HEATER GIVEN BY THE DOZIER PLUMBING COMPANY, A PIANO BY THE MATRON'S CLUB WITH A PORTION OF PAINTING DOWNSTAIRS BY DEACONESS BOARD, THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SOUVENIR PROGRAM COMMITTEE. THE AS-YOU-LIKE-IT COMMUNITY CLUB, MRS. MAMIE FLOURMOY, PRESIDENT, PLACED A NEW FRIGIDAIRE, AND DEACON ALBERT DEMONS LED A PROJECT TO PLACE AN ELECTRIC WATER COOLER IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING.

1963-'72 - A SMALL P. A. SYSTEM GIVEN BY THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT. A NEW PIANO BOUGHT AND ORGAN INSTALLED. IN 1965, THE CHURCH RENOVATION INCLUDED A FRONT CENTRAL ENTRANCE, BRICK VENEERING, CARPETING, NEW PEWS, PULPIT SET, COMMUNION TABLES AND CHAIRS, PANEL FOR CHOIR STAND, NEW CHAIRS, A TITHING CONTAINER, OFFERING PLATES, OUTDOOR BULLETIN BOARD, PLACING INLAID LINOLEUM ON THE FLOOR IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING WITH DEA. E. V. PETETT'S LABOR OF LOVE, AND SHRUBBERY PLACED, CALIFONE RECORD PLAYER WITH 10 STILL PICTURES. IN 1966 THE DEDICATION SERVICE OF "GREATER SPRINGFIELD" WAS HELD IN AUGUST. ON THE FIRST SUNDAY IN JUNE, 1967 THE CHURCH BEGAN ITS EVERY SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE. IN 1970 THE HYMNAL PROJECT RESULTED IN 148 BAPTIST HYMNALS AND A NURSERY WAS BEGUN BY THE DEACONESS BOARD. YOUTH DEPARTMENT ORGANIZED WITH SIS. ROSEINIA CULPEPPER, DIRECTOR.

IN 1970 CONCERNED WITH THE EDUCATION OF OUR YOUTH, THE CHURCH ESTABLISHED A SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO AWARD SCHOLARSHIPS TO STUDENTS IN PURSUIT OF HIGHER EDUCATION. DEACON JOSEPH GREENE WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN, WITH THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS SERVING ON THE COMMITTEE: ROSEZINIA CULPEPPER, DAISY WILSON, DAISY FERRELL, BILLIE DRAKE, DOROTHY LOGAN, JOHNNIE WALKER, LUCILLE PASCHALL, ANN WASHINGTON AND EMMA DAVIS.

1973 - CELEBRATION OF THE SPRINGFIELD CENTENNIAL WITH THE PRESENTATION OF ITS CENTENNIAL JOURNAL - ITS FIRST HISTORICAL PUBLICATION! THE RELOCATION OF REV. GRANADE'S GRAVE TO A PLACE OF SERENITY - OUR FIRST PILGRIMAGE TO HIS GRAVE, WHICH WAS MOVED FROM THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH, DURING OUR ANNIVERSARY. THE LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE WITH THE MASON PARTICIPATING WITH WORSHIPFUL E. V. PETETT LEADING.

1974-75 - THE ADDITION OF CENTRAL HEATING - AIR CONDITIONING IN BOTH SANCTUARY AND EDUCATION BUILDING. THE FIRST FEED-A-KID AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM WITH THE EMPLOYMENT OF 5 NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS WORKERS AT \$18.00 PER DAY FOR 5 WEEKS WITH DIRECTOR CLARA WEST. THE ORGANIZING OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD. THE BEGINNING OF THE BIRTHDAY GROUPS FOR GREATER "OUTREACH" AND WIDE PARTICIPATION WITH THEIR LEADERSHIP ON EACH SECOND SUNDAY IN EACH MONTH! EACH MONTHLY BIRTHDAY

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GROUP GAVE A DOGWOOD TREE TO BEAUTIFY THE CHURCH GROUNDS. FIFTEEN(15) INDIVIDUALS GAVE A CEMENT SEAT TO BE PLACED ON THE GROUNDS, ALONG WITH THE USE OF THE SPRINGFIELD PARK! THE INSTALLATION OF FLUORESCENT LIGHTS DOWNSTAIRS IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING BY DEACON MARION PASCHALL.

1976 - THE PANELING OF THE ENTRANCE IN EDUCATION BUILDING BY THE TRUSTEE BOARD. "OPERATION '76" - SPONSORED BY THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD CROWNED OUR FIRST "MR. SPRINGFIELD", BRO. CLIFFORD HART...PROVIDED \$500.00 SCHOLARSHIP AND MATERIALS AND FUNDS FOR A FUNCTIONAL PROGRAM IN "WITNESSING FOR CHRIST!"

1977 - WITH A FORWARD STEP FOR CHRIST - IN COMMUNICATION WITH PEOPLE, OUR CHURCH BULLETINS. WITH THE PICTURE OF SPRINGFIELD AND A PARTIAL DIRECTORY, WERE BEGUN AND CONSECRATED IN APRIL TO THE GLORY OF GOD! IN OPERATION '77, THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD CROWNED DEACON MARION PASCHALL AS "MR. SPRINGFIELD!" THE J. H. WEST CHILDREN'S CHOIR WAS ORGANIZED BY SIS. CORINNE LONG. AN OUT-REACHING VISITATION PROGRAM WAS INITIATED BY THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD WITH THE "CONCERNED" DEA. GEORGE DRAKE AS CHAIRMAN TO SERVE THE SPRINGFIELD FAMILY. THE COURTESY GUILD REORGANIZED WITH SIS. LILLIAN JENKINS AS ADVISOR. A LARGER PUBLIC ADDRESS SYSTEM PURCHASED.

1978 - FIRST JUNE REVIVAL WITH YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT LEADERSHIP. ONE HUNDRED FORTY BIBLES PURCHASED FOR THE SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHURCH WORSHIP. OUR BUS MINISTRY BEGAN WITH DEA. JOSEPH GREENE, DIRECTOR: SIS. ROSEZINIA CULPEPPER, CAPTAIN; SIS LAVERNE CLARK, SECRETARY; SIS. JACQUELINE MORGAN AND TONI WALKER AS TEENAGE CRUSADERS WITH BUS DRIVERS WILLIAM BENTLEY AND TOMMY BURGESS, SR. TO PROVIDE "SNACKS FOR THE CHILDREN AFTER SUNDAY SCHOOL AND BEFORE MORNING WORSHIP THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD ENCOURAGED THE BEGINNING OF THE MARTHA GROUP WITH SIS. VANILLA BOWMAN AS LEADER, SUPPORTED BY MANY VOLUNTEERS. ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE BUS MINISTRY 76 WERE BROUGHT IN!!! THE CORINNE LONG MEMORIAL BOOK FUND ESTABLISHED. IN JANUARY THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD PUBLISHED THE FIRST EDITION OF ITS MONTHLY NEWSPAPER, "THE FELLOWSHIP ECHOES." IN ITS COMMUNITY OUTREACH, A FEDERALLY FUNDED HEADSTART PROGRAM BEGAN FOR 4 AND 5 YEAR OLD CHILDREN OF LOW INCOME FAMILIES WITH A FULL TIME STAFF OF 5 WORKERS WITH SIS. DOROTHY LOGAN, DIRECTOR.

1979 - OUR FIRST "KID KRUSADE" WAS HELD IN APRIL WITH REV. & MRS. FRED MORROW, LEADERS, WHICH STIMULATED OVER 200 COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST WITH MANY JOINING SPRINGFIELD. THE "2" MORROWS WERE MOST HELPFUL IN BEGINNING OUR CHILDREN'S CHURCH, A MINISTRY OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD FOR CHILDREN UP TO 8 YEARS, WITH SIS. BILLIE DRAKE AS DIRECTOR. TOTAL ENROLLMENT TO DATE OVER 50. THE PULPIT AID CLUB, WITH LEADERSHIP OF SIS. LUDELL DORSEY, PURCHASED A BEAUTIFUL GREEN ROBE FOR PASTOR WEST. OUR "6-WEEKS" ENRICHMENT AND FEED-A-KID PROGRAM EMPLOYED 11 NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS WORKERS WHICH PAID ABOUT \$11,500 (FOR 7 COLLEGE AND 7 HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS). IN OPERATION '79, DEA. MARION PASCHALL WAS CROWNED "MR. SPRINGFIELD" FOR THE THIRD TIME - THUS BECOMING MR. SPRINGFIELD EMERITUS!!! PLANS AND

BLUEPRINT FOR ENLARGING THE EDUCATION BUILDING ARE BEING DEVELOPED TO ACCOMMODATE THE ENLARGED, DEPARTMENTALIZED SUNDAY SCHOOL. MANY TREES WERE CUT TO CLEAR THE GROUND! THE YOUTH DEPARTMENT HONORED PASTOR WEST FOR HIS 41 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE AND PRESENTED A PLAQUE FOR "HIS NUMEROUS LIVING SERMONS!" AFTER 5 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AND IN THE SPIRIT OF ROTATION AND GREATER INVOLVEMENT, SIS. CLARA WEST BECAME DIRECTOR EMERITUS OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD AND SIS. ORIAN WILSON DIRECTOR. THE JOY GROUP ORGANIZED.

1980 - THE SECOND ANNUAL KIDS KRUSADE, LED BY REV. & SIS. FRED MORROW, RESULTED IN MORE THAN 100 COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST! IN "OPERATION '80" BRO. OTIS JENKINS WAS CROWNED "MR. SPRINGFIELD" WITH FORMER "MR. SPRINGFIELD" HONORED AS "MR. SPRINGFIELD EMERITUS" AFTER BEING CROWNED FOR 3 CONSECUTIVE YEARS. SPRINGFIELD HAS ENTHUSIASTICALLY PARTICIPATED IN LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL CONVENTIONS, INCLUDING THE GEORGIA STATE SOUL BOWL, WITH EMPHASIS ON WIDE INVOLVEMENT - ESPECIALLY OF YOUTH!

1981 - THE THIRD ANNUAL KIDS KRUSADE WAS ANOTHER SPIRITUAL LIFT WITH MORE THAN 100 COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST WITH THE "2" MORROWS! DEA. OTIS JENKINS WAS AGAIN CROWNED AS "MR. SPRINGFIELD" IN OPERATION '81. THE 8 WEEKS SUMMER ENRICHMENT FEED-A-KID PROGRAM SERVED MORE THAN 215 CHILDREN WITH A STAFF OF 30 VOLUNTEERS AND 9 NEIGHBORHOOD YOUTH CORPS WORKERS. FOR THE THIRD TIME, REV. M. D. DUMAS OF MACON WAS OUR EVANGELIST WHO BROUGHT SOUL-STIRRING SERMONS DURING OUR SEPTEMBER REVIVAL FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

1982 - COMPLETION OF THE BLUEPRINT FOR THE 40 FOOT EXTENSION OF THE EDUCATION BUILDING TO PROVIDE FOR A DEPARTMENTALIZED SUNDAY SCHOOL, GREATER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH INVOLVEMENT AND ENLARGING OUR OUT-REACH MINISTRY THRU THE HEADSTART PROGRAM FOR 40 CHILDREN! (20 MORE THAN BEFORE!). TWO ADDITIONAL CHOIR STANDS AND RAMP FOR THE HANDICAPPED WILL MAKE OUR CHURCH MORE ACCESSIBLE. THE ELECTION OF SIS. BLONDELL LAMAR AS CHAIRMAN OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD WAS ANOTHER GIANT STEP FOR SPRINGFIELD. TO FORMALLY LAUNCH THE "BUILDING FUND" OF \$100,000.00 SIS. CLARA WEST WAS ASKED TO SERVE. THEN AS LED BY GOD, SHE CHALLENGED EACH TO USE A "PLEDGE" - SACRIFICIAL GIVING BY EVERY MEMBER. PASTOR AND SIS. WEST LED WITH A PLEDGE OF \$10,000.00 FOLLOWED BY OTHER LOYAL SUPPORTERS! GREAT WAS THE COOPERATION AND SUPPORT FOR THE JOHN WESLEY WHITE CRUSADE JUNE 6-13. THE FIRST ANNUAL "FAMILY FELLOWSHIP" AT MISTLETOE PARK ON THIRD SUNDAY IN AUGUST, WITH THREE DISCUSSION GROUPS - AND PLENTY GOOD EATS, WAS SPONSORED BY THE VISITATION GROUP AND BTU WAS REALLY GREAT!!! FOR THE FOURTH TIME, REV. DUMAS OF MACON WAS THE POWERFUL EVANGELIST FOR OUR SEPTEMBER REVIVAL THAT REACHED OUT TO MANY!

1983 - THE ANNUAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROJECT IN MAY CROWNED BRO. CLIFFORD HART AS "MR. SPRINGFIELD" - AGAIN! FOR OUR JUNE YOUTH REVIVAL A GIANT STEP WAS TAKEN FOR CHRIST AS OUR STATE DIRECTOR OF CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, DR. WINFRED HOPE, PASTOR OF EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH OF ATHENS LED OUR OUTREACH FOR CHRIST. JULY USHERED THE HISTORIC MOVEMENT FOR OUR

CHURCH FAMILY: THE ACTUAL BEGINNING OF OUR BUILDING PROGRAM \$230,000.00 PROJECT!

AFTER A LIFE GIVEN TO GOD AND MAN AND SERVING AS PASTOR OF SPRINGFIELD FOR 45 YEARS, REV. WEST WAS CALLED TO HIS HEAVENLY HOME ON AUGUST 16, 1983 FOLLOWED BY THE FUNERAL THAT PLACED HIS BODY ON THE CHURCH GROUNDS IN LOVING MEMORY AND APPRECIATION FOR BEAUTY OF A LIFE WELL LIVED LASTS FOREVER!" TO CONTINUE A MEMORY OF SERVICE, THE J. H. WEST SCHOLARSHIP FUND WAS BEGUN WITH APPROXIMATELY \$3,000.00 NOW AND GROWING WITH DEA. J. D. GREENE AS CHAIRMAN.

TO CONTINUE THE GREAT SERVICE, SIS. LUCILLE PASCHALL WAS CHOSEN AS CHAIRMAN OF FHT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION BOARD FOLLOWING THE PASSING OF SIS. BLONDELL LAMAR WHO CONTRIBUTED SO MUCH!

1984--'85 - THE ANNUAL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION PROJECT IN MAY CROWNED SIS. ETHEL ROBERSON AS THE FIRST "MRS. SPRINGFIELD"!!! OUR CHILDREN'S CHURCH CELEBRATED ITS FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ON THE THIRD SUNDAY IN MAY. BRO. TOMMY BURGESS, JR. WAS ORDAINED AS A MINISTER. THE SENIOR USHER BOARD PRESENTED TO THE CHURCH A TITHE AND OFFERING TABLE.

AFTER MORE THAN A YEAR WITHOUT A LEADER-SHEPHERD GOD WORKED IN A WONDERFUL WAY IN GIVING US THE LEADER, REV. FREDERICK D. FAVORS ON 1 OCTOBER 1984. THE PULPIT AID WITH SIS. O. J. WILSON AS PRESIDENT GAVE A MOST ELEGANT WELCOMING RECEPTION AT J. A. MAXWELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR OUR NEW PASTOR, REV. F. D. FAVORS. ALSO, UNDER SIS. WILSON'S LEADERSHIP THE CLUB BOUGHT ACCESSORIES FOR HIS OFFICE AND A ROBE AND NECKBAND COLLAR FOR HIS ROBE. REV. FAVORS'S INSTALLATION SERVICE WAS HELD ON NOVEMBER 25, 1984. NEW SPIRITUAL EMPHASIS INCLUDES: INSTITUTING A CHRISTMAS DAY PRAYER-BREAKFAST; FORMING OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES OR GROUPS: TUTORIAL, CULTURAL, NEW MEMBERSHIP, MEDICAL AWARENESS, EVANGELISM DEPARTMENT, SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY AND PHOTOGRAPHY: FOR WIDER INVOLVEMENT MALE CHORUS FORMED; NEW ROLE FOR VISITATION COMMITTEE INCLUDES DISTRIBUTING MONTHLY LOVE GIFT TO OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN MEMBERS; SUPPORT OF A PRISON MINISTRY; INSTITUTED WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY; AND FULL TIME SECRETARY-CLERK ADDED. 42 MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 30 BY BAPTISM AND 12 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.

1986 - CHURCH VAN PURCHASED, ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM INSTITUTED, FIRST GROUP OF PEOPLE WERE TRAINED USING THE EVANGELISTIC TASK FORCE MODEL, SPONSORING OF A GIRL SCOUT TROOP. SIS. GUSSIE BRINSON WAS CROWNED AS "MRS. SPRINGFIELD" IN OPERATION '86. DEDICATORY SERVICE FOR THE DEAN-WEST EDUCATIONAL CENTER AND THE J. H. WEST FELLOWSHIP HALL WAS A HISTORIC MOMENT ON JULY 13 WITH CHAIRMAN CLARA WEST AND CO-CHAIRMAN NETTIE ROBERSON WITH A MOST LOYAL AND SUPPORTIVE GROUP THAT SHARED IN MANY WAYS INCLUDING THE FURNISHING OF 11 MEMORIAL ROOMS INCLUDING THE - CORINNE LONG LIBRARY. DEA. HENDERSON ROBERSON, SR. GAVE OF "HIS BEST" AS HE MADE PODIUMS, BULLETIN BOARD, CHALKBOARD, INSTALLED 45 MINI BLINDS, HUNG MANY

PICTURES PLUS! STARTING OF OUR DEPARTMENTALIZED SUNDAY SCHOOL ON AUGUST 31. SIS MARY JOHNSON ASSIGNED TO WORK WITH THE YOUTH CHOIR WHICH HAS SHOWN A VAST INCREASE UNDER HER LEADERSHIP. TWENTY(20) MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 13 BY BAPTISM, 6 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND 1 UNDER WATCH CARE. TOMMY BURGESS, JR. WAS PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY STATE YOUTH CONVENTION.

1987 - SPRINGFIELD SERVED AS HOST FOR THE GENERAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CONVENTION OF GEORGIA, INC. REGIONAL MINI-CONGRESS FOR DISTRICTS 1, 6, 8 & 10 ON MARCH 26. OUR CHURCH PAPER'S NAME WAS CHANGED ON SEPTEMBER 1 FROM "THE FELLOWSHIP ECHOES" TO "THE SPRINGFIELD VOICE." IN OUR EFFORT TO REACH OUT AND SERVE PEOPLE, 14 OF OUR MISSION IN ACTION LADIES WERE TRAINED AS RESOURCE MOTHERS TO FORM A McDUFFIE POINT FOR THIS AREA BY CONTINUUM - ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY MOTHERS AND CHILDREN - A STATEWIDE NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE ORGANIZING OF "THE AMAZING GRACE CHOIR" FOR MEMBERS 55 AND OLDER AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN GOSPEL SINGING ON OCTOBER 3. FORTY-FIVE(45) MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 32 BY BAPTISM, 8 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND 5 BY LETTER.

IN CONTINUING OUR EMPHASIS ON EDUCATION UNDER REV. FAVORS, THE CHURCH ESTABLISHED AN ANNUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM TO RECOGNIZE THE ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF OUR STUDENT-MEMBERS. DEACON JOSEPH GREENE WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN OF THIS COMMITTEE.

1988 - SPRINGFIELD SERVED AS HOST FOR THE GENERAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CONVENTION OF GEORGIA, INC. 10TH DISTRICT CONVENTION ON MARCH 4-5. FENCE DONATED TO THE CHURCH TO FENCE IN A PLAY-GROUND FOR THE TODDLERS IN THE CHURCH'S NURSERY. BRO. HENDERSON ROBERSON, JR. WAS LICENSED TO PREACH ON JANUARY 31. THIRTY-SIX MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 20 BY BAPTISM AND 16 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE.

1989 - SPRINGFIELD WAS HOST FOR THE GENERAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CONVENTION OF GEORGIA, INC. 10TH DISTRICT YOUTH CONVENTION ON MARCH 31 - APRIL 1. TV AND VCR PURCHASED, NEW SOUND SYSTEM INSTALLED, NEW ROOF, NEW CARPET AND REWIRING OF SANCTUARY. SPRINGFIELD YOUNG ADULT CHOIR NAME CHANGED TO "SPRINGFIELD INSPIRATIONAL CHOIR." PUNCH BOWL SET, VALUED AT \$1,500.00 DONATED TO THE CHURCH BY DR. BLANCHE COLEMAN. MICROWAVE OVEN DONATED TO THE CHURCH. 0.48 ACRES OF LAND WITH 4 HOUSES PURCHASED BY THE CHURCH FRONTING ON MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. STREET AND PINE LANE. THE CHURCH IS IN THE PROCESS OF GETTING THE PARKING LOT PAVED. TWENTY-TWO(22) MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 14 BY BAPTISM, 7 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE AND 1 BY LETTER.

1990 - REV. HENDERSON ROBERSON, JR. WAS ORDAINED. PARKING LOT PAVED WITH RELANDSCAPING OF CHURCH GROUNDS. DRIVE LED BY SIS. ALMA PERRY TO PURCHASE PLATES FOR THE KITCHEN. OVER 100 PLATES PURCHASED BY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WITH GLASSES PURCHASED BY THE CHURCH. SIS BILLIE DRAKE - AFTER 10 YEARS OF LEADERSHIP AS DIRECTOR OF THE CHILDREN'S CHURCH - BECAME DIRECTOR OF THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION MINISTRY AND SIS. E. JOYCE COWINS BECAME DIRECTOR OF THE

CHILDREN'S CHURCH. AFTER MANY, MANY YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE AND LEADERSHIP OF THE CULINARY GROUP SIS. AGNES WATSON RESIGNED DUE TO ILL HEALTH AND SIS. EVA GRANT WAS APPOINTED LEADER OF THE GROUP. SPRINGFIELD HOSTED THE 4TH SHILOH ASSOCIATION CONGRESS OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ON AUGUST 11. TWENTY-FOUR(24) MEMBERS ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD WITH 18 BY BAPTISM, 3 BY CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE, 1 BY LETTER AND 2 UNDER WATCH CARE.

1991 - MEMBERS OF THE MOTHER-TO-MOTHER MINISTRY PROVIDED SUPPORT AND SERVICE TO 24 PREGNANT TEENS. THE MISSION MINISTRY ALONG WITH THE VISITATION MINISTRY MADE OVER 11 VISITS TO OUR SICK AND SHUT-IN TO MINISTER TO THEIR PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS. THE EVANGELISTIC TASK FORCE ORGANIZED THE FIRST OUTREACH PREACHING MINISTRY ON THE OLD PLAYGROUND IN THE HOUSING PROJECT. TASK FORCE MEMBERS MADE SEVERAL HOUSE TO HOUSE VISITS TO PERSONALLY WITNESS PRIOR TO THE GROUP SERVICE. AN AFTER SCHOOL ENRICHMENT PROGRAM HAS BEEN ORGANIZED THAT IS CURRENTLY SERVING STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH FIFTH GRADES. THERE IS A FULLY DEVELOPED TAPE MINISTRY. TAPES ARE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING EACH SERVICE. A COMPUTER SYSTEM AND DRUM SET HAVE BEEN PURCHASED FOR CHURCH USE. MOREOVER, THROUGH OUR CONTINUOUS EVANGELISTIC EFFORTS MEMBERS ARE CONTINUALLY BEING ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FOLD.

1992 - SPRINGFIELD WAS HOST FOR THE FIRST McDUFFIE COUNTY HEALTH COALITION'S CAMP CHAMPION, A SUMMER PROGRAM DESIGNED TO DEVELOP SELF-AWARENESS IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN YOUTH. SPRINGFIELD WAS ALSO HOST FOR THE FOURTH SHILOH ASSOCIATION SPONSORED THE FIRST J. H. WEST MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND TO HELP STUDENTS ATTEND SCHOOLS OF HIGHER LEARNING. TWENTY-FOUR MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK. DEACONS ORDAINED: BROTHERS WALDO MASSEY, CURTIS PICKARD, ROBERT SCOTT, MICHAEL THOMAS AND LARRY WILEY.

1993 - SPRINGFIELD WAS HOST FOR THE 122ND ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE GENERAL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CONVENTION OF GEORGIA, INC. NEW OFFICE FURNITURE, FAX MACHINE, CHURCH BUS, AND REFRIGERATOR/FREEZER PURCHASED. PULPIT AID CLUB NAME CHANGED TO THE PASTOR SUPPORTIVE MINISTRY. WEDNESDAY EVENING FAMILY DINNER BEGAN. SPRINGFIELD IN THE PROCESS OF PURCHASING THE WEST HOME FROM SIS. CLARA WEST, WHO AFTER MANY YEARS OF FAITHFUL SERVICE HAS MOVED TO ATLANTA. TWENTY-THREE MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK.

1994 - WEST HOME PURCHASED FROM SIS. CLARA WEST. RESURRECTION COMMUNITY PROGRAM BEGUN TO RECLAIM OUR COMMUNITIES FOR CHRIST. YOUTH DEPARTMENT SPONSORING GIRL SCOUTS. SPRINGFIELD WAS HOST FOR THE FOURTH SHILOH ASSOCIATION JUNE 28-29. FIFTH-THREE MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK. DEACON COMING FROM ANOTHER CHURCH--DEA. BENNIE BENTLEY. PRESENTLY PLANS ARE UNDER WAY TO BUILD A LIMITED CARE HOME. FORTY-SEVEN MEMBERS WERE ADDED.

1995 - IN AN EFFORT TO RECLAIM OUR COMMUNITY, REV. FAVORS LED SEVERAL MEN MARCHES THROUGH THE COMMUNITY. THESE MARCHES WERE TO STAMP OUT DRUGS,

CRIME, VIOLENCE, AND OTHER SINFUL ACTS. ELDERS LEADERSHIP SYSTEM INSTITUTED. THIRTY-ONE MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK. DEACONS ORDAINED: HERMAN COWINS AND JOHNNY REID.

1996 - REV. FAVORS' VISION OF REACHING OUT TO EVERYONE IN NEED OF SPIRITUAL HEALING, LED TO OUR ADDING AN EARLY MORNING SERVICE. THIS 7:45 A.M. SERVICE HAS LED MANY TO CHRIST. NEW VAN PURCHASED, LESLIE SPEAKER PURCHASED TO BE USED WITH ORGAN, NEW ROBES WITH AFRICAN LOOK PURCHASED FOR THE MASS CHOIR, MIRROR AND TABLE PURCHASED FOR VESTIBULE AND FLOWER PEDESTALS FOR SANCTUARY. SUBSTANCE ABUSE MINISTRY INSTITUTED. SIS. GLENNIE OLIVE WAS LICENSED TO PREACH. SIXTY- EIGHT MEMBERS HAVE ENTERED THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK.

1997 - BROTHER CHARLES JONES LICENSED TO PREACH. FIFTY-THREE MEMBERS ADDED.

1998 - PRAYER GARDEN DEDICATED ON DONATED LAND. REV. GLENNIE OLIVE WAS ORDAINED A MINISTER BROTHER ROBERT COBB WAS ORDAINED A DEACON. TWENTY-THREE NEW MEMBERS WERE ADDED.

1999 - BRO. FELTON BRADSHAW WAS LICENSED TO PREACH. TWELVE NEW MEMBERS WERE ADDED.

2000 - 2001 - BROTHERS DAIREE COLEMAN, EARL COLLINS, BOBBY MOSS AND TREVOR ROBERSON ORDAINED AS DEACONS. BRO. MICHAEL THOMAS LICENSED TO PREACH. INFRASTRUCTURE OF THE CHURCH SANCTUARY AND THE FOUR ROOMS ADJACENT TO IT ALONG WITH THE RELIGIOUS SERVICE CLUB(R. S. C.) WERE RESTORED. THE CEILINGS WERE REPLACED WITH ACOUSTICAL TILE; WALLS WERE COVERED WITH SHEETROCK AND PAINTED; NEW LIGHTS WERE INSTALLED(THREE CHANDELIER ALONG WITH CEILING FLUORESCENCE); CHANDELIER WERE PLACED IN THE VESTIBULE. THE FAÇADE(FRONT) OF THE CHURCH WAS PAINTED; THE RESTROOMS WERE TOTALLY REDONE; THE KITCHEN FLOOR WAS COVERED. MICROPHONES WERE PURCHASED, A 105" X 140' ELECTROL WALL CEILING VIDEO PROJECTION SCREEN WAS PURCHASED, AND A BABY GRAND PIANO. DEA. BENNIE BENTLEY WAS BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT. RENOVATION PROJECT WAS COMPLETED AND A HISTORY EMPHASIS/DEDICATION PROGRAM HELD TO REFLECT UPON THE HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND PRAISE GOD FOR THE YEARS HE HAS KEPT US. TWENTY-SEVEN MEMBERS WERE ADDED TO THE CHRISTIAN FLOCK.

TODAY WE LOOK BACK, THANKFULLY, AT THE STRIDES WE HAVE MADE. IT'S GOOD TO LOOK BACK OVER THE PAST, AND CALL TO MIND THE MERCIES AND THE BLESSINGS OF GOD AS HE HAS LED US HITHERTO THROUGH SHIFTING SCENES OF LIFE.

REMEMBER WHEN.....

MEMBERS MARCHED AROUND THE TABLE PAYING DUES (\$.25).

IN 1930, AN \$85.00 LOAN WAS MADE TO COVER THE CHURCH.

MS. DOTSIE WILSON SHANK WAS SEXTON (JANITOR) WHO BROUGHT IN COAL; MADE FIRES AND DID EVERYTHING. TWO POT BELLY STOVES FURNISHED HEAT. SHE WORE A BIG WHITE APRON; MADE AND FURNISHED WINE FOR COMMUNION SUPPER.

DEACON JOHN D. WHITE WAS KNOWN FOR BRINGING HIS WAGON LOAD OF ICE AND ICE TEA AND MEMBERS WERE KNOWN FOR BRINGING THEIR TRUNKS OF FOOD ON 3RD SUNDAY IN SEPTEMBER - HOMECOMING.

CONFERENCE WAS HELD QUARTERLY EVERY 3RD SATURDAY AT 3:00 P.M.

A 1936 CONVENTION WAS HELD AT SPRINGFIELD

SPRINGFIELD MUST CONTINUE TO FUNCTION AS THE PRIMARY SPIRITUAL, EDUCATIONAL AND POLITICAL LOCALE FOR MANY PEOPLE. AS WE FACE THE FUTURE. OUR THEME SONG IS "I'M STILL GROWING - IN WISDOM AND KNOWLEDGE OF GOD" AS WE SERVE AND NOT BE SERVED. WE GIVE THANKS FOR DEACONS OTIS JENKINS FOR HIS GOD-GIVEN TALENTS AND ABILITIES AS HIS SHARE TO BEAUTIFY OUR GROUNDS FOR A GREATER LOOKING SPRINGFIELD.

OURS IS A COVENANT WITH GOD--WITH HIM AS OUR HELPER AND REDEEMER

HE KNOWS, HE LOVES, HE CARES
NOTHING THIS TRUTH CAN DIM
HE DOES THE VERY BEST FOR THOSE
WHO LEAVE THE CHOICE WITH HIM.

THIS WE HAVE FOUND AND TREASURE AS WE MOVE FOREVER ONWARD AND UPWARD!

WITH KENNETH GLOVER, WE SING:

I DON'T WORRY ABOUT MY FUTURE
I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH TOMORROW,
MY SAVIOUR WILL MAKE THAT HIS CARE,
SHOULD HE FILL IT WITH TROUBLE AND SORROW.
HE'LL HELP ME TO SUFFER AND BEAR.
AND TODAY HE WALKS BESIDE ME
FOR HE KNOWS WHAT IS AHEAD,
THEN, THERE ARE SO MANY THINGS ABOUT TOMORROW,
I'VE TRIED, BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND
AGAIN, I HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH TOMORROW
ITS BURDENS THEN WHY SHOULD I SHARE?
BUT I KNOW WHO HOLDS TOMORROW--
AND I KNOW WHO HOLDS MY HAND!

Church History

UPDATE

1976

Sister Helen Williams introduced communion wafers to the church to be used for the first time.

2000-2001

Rev. Favors and Rev. Wilfred Bellamy of the Thomson Presbyterian Church began to fellowship and exchange pulpits. Later, each congregation integrated and joint worship services were held.

2003

Springfield's first Early Morning Service of Praise was aired on WTW^{radio station}A. The black church international week of prayer for the healing of AIDS was activated through the church and the Substance Abuse Ministry. An early morning of praise only was prepared and completed.

(Special Recognition)