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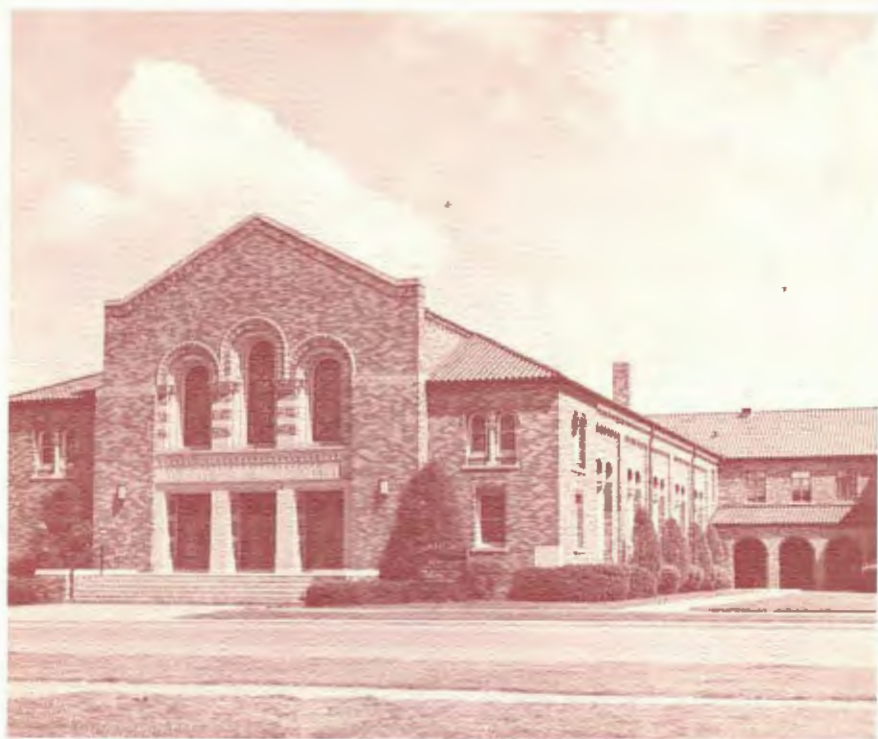
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TENTH AND BROAD CHURCH BUILDING

HISTORY OF THE
CHURCH OF CHRIST
IN WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS
1908 – 1973

**HISTORY OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST
IN WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS**

1908 to 1973

By

Flavis Greer

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Flavis Greer

THE CHURCH ESTABLISHED

In 1908, Wichita Falls was a thriving little city of five thousand fifty-five people. Among this group was a faithful Christian woman by the name of Tenny L. Colburn, who was eager to have the gospel preached in this city. Brother Price Billingsley heard her call for help and arrived in Wichita Falls in April of 1908 to hold a Gospel meeting.

With a tent erected in what is now the downtown area, Brother Billingsley began to preach. His lessons were conservative and forceful and many responded. When the meeting closed, three weeks later, the church was established in Wichita Falls.

Regarding this meeting, Brother Billingsley wrote:

"I went to work all alone . . . but the crowds and interest grew from the very first. I announced some days beforehand that on last Lord's day afternoon I should talk on the subject of "A Divided Church and Why." We had a packed tent. The pastor of the Christian Church and many of his flock were present. I spoke for one hour on the who had done the departing, and who was responsible for the division. (Reference here was to the division that came about when a group of Christians adopted instrumental music and the Christian Church was formed). At the close, I begged them to come and let us find the old paths, and walk therein. When we sang, "There's a Great Day Coming," thirty-five men and women came forward and several of these were among the leaders in the Digressive "instrumental" Church; I tell you there was rejoicing in the camp of Israel then! We are now arranging to build a place of worship. I am to begin making up the money this week. Of course, we have been greatly hindered by the bad weather, but I am thankful for the outcome of the work here. God is witness that I have worked and prayed for it as never before."

The following is the day to day record copied from Brother Billingsley's personal Diary:

Friday, April 3, 1908.	Came to Wichita Falls, Texas. Great work here. All alone.
Saturday, April 4, 1908.	In hotel here alone. Can't get started.
Sunday, April 5, 1908.	Got three or four faithful ones together and broke bread.
Monday, April 6, 1908.	Put up tent today, start work. Great start.
Tuesday, April 7, 1908.	Interest and attendance growing.
Wednesday, April 8, 1908.	Opposed by Bush very much. (Mr. Bush was preaching for the Christian Church).
Thursday, April 9, 1908.	Have not even money enough to buy stamp with.

Sunday, April 12, 1908. Three good services today - very good start.
Monday, April 13, 1908. Some help from the outside - Cone Johnston.
Note: (Cone Johnston was a well known attorney from Tyler, Texas, an exceptional orator, and was running for a public office from the Tyler area. Thus such contributions were not unusual during political campaigns.)
Sunday, April 19, 1908. Three big services. Thirty-five. Work fine.
Sunday, April 26, 1908. Closed with three services. Big time. Church organized. Received one-hundred sixteen dollars.
Monday, April 27, 1908. Shipped tent and start homeland.



Price Billingsley
Born April 22, 1877
Died January 15, 1959

Brother Billingsley was thirty-one years of age at the time of his meeting in Wichita Falls. At his death he was buried in Woodlawn cemetery, Nashville, Tennessee.

3d Month

MARCH, 1908

31 D.

Monthly

APRIL, 1908

30 Days

SUN.

29

89-277

MON.

30

90-276

TUES.

31

91-275

WED.

1

92-274

THUR.

2

93-273

FRI.

3

94-272

SAT.

4

95-271

Chy. to. 7:00 P.
 Closed with fair
 service. Good work.
 Just took Red 10:30

Come to H. H. V. and
 then home! on No 3.

Come, with my
 to them. Finished.
 fine work.

4th Month APRIL, 1908 30 D.
 Finished new at
 H. H. V. again.

Come to H. H. V.
 and finished to
 my business in
 gift!

Come on to
 H. H. V. 7:00 P.
 just work here
 all alone!

In Holy Water
 alone Cont
 get started.

Monthly APRIL, 1908 30 Days

March 21. 7:00 P.
 Got in on four
 faithful work to get
 and broke back.

Put up 4 gut today
 stop work
 break shot.

Interested at
 tendency growing.

Opposed to B. H. V.
 why much.

How not run
 money enough to
 stay with.

27

4th Month

APRIL, 1908

30 Days

4th Month

APRIL, 1908

30 Days

SUN.

12

103-263

thick tales, 7:30
Three good nights
in the city. Very
good stuff.

MON.

13

104-262

Some keep from
the outside.
Cone Johnston!

TUES.

14

105-261

WED.

15

106-260

THUR.

16

107-259

Work growing.

FRI.

17

108-258

SAT.

18

109-257

28

SUN.

SUN.

19

110-256
 Easter
 Sunday

Three big ones
Thirt-fund
World fair

MON.

20

111-255

TUES.

21

112-254

WED.

22

113-253

THUR.

23

114-252

FRI.

24

115-251

SAT.

25

116-250

29

Wishin' APRIL 1908 30 Days

1st Month MAY, 1908 31 Days

SUN. Cloud with thin sun
26 miss. Big twin. Stem
Church opened
Dec. 8/16 to 8
117-249

MON. Shipped a tank, 8
27 and I start home
land!
118-248

TUES. _____ 8
28 _____
119-247

WED. _____ 8
29 _____
120-246

THUR. Planning for 8
30 District
121-245

FRI. 5th Month MAY, 1908 31 Days
1 Come to Dublin. 8
2 Heard Joe Bailey.
122-244 Speech about

SAT. _____ 8
2 _____
123-243

3 1st of June meeting
and home today
Three services. Work
124-242

MON. _____ 8
4 Put up tent in
the City today and
how home again
125-241

TUES. _____ 8
5 _____
126-240

WED. _____ 8
6 Preaching per. at
set to build a road
127-239

THUR. _____ 8
7 _____
128-238

FRI. _____ 8
8 _____
129-237

SAT. _____ 8
9 _____
130-236



C. A. Buchanan
First Minister of The Church of Christ
Located in Wichita Falls

Brother C. A. Buchanan came to a small Christian College at Denton, Texas, from Kentucky in 1907. It was there that he made known to Brother Isaac E. Tackett, who had led singing during the meeting held in Wichita Falls with Price Billingsley, that he desired to preach. Through Brother Tackett, this young student contacted the brethren who were now meeting in the office of the County Judge.

When he was employed to preach for the Church in Wichita Falls, Brother Buchanan arranged to live with the W. W. Stirman family. Brother Stirman was the only man who could take a public part in the service at that time.

Brother Buchanan preached two Sundays in the month for the Lord's Church meeting in the office of the County Judge and went to Iowa Park and the Bowman Schoolhouse south of Wichita Falls to preach on the other two Sundays in the month. He held meetings in the area as he had opportunity.

In the fall of 1909, Brother Buchanan left Wichita Falls to return to school. This time he attended a college at Sabinal, Texas. While he was away, Brother C. D. Crouch served as minister.

After a year of meeting in the Courthouse, the Church bought property on Bluff Street between Eleventh and Twelfth Streets. Brother Buchanan returned to work full time with the Church from December 1915 until February 1917.

An article on the front page of the June 11, 1909, issue of the Wichita Falls Times tells of the early days of the Church. It read:

"CHURCH OF CHRIST REVIVAL IS MEETING WITH SUCCESS"

"In their new building on Bluff Street, the following subjects were discussed: "Why Two Christian Churches in Same Town?" All have a right to know. Saturday night: "Solomon's Temple A Type" (a type growth) Masons should all hear this. Sunday a.m., "Growth" A subject for all who profess to be Christians. Sunday 4 p.m. "A Dog That Saw Himself in the Mirror" Everybody should hear this. Sunday Night: "Man's Whole Duty" The conclusion of the whole matter.

Above subjects to be investigated by Evangelist J. W. Chism, Lufkin, Texas.

Many have been led to believe that the faithful disciples caused the present divided condition. In the language of God, through His prophet, I say, "Come let us reason together." Signed: Charles A. Buchanan, Evangelist."

The charter members of the Church were: Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Stirman, Mr. and Mrs. McCarty, Mrs. Tom Page (O. C. Blanton), Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy P. Hill, Harvey Chenault, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Scott, Mrs. Tenny L. Colburn and Denise, Mrs. Clara McCarty, Milton Terhune, Mrs. R. P. Hill, and Anna Chenault.

The first Elders to serve were: W. W. Stirman, M. A. Smith, Harvey Chenault, R. O. Kenley, A. L. Yowell, and R. H. Banowsky.

The first Deacons were: J. P. Hill, Frank Moore, A. J. Dobson, M. C. Bain, F. A. Sweet, Clint Stirman, and Bob Dunaway.

According to Sister Donnie Yowell Counts, she and her brother, Farmer Yowell, Laura Seals, Riddles, (Now Mrs. E. K. Gray) and two others were baptized in 1918, using the baptistry of the First Christian Church. In 1919 a baptistry was installed in the Bluff Street meeting house. An interesting incident recalled is that one of the charter members of the church in this area, with the help of his father, spent a half a day in December heating bricks and putting them in the cold water of the baptistry so that his bride of two months could be baptized.

TENTH AND AUSTIN BUILDING PURCHASED

After meeting on Bluff Street some ten or eleven years, the church purchased a meeting house at Tenth and Austin in 1920 and moved. Some remodeling was done to this building to provide room for growth.

Brother R. H. Banowsky, now in his ninety-first year (1973) is serving as an elder in the midtown congregation in Fort Worth, Texas. In 1919 Brother Banowsky came to North Texas to Burkburnett. The oil boom

was in progress then. He found the Church in Wichita Falls at that time, one hundred members strong and meeting on Bluff Street.

Soon after coming to the area, Brother Banowsky became an elder. He served until 1927.

When the Tenth and Austin building was purchased for \$50,000.00 five brethren signed a note for \$40,000.00 to make the purchase possible. They were R. H. Banowsky, R. O. Kenley, Walter W. Foster, W. W. Stirman and A. L. Young. This obligation was paid off in 1927 and the church, still growing, bought a house and lot north of the Tenth and Austin building. There were six good rooms in the house and these provided space for Bible classes and other church related activities. With the acquisition of this new facility for \$7,000.00, the church possessed one of the most valuable church properties in the city.

It should be noted here that Brother R. O. Kenley and his family came to Wichita Falls during the Burkburnett oil boom. He was a partner in a very successful law firm. He and his family were very active in the work of the church. He served as an elder at Tenth and Austin, but because he was opposed to located preachers, he left the congregation when L. S. White was engaged by the church to serve the congregation as local minister. He took a small group with him and together they met for worship in a theater downtown. This group later became the Floral Heights Church, meeting at 1814 Buchanan Street.

Early preachers who followed C. A. Buchanan were Ernest Christian, J. Early Arceneaux, Foy E. Wallace, Jr., Elbert Cochran and R. D. Smith.



L. S. WHITE

L. S. WHITE IN WICHITA FALLS

Brother L. S. White began his work with the congregation October 1, 1924. During his thirteen years great good was accomplished. "The solid foundation he laid is evident in the great Church meeting today at Tenth and Broad." - quoted from a letter from W. O. Beeman.

Following Brother (Judge) Kenley's resignation as an elder in 1923, and Brother Banowsky's leaving in 1927, two new elders were appointed. They were B. J. McHam and G. W. Sosebee. Brother Sosebee was credit and office manager for a large department store and Brother Beeman was an executive in a local manufacturing concern. The Church continued to grow with a membership of five hundred.

The Church conducted two Gospel meetings a year and assisted in mission meetings in other areas. Regular contributions were forwarded to two childrens' homes and assisted in other local benevolent work.

RADIO PROGRAM

During the late twenties and early thirties a one hour radio program was sponsored by the church each Sunday morning at eight. Brother White led a thirty minute Bible lesson over station KGKO. The remaining time was used for singing except for a few minutes for announcements.

During these depression years there were not many automobiles. Streetcars provided the means of travel in the city.

Enthusiasm for the Church and its work was high and singers met once a week for special practice sessions. Because of transportation problems such singing was done by the younger people for the most part, but older members attended when they could.

Following list contains the names of those who were most active in the singing program: Arnold Gibson, Hobart W. Powell, J. C. Satterwhite, R. S. Dunaway, H. L. Roach, J. D. Holland, Mrs. F. M. Robinson, Mrs. Lura Riddle, Annie Wright, Jack Miller, J. Morris Robinson, Flavis Greer, Attis Holland, Lowell Webb, Joe Clark Moody, Olean and Mildred Unsell, Ruth Tucker, Ruth White, Ruby Freeman, Mary Francis Wright, Gladys Young, Francis Robinson, Audra Robinson, Ruby Box, Willie D. Roye, Bill Beeman, Annette Beeman, Lewis Foster, Lou Ellen Foster, and others.

Due to Brother L. S. Whites' poor health, Brother W. O. Beeman brought the lesson on the radio the last forty weeks ending December 31, 1933.

A GROWING CHURCH

Brother Beeman served continually as an elder from 1920 until July 1938. The remaining elders were brother B. J. McHam and G. W. Sosebee. Brother L. H. Hull was appointed an elder in 1939 and has served for more than thirty-four years.

One of the first congregations in Texas to engage an associate minister was the church at Tenth and Austin when they engaged Burton Coffman, May 24, 1930. He remained with the congregation until September 1931. Later in 1934 he returned for a twelve month's stay. The tie that developed between Brother Coffman and the Church in Wichita Falls was so strong that he returned to conduct a Gospel meeting every other year for twenty-two years.

To continue the very fine work which had flourished under the leadership and teaching of the elders and Brother L. S. White, Brother Robert C. Jones came September 1, 1937.

The ministry of Brother Jones continued until July 19, 1943. During his six years in this city, one thousand fifty-three new members were added to the Church. Four hundred and fifty-five of these were baptized. An indebtedness of \$3,000.00 was paid off and \$23,889.36 was put into a building fund.

During these years of Brother Jones' assistance and guidance, peace was made between two congregations of the church; one meeting on Polk Street and the Floral Heights brethren. The two congregations merged in 1939 and met for worship at 1814 Buchanan Street with Arley Moore as preacher.

While Brother Robert C. Jones was serving as minister, the elders adopted the purpose or a pledge system of giving so that more effective long range planning could be made for the work of the Church.

During his stay with the Church at Tenth and Austin, Brother Jones produced a monthly bulletin, "The Christian Reminder". His life was filled with the local work and Gospel meetings in areas both near and far. When Brother Jones was away in meetings, L. E. Garner of Quanah, father of Sister Jones, often filled the pulpit.

In the summer of 1939 Brother Eugene D. Smith came for three months to assist at Tenth and Austin as associate minister.

During the year of 1939 one hundred sixty-nine new members were added to the Church. Eighty-one of these were baptized. Brother Horace W. Busby conducted a Gospel meeting that year in May.

H. Clyde Hale arrived in November 1943 to be the preacher. He and Brother A. O. Colley, minister at Floral Heights, alternated as speakers on a radio program. Later that year Brother Colley left Wichita Falls to become minister of the West End Church in Nashville, Tennessee.

Brother A. D. Neal, now deceased, associate minister, preached during the absence of other ministers. He also held several mission meetings in Arkansas. Brother Neal was involved in the public school system and spent much of his later years in this work.

Early in 1944 the city was divided into zones for the sake of organizing the work of the Church. Under the leadership of Brother Hull a program was begun to serve picnic dinners in Scotland Park to servicemen from Sheppard Field who attended the services of the Church. The meals were provided by the various zone leaders. This hospitality continues to this day and is responsible for much good being accomplished among the men from the Air Force base.

In March of 1944 a committee was formed under the leadership of Berry Brown to search for a suitable location for a new building. The building fund was growing and the Church was finding it necessary to conduct two services to accommodate all of the people.

Sister A. H. Mattie Fowler had been a member of the Church for a number of years. She and her family gave two lots where a service station stood at the corner of Tenth and Broad where our present building stands. Soon afterwards Mr. Movel Fowler, no relation to Mattie Fowler, gave two adjoining lots in memory of his wife, Darlie. The value of these lots and others presently used for parking totaled approximately \$87,000.00. That same year, 1944, a home was purchased on Speedway for a minister's residence.

Brother Paul Southern held a meeting in 1944 in which eighteen souls were added to the Church. The growth of the congregation made it necessary to conduct two worship services each Sunday morning. Inadequate classrooms were packed to capacity, noisy and most confusing. Adult classes meeting in the auditorium were separated by folding partitions. Ladies Bible classes met for their workshops and luncheons at the Y.W.C.A. In spite of the handicaps, these were great times.

The baptistry at Tenth and Austin was situated under the pulpit. Entrance to it was gained through trap doors in the platform floor. To provide as much privacy as possible a curtain hung on a wire just in front of

the baptistry. Some contemplated the possibility of the preacher stomping his foot too hard and going through into the water below him.

There were four men serving the church as elders in 1945 when the George Stephenson^s began their wonderful years of service with Tenth and Austin. They were B. J. McHam, L. H. Hull, G. W. Sosebee and W. W. Foster. Soon afterwards, Berry Brown and Virgil Bowen were selected. Later Brother Bowen moved to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Brother Schoolfield became an elder. It would be proper to mention here that Brother Berry Brown was a very active and prominent leader in the church.

Brother Tillit S. Teddlie of Dallas conducted a singing school in June 1945. The following year a second singing school was conducted by Brother C. R. Mansfield of Holiday, Texas. In the summer of 1946 Tenth and Austin Church of Christ conducted a vacation Bible School. This was another "first" for this growing congregation. In 1947 Miss Peggy Patton became the first full time secretary for the church. Soon afterwards, in January 1948, a bulletin entitled "The Christian Reminder" was produced and mailed to each member.

The building fund had grown to \$48,200.00 by January 1947. In July ground breaking ceremonies were held and the initial part of our present building at Tenth and Broad was erected. The building was completed at a cost of \$275,000.00.

The first service was conducted in the new building the first Sunday, October 1948. The first audience filled the regular seating, with chairs in the aisles.

Brother and Sister W. W. Foster paid to have the floors carpeted and later they had cushions installed in the pews.

A religious census was taken of Wichita Falls, Sunday, February 8, 1953, with members of Tenth and Broad covering fifty-two square blocks of the city.

In March 1953 there was an enthusiastic meeting of men and women who were to serve as zone leaders in the various sections of the city. The zone leaders were expected to contact new members in their zone, check on the members from time to time, render whatever physical or spiritual help they needed. All of this work was under the oversight of the elders. With the zone leaders actively engaged, the congregation was more closely knit together and did a greater work for the Lord. A visitation program was put in effect in 1953.

While Brother Stephenson was the regular preacher, associate ministers at different times were A. D. Neal, Olin Huff, and Tommy Gillentine. Preachers who conducted gospel meetings included Raymond Kelcy, Melvin

Wise, Leroy Brownlow, Burton Coffman, Horace Busby, G. C. Brewer, and Paul McClung.

During the years 1945 to 1953 while Brother Stephenson labored with the Church in Wichita Falls, there was a total of one thousand three hundred and eight responses to the invitation, including four hundred twenty-five who were baptized. The Church began meeting at Twenty-Third and Grace Streets while Brother Stephenson was here, started by Floral Heights and aided by Tenth and Austin. Not only did a number of faithful members of Tenth and Austin help financially in building this new place of worship but a number left to work there. Preparation also began on the building of a place of worship in Faith Village. It was erected shortly after the George Stephensons' left in May 1953. Brother L. L. Paul, the contractor and builder, was also the first minister and did an outstanding work. Tenth and Broad contributed \$20,000.00 toward this fine work and also a number of members.

During the year 1948 the contributions increased to \$93,000.00. Then came a greater work. The building began to fill up. The elders reviewed the program, taking into consideration the number of strong people in the congregation. There was a section of town that needed a congregation started. Out of that vision came Lincoln Street Church of Christ in 1951.

When the members at Tenth and Broad said, "We will help get this new work started", the contribution was \$900.00 each week. In the words of Brother Berry Brown, "We did not have much of a program other than to meet and go home. Brother Stephenson got up and preached to the congregation and said, 'Some of you are going to have to take their places on Wednesday night, some of you are going to have to take their place in visiting the sick, and on Sunday morning and Sunday night, and someone is going to have to take their place at the collection plate.' In three months time our contributions increased from \$900.00 to \$1,300.00 each Lord's Day. Again our members increased with five hundred ninety-one in Bible School."

(Above excerpt from Berry Brown's dedication speech of Edgemere Church of Christ, May 2, 1954)

A letter from Brother Stephenson was published in the Messenger, March 11, 1953. Its contents follow:

"Last Sunday marked the close of eight happy years spent as the preacher for this church. It was on the second Sunday in March in 1945 that we began our work here. The years have been filled with many pleasant experiences and naturally with many changes. It is now our plan to move from here May 18, 1953, in order that we may work with the

Church in Memphis, Tennessee. One of the hardest decisions we have ever had to make was the decision to accept the invitation of the Church in Memphis. Everyone has been more than kind to us and your many expressions of love for us make it hard for us to leave. This is HOME to us . . .”

In June of 1953 the Paul McClung family moved to Wichita Falls to work with the Church at Tenth and Broad. At that time the elders were Berry Brown, W. W. Foster, L. H. Hull, J. R. Schoolfield, G. W. Sosebee. Deacons were Lois Barbour, Seth Cunningham, Jess Gary, Joe Holland, Harry Ledbetter, Bob Lipscomb, Chester Long, Harl Mansur, A. C. McFarland, Dubose Pipes, C. P. Price, J. Morris Robinson, Boyd C. Smith, Lee Stacks, E. C. Stirman, Tex Stirman and Louis Ward.

The Messenger was first published and mailed to members in July 1953.

Peggy Patton resigned as secretary, leaving in July 1953 and Clara Brown and Ruth Hendon served until Maurine Thompson was employed October 1, 1953. She has served faithfully for twenty years.

About the time Maurine began working for the Church an educational director and song leader was hired to work at Tenth and Broad. He was Tommy Sullivan. The young people lost no time in using the services of Brother Sullivan. They drafted him for a brief song feast after services and a choral practice began.

Brother Sullivan served until May 1955. His work included singing schools, choruses and classes in singing, teacher training meetings, with emphasis on quantity and quality in Bible School. With teacher recruitment and spotlight on teachers, classes continuously maintained good attendance. Encouragement to newcomers to enroll in Bible Study was given by zone members. Special Sunday night training classes were repeatedly emphasized through weekly bulletins. The Messenger on September 19, 1954, reported that Sunday night training classes were attended by two hundred ninety-five. This time marked the beginning of the most complete training program ever attempted for all ages by this congregation. There was training in carrying on the Lord's work, in the teaching field, in doing personal work, and in living the Christian life.

Plans were made to increase and expand the benevolent work. Two rooms in the basement were remodeled to serve as a pantry for a supply of staple groceries and for a clothing room in which to keep good used clothes. On September 20, 1953, one hundred ladies met for Wednesday Ladies Bible Class which was also the beginning of the first work day for the ladies. A covered dish luncheon was followed by an afternoon of planned work. Sixty-seven ladies stayed to work and do personal work.

The storeroom has proven to be very profitable in rendering benevolence to the needy until the present.

The summer of 1954 was highlighted by the largest attendance ever recorded at Tenth and Broad in Vacation Bible School. Five hundred twenty-five children and adults attended. Zone leaders were in charge of transporting children to the school with members giving of their time and resources in this. Of noteworthy mention is the work of Sister Annie Scott who made two round trips to Thornberry, a distance of forty-eight miles each day, to pick up one teacher and a carload of children for Vacation Bible School.

November 9, 1954, found the greatest crowd since opening the building at Tenth and Broad, assembling for Bible classes and workshop on Sunday morning to give the Gospel meeting, with James D. Willeford preaching, a tremendous boost on its first day. Seven hundred nine attended at 9:45 a.m. and many chairs were used in the rear and in the aisles to seat well over one thousand people at the worship service. The auditorium was almost full again for the evening service.

We quote from the "Messenger" December 5, 1954:

"The whole church program draws people -- not just a part of it." Activities during the past year were the mission program, the benevolent work, the educational program, a teacher training school and several well-attended teacher workshops, the Sunday evening training classes, the singing school and other vocal classes. Choral work made it possible to have beautiful singing at funerals and on other special occasions. Brother James Willeford requested that we record twenty songs for the Herald of Truth Program.

New elders appointed March 1955 were Harry Ledbetter, Seth Cunningham and Chester Long. New deacons appointed in 1955 were E. L. Goodman, Ralph Myrick, Douglas Edwards, A. F. Sandifer, R. B. Hunnicutt, Paul Fisher and J. B. Hickerson.

George Hill, a young man just out of Abilene Christian College, came to work as full time associate minister at Tenth and Broad on June 1, 1955. Shortly afterwards, he began holding daily devotionals and teaching Bible at Midwestern University. His personality and disposition endeared him to the ladies of the congregation as well as the young people. He remained at Tenth and Broad until September 1956 when he moved on to a greater work.

George Kerr was employed as educational director in July 1956, remaining until July 1957 when he left to work for the Church at Ardmore, Oklahoma. Richard Jones was employed in September 1956. With his

coming, attention was focused on the youth of the congregation.

The first services were conducted at Sheppard Air Force Base on May 6, 1956, with Brother Paul McClung preaching and George Hill as song leader. Later Richard Jones led singing. Letters had been mailed to one hundred fifty servicemen and women who indicated a preference for the Church of Christ and sixty-two were present at the first service. In September 1956, Chaplain Jimmy Record came to SAFB and relieved Brother McClung of preaching three times on Sunday.

Cottage meeting work was started April 21, 1957, with Richard Jones and Paul McClung training teachers in classes on Sunday and Wednesday evenings. This proved an effective and successful method to reach many with the Gospel of Christ. These training classes continued into 1959.

First filming of the Herald of Truth TV program was September 29, 1957, at Tenth and Broad. This may have been a first in the Herald of Truth programs and one of the first congregations to contribute in the support of this national radio and television program, sponsored by the Highland Church of Christ in Abilene, Texas.

In 1956 two ladies Bible classes were held on Wednesday mornings. Brother McClung taught those over thirty-five years and George Kerr and/or Richard Jones, the younger group. There were three classes for pre-school children of the women attending Ladies Bible Class. In October 1958 there were one hundred thirty-nine ladies meeting for Bible study on Wednesday morning.

Temporary quarters had been set up at a residence on Eleventh Street in October 1955 for some Bible classes because they had outgrown the facilities in the new building at Tenth and Broad. By September 7, 1958, all Bible School records were shattered. Seven hundred thirty-two met to get the fall Bible classes off to a great start.

The spotlight was on the young people in 1958 when young men began leading in devotionals at the Wednesday evening services and conducting the regular service at such places as Iowa Park, Welch Street, Duncan and Randlett, Oklahoma, and other places. Some of the main speakers were Tommy Pipes and Billy Ledbetter. These occasions offered rich experiences for the young men. Brother Richard Jones began a chorus for the younger set, grades one through six, in addition to those conducted for the older youth. He continued with youth classes and devotionals in Weeks Park. While at Tenth and Broad he improved his ability as a preacher of the Gospel. He left in January 1959 to do full time work with the Church in Ada, Oklahoma. Brother Dub McClish, another young man, came to continue the work started by Brother Jones. He gave valuable service through

teaching, preaching, personal contacts and song directing. He had the first six pews of the middle section of the auditorium reserved for the young people.

March 16, 1958, the following men were ordained as elders and deacons in a special service: ELDERS: Raymond Adcock, J. B. Hickerson, Ralph Myrick, Otto Owen, Dubose Pipes, C. D. Pittman. DEACONS: W. T. Bryan, Albert Burns, Aalon Ferguson, Clifford Roberts, Thomas Taylor, George May, Don Wade.

By the late fifties, the leadership saw the need for a new congregation. They decided to contribute a certain sum of money and lend credit to establish a new congregation. The elders did not say where. A committee was selected to pick out a site, and they chose Edgemere. They purchased land at Greenbriar and Neta Lane. Ground-breaking ceremonies were held August 1958. The building went up fast and the first services were held April 26, 1959, in what is now the chapel. The large auditorium came later when the congregation became self-supporting. Tenth and Broad contributed one hundred fifty fine members. Nineteen of them were teachers. Willard May, a dynamic young man, was the first preacher. Tenth and Broad set up five men to help direct the new work until the congregation could select elders and deacons. These five men were Don Wade, Douglas Edwards, Bob Lipscomb, Otto Owen, and C.D. Pittman. From this vision and work came a great congregation in the southern part of Wichita Falls, known as the Edgemere Church of Christ.

Teacher training classes began to meet again at Tenth and Broad to train teachers to take the places of those who went to Edgemere.

The Paul McClungs resigned as minister of Tenth and Broad in June 1959. There had been nine hundred fifty-two responses and two new congregations established during the years of his labor with the church here. In July of that year William F. (Bill) Walker became the new minister and Re Wright was engaged as associate minister in January 1960. In February 1961, J. Morris Robinson and Tom Taylor were appointed to the eldership.

In 1959 some Christians saw the need for a Christian Camp in the area for boys and girls so some members of Tenth and Broad had a part in organizing the Quartz Mountain Christian Camp. From 1959 through 1968, two thousand five hundred sixty-eight boys and girls attended this camp. During this time there were one hundred sixty-two baptisms and two hundred forty-eight restorations. Although not financially sponsored, some members of Tenth and Broad have continued to take part in this great mission year after year. Paul Fisher and Dubose Pipes are presently on the Board of Directors.

An outstanding accomplishment for the year 1963 was the completion of a new Bible annex, including seven classrooms, offices, library and other facilities.

There was nothing but praise for the beautiful new edifice when viewed by visitors at homecoming on October 13, 1963.

In 1964, Tenth and Broad joined hands with fellow Christians giving special contributions for the World's Fair Evangelistic Program in New York City.

William F. Walker, after leaving the work of the Church at Clovis, New Mexico, came to Wichita Falls with his wife, Oza, and two sons, Greg and Douglas, to serve as evangelist for the Tenth and Broad Streets congregation. Abetted by a capable and devoted Christian wife, he was able to promote the Gospel in Wichita Falls, Texas, effectively, being zealous of good works, making his ministry felt throughout every age level. He knew how to communicate with people and with so many varied talents served the individual physically and spiritually on a person to person basis. He and his wife gave much of themselves to serve both from within and without the Church; for example, both won admiration from parents in working and guiding their children spiritually in local activities or away in a camp situation; the latter where he served several times as Camp Director. On the other hand, he gained respect of local authorities by assisting with delinquent youth. Many will have just cause in missing the Walkers, who accepted a fruitful work in Midland, Texas, after serving some six years so well in Wichita Falls.

Brother Paul Brownlow came to fill in during the months of June and July from the time the Walkers moved in May 1965 until August 1965 when the Jimmy Jividen family came to work for the Church.

SUNSHINE PROGRAM

Jimmy Jividen and Harry Ledbetter organized the "Sunshine Program". Several men conducted Bible classes in the various rest homes during the regular Bible study period Sunday mornings, bringing sunshine to the patients. This program started in August 1966 with Rudy Miller in charge.

The homes included were Cottage Manor, Highland Heights, Lanes Home No. 1, Pleasant Hill, Taylor Home, and the Regency Home. The men who began as teachers and song leaders were J. F. Maxey, Foye Roberts, S. A. Cook, W. L. Dunn, Ray Osburn, Theron Baber, Dick Kitterman, Bob Hodges, Horace Robey, J. L. Vandiver, Rufus Welborn, Max Reece, David Brown, and Rudolph Miller. Alternates who are active in the program are Tom Taylor, Ray Boler, Roy Garner, Wade Penick, Creston Priddy, Ray Oden and Ron Cartwright.

Brother Jimmy Jividen instituted another first at Tenth and Broad with the beginning of the Pew Packers Class. This was a group of children under nine years meeting at 6:00 on Sunday evening for their own worship service prior to the regular Sunday night lesson.

Ronnie Throneberry, a graduate of Lubbock Christian College, started his work in singing and youth development at Tenth and Broad, in April 1966. He organized two area-wide choruses with about thirty to forty adults and fifteen to twenty teenagers from city-wide congregations. This chorus performed at monthly area singings, vocalizing selections from every type of spiritual song.

Brother Throneberry and other leaders from area wide congregations organized monthly Sunday night spiritual and recreational fellowship activities for high school age youth. A participating congregation hosted the meetings which consisted of programs designed to spiritually exhort the participants through song, prayer, scripture reading, and words spoken by some of the most spiritually dynamic leaders available. After the program, the young people, sometimes numbering more than three hundred, went to a nearby public building where they ate and most times were entertained. The lighthearted entertainment included local musical talent and occasional special singing groups from nearby Christian colleges. The young people of the Wichita Falls area grew more spiritually and socially knit as a result of these monthly meetings.

Ronnie Throneberry was concerned with the liberal turn toward moral and ethical situations facing the young people and he took every opportunity to encourage both parents and children to maintain purity of mind, body and spirit during the rapidly changing customs of the '60's.

Completing the Throneberry team was Ronnie's wife, Judy, who was also instrumental in stressing worship in song. She reinstituted a singing class for junior and primary age children whereby they learned the Bible through songs, as Judy gave instructions in the fundamentals of harmony in music.

One hundred twelve new members of the congregation were honored with a time of fellowship provided by the elders and deacons in January 1967. The year 1966 experienced the greatest growth of any year for some time.

Again in May, twenty-eight new members were guests of the elders and deacons. A film presentation of work entitled "Tenth and Broad 1967", was arranged by Harold Hudgeons, Bill McClure and Jerry Adams.

The personal evangelism program, "Operation 67", was in full swing. It featured a beginners class Sunday night and an Improvement Class

Wednesday night. At that time seven cottage classes were in progress.

In 1967 the congregation gave attention to the need for a program for the Spanish people of the area. The first worker brought to the city was Amos Palma, a graduate of Sunset School of Preaching. The beginning was revived when the Lincoln Street congregation, with help from Tenth and Broad, engaged Gilbert Alvarado.

Brother Louis Ward, Luther Hull, Tex Stirman and C. J. Jackson conducted a training program for young preacher boys. The boys were taken to surrounding congregations where they led singing and presented short lessons.

In 1967 the Tenth and Broad congregations united with area churches to present Dr. Douglas Dean, professor of biology at Pepperdine College, in a series of lessons on "The Bible, Science and Evolution". The lessons attracted large crowds which met in the Memorial Auditorium.

In the summer of 1967, Brother Jividen moved to Abilene and Brother Richard Pectol, Jr. was selected to become the new preacher. A special program, "Live for Jesus Every Day", was formulated by a committee headed by Brother Berry Brown for the eight week interval from the time Brother Jividen went to Abilene and Brother Pectol came here from Munday, Texas.

During the eight week program, Rudy Miller headed a special visitation program. Tom Pipes was selected to give special attention to Bible Class attendance. A Gospel meeting was conducted in July. A youth meeting was held in August, with Joe Schubert as speaker. Ronnie Throneberry directed a dynamic program of work among the young people. The young people committed themselves to at least two hours of service a week. They visited the sick and shut-ins and rendered many services for the elderly and mothers needing assistance.

During the summer of 1967 four hundred four campers attended Quartz Mountain Christian Camp. From this effort forty students were baptized and thirty-nine were restored. The Tenth and Broad congregation had a part in this program.

Brother Throneberry accepted work at Fort Worth in February 1968. Whereupon, Brother Ben Powell, graduate of Abilene Christian College, was employed on April 15, 1968, as Youth Director and Song Leader. Well loved by the youth of the congregation, Ben continued in this work until September 1969. One of the highlights of the youth program with Ben was a trip to Wiggins, Mississippi, to help in a preaching campaign.

In the summer and fall of 1968 two prominent leaders of the Church died. They were Berry Brown, elder for over twenty years, and Brother

W. W. Foster who was an elder for forty-five years.

As a special effort to welcome visitors and at the same time, to give elders and deacons an opportunity to know all the members, a "rotating" seating arrangement in the auditorium went into effect for them in November 1968. This plan was under the direction of Brother Hull.

New deacons appointed in November 1968 were Theron Baber, Dan Gary, Robert Henson, Jim Marshall, Thomas Pipes, and Lee Stirman.

PERSONAL EVANGELISM

The Evangelism Crusade in January 1968 produced twelve responses through the personal work program. Home Bible studies were set up with visitation on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday nights. A Personal Workers Clinic for those interested in personal evangelism was conducted by Paul Fisher. This training continues at the present time with door knocking and setting up home Bible studies.

Wayne Bounds was employed as a personal evangelist, August 1, 1969. He directed cottage meetings, visitation, counseling and taught classes on personal work. A notable accomplishment during his tenure was the close fellowship and increase in the number of young couples at Tenth and Broad.

Wayne designed a booklet on the use of tracts. Probably the only one of its kind, it outlines a systematic progression through a different series of tracts for various religious backgrounds. Wayne stimulated many to teach others and organized the (door to door) work city-wide Campaign for Christ in June 1971, making it a success with many conversions.

SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE

In the years following the campaign in 1971 there has been a resurgence in evangelism at Sheppard Air Force Base. This is our prime mission area here and has yielded a large per cent of those converted in recent years. At Sheppard are thousands of young men and women who are lonely and away from home, many for the first time. These students are often surprised to learn there is such a thing as non-denominational Christianity, as they are from areas where the Church is not well known.

Tenth and Broad has for years sent its bus to SAFB Service Club to pick up servicemen for Bible Study and worship each Sunday. They are guests of the zone luncheon following services. Unfortunately, statistics show that a great percentage of airmen who are Christians, are lost from the Church while at Sheppard. However, numerous good contacts are made with visitors to Bible Class from the Base.

FOREIGN STUDENTS

Another mission area at Sheppard Air Force Base has been among the foreign students. Paul Fisher, an elder, oversees this work which began when nine Vietnamese were invited to a picnic with some young couples. Several of the Vietnamese airmen came to services the next Lord's day; but their Sergeant, Le Van Son, said he could not because he was a Roman Catholic. Ironically, he was the only one of the group to obey Christ. Before leaving this country, he baptized a fellow Vietnamese into Christ's body. Since then a Korean major has also obeyed the gospel. When each of these men left for his country he spoke to the congregation words of thanks and told of his determination to tell others about Christ. This brought tears of joy to many eyes.

A letter was received recently from Taiwan saying that a Chinese Air Force sergeant, converted here by Jimmy Jividen some years ago, is still faithful and a worker in the Church there.

The foreign students at Sheppard speak English well and may be the future leaders in their nations. These men and women are from such countries as Ethiopia, New Zealand, Denmark, Nigeria, Indonesia, Germany, Venezuela, Peru, Chile, the Philippine Islands, Jordan, and Canada. Of the twenty nations now represented at Sheppard, most students are from Iran, a Moslem country where the Church of Christ has had little success and established only two churches. Thankfully, God has placed these men here at a time in their lives when they are most receptive to the Gospel. Recently an Iranian airman was contacted who knows a group of people calling themselves the "People of the Messiah" who preach baptism of adults by immersion for the remission of sins. They use no instrumental music and do not claim to be a restoration movement but rather the original church! His grandfather is a leader among this group which meets in secret because of Moslem persecution in Tehran. He estimates there are three thousand of them in Tehran and several hundred in the Mountains.

EVANGELISM

Our program of evangelism at Tenth and Broad is growing but still not enough. Even though this country may have reached zero population growth, there are still more people being born than are converted to Christ in this world. Even at Tenth and Broad ten per cent of the congregation does ninety per cent of the evangelism. Few people today will come to learn the truth. Today we must go to them.

In restoring the Church in doctrine and spirit, we have too long disre-

garded the scriptures telling us that teaching by the example of a righteous life alone is not enough. ROMANS 10:17 - "For faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God . . ." II COR. 4:13 - "They believed and so they spake, we believe and so we speak . . ." ACTS 8:4 - "They that were scattered went everywhere preaching the word . . ." HEB. 5:12 - "For by this time ye ought to be teachers . . ."

When we consider James 3:1 where we are told, "Let not many of you be teachers", we must keep in mind that the word "teacher", "master", "doctor" refers to one who would teach other Christians such as elders and preachers. (Thayer's lexicon). The Church of the future no longer can separate believing from teaching because she is the only hope for a lost and dying world.

There is a bright future for Tenth and Broad in evangelism. Filmstrips, Open Bible Study sheets and tracts are being used more and more. Every member of the Church can use one of these or other methods to teach and must if the Church is to grow. The brethren at Tenth and Broad have accepted into their hearts and homes foreign students. They have been thrilled in seeing how these men thirst after the gospel of Christ. Truly, the man was right who said, "No man has the right to hear the gospel twice, when there are those who have never heard it once."

— by Gene Hagedorn

TRAINING FOR CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Beginning in 1964 and continuing annually for seven years, Tenth and Broad and area congregations brought outstanding teachers and speakers to Wichita Falls in programs of training Christian workers and teachers and leaders for service for the Master. The first Training for Service Series conducted at Tenth and Broad was attended by more than a thousand people from a wide area of Oklahoma and Texas. Lecturers were Brother J. T. Marlin, Jim Wilburn, Sister T. B. Thompson, Sister E. A. Sowders, and A. K. Mason.

The "Series" was rotated at the three congregations at Tenth and Broad, Edgemere, and Faith Village. Outstanding speakers during other years were Mary Oler, Walter Adams, Olive Price, Wyatt Sawyer, William Banowsky, Becky Tilotta, Don Williams, Jim Bevis, Winston Atkinson, Dr. Roy Willingham, John Allen Chalk, George Bailey, Jule Miller, Helen Bishop, Henry Spect, Mary Vaught, Helen Young, Duane Eggleston, Hank Tankersley, Harvey Pruitt, Marion Giles, Noble Patterson, Wesley Reagon, Ronald Willingham, Ivan Stewart, Pat Malone, Florine Hamilton.

CAMPAIGNS FOR CHRIST

Tenth and Broad has participated in four Campaigns for Christ in Wichita Falls. The first speaker in this endeavor was Willard Collins.

In November 1962, M. Norvel Young was brought to speak in this program at the city auditorium.

George Bailey was the evangelist in the campaign in March 1963.

Again in June 20-27, 1971, Brother Jimmy Allen was the evangelist.



THE WORK OF THE LADIES OF THE CONGREGATION

All through the years the women of this congregation have been active in benevolent work. There is no record of the number of quilts pieced and quilted and given to those in need. They are always ready to prepare meals for the bereaved or sick. Clothing has been gathered and given to needy families or sent to flood or hurricane victims. They have made clothing for many orphan children.

As times change and the needs of people vary, the ladies arrange to meet the situation. The ladies weekday Bible class is always the "hub"

of many of these activities. This is the time for study and worship in a group for our spiritual betterment, to announce the needs of the moment, and to arrange for hospital visits. Those who do not go to visit the hospitals will do a number of needed chores. There is nearly always a need for extra help in the office. There is always a quilt being quilted. There is a need to clean out closets and other housekeeping projects on occasion. Some of the ladies see that everything is ready for lunch each class and workday. The second Tuesday of each month there is a regular luncheon where many more ladies, and many men as well, come together for a time of fellowship and good lunch - covered dish type.

There is a continual turnover of clothing in the wardrobe. This clothing is distributed locally or shipped to a mission area as the need may be. Often the items brought need cleaning or mending. Repairs are made, if possible, so they are usable when they are passed on.

There is a pantry where groceries are gathered against the time when they are needed.

The ladies have made stuffed toys and dolls for the little childrens classrooms. Many beautiful pillow corsages have been made to brighten a sickroom. For a number of years refreshments were prepared one time each month for a ward at the State Hospital. Over an extended period at each Christmas time the ladies prepared candy and cookies packaged in decorated coffee cans for every person in all the nursing homes in the city. At the present time they are making lap robes and neck pillows for only the members of the Church who are in the nursing homes. At times foot warmers were made from wash cloths for any who needed them. These gifts are usually presented during the holiday season.

These women do many other good works on an individual basis because of their true Christianity.

VISITATION OF SHUT-INS

Most programs for the Church are planned for months before they are put into effect; however, the visitation of "Shut-ins" just happened.

For years, several of the businesswomen who worshipped at Tenth and Broad had completed questionnaires which the elders and deacons had prepared. They were never called upon for any specific job, even though they felt there was something they could do in the evening hours they had available.

In 1965, just before Christmas, the minister's wife, Oza Mae Walker, asked this group if they would cover coffee cans as containers for cookies and candies to be given to the patients of the State Hospital and Convales-

cent Homes in the City. In addition to covering these cans, they also rolled bandages from old white sheets for missionaries in Africa.

Having this association and fellowship, this group discussed a visitation program for shut-ins . . . not hospitals or convalescent home patients because there was already a program for these . . . just for those who were at their homes. Many of the flock when ill in the hospitals had visits, yet when they went home . . . no one came. After these visits were started, one lady remarked that she had waited so long, and no one had come.

In visiting these almost forgotten Christians, this group found some out of duty, who since have had attention in cottage meetings by Marian White, Billie Burrell and Gladys Ray. Some were found overcome by their infirmities, magnifying them to such an extent that they were forgetting spiritual growth. These lonely Christians always looked forward to visits from the group.

Later in the year, Lou Ellen Foster asked these ladies to select and mail the gifts for the Harold Mobleys and again they were happy they could have this pleasure. The group also baked cakes for the shut-ins.

With the exception of December, this group, ranging seven to fifteen members, has met each week (the past two years on Sunday night after worship service). Their program has been successful and rewarding. It has not been an instruction course on how to visit shut-ins, it is a genuine sincere performance.

At these very short meetings, cards with names of shut-ins are passed around for selection for a visit that week. Notes are made on the cards of visits. Most visitation is done in pairs.

It may seem discouraging that this group has not grown, but encouraging that the same ladies who started have continued to meet together. Through the years, they also have added to their visitations the patients at the Convalescent Homes. Many of their shut-ins visited at home eventually are transferred to nursing homes.

Much sadness is experienced by the group, since death comes so soon to many of the shut-ins. In this large congregation, others are continually added to the shut-in list.

The main purpose of this group has been to visit the shut-ins. However, two of these fine ladies take care of the communion trays and collection plates. This is a time-consuming job. Osie Bowers and Juanita Fortado have done this for several years and are very modest, unassuming women in this work.

The group has as its coordinator for the year 1973, Edna Good. Virginia Hearn and Queida Carr have previously served in this capacity.

Those who are in the group or have been are Edna Good, Faye Brandon, Queida Carr, Johnny Brown, Agnes Kellam, Gladys Ray, Virginia Hearn, Osie Bowers, Juanita Fortado, Billie Burrell, Ada Gibson, Peggy Osburne (now living in Oklahoma), Polly George (in 1966), Bess Stacks, and Marian White.

CHURCH OF CHRIST BIBLE CHAIR AT MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

As early as September 1953, the elders felt the need to reach out to Midwestern University with Bible teaching. The first devotionals on campus were begun September 1953 when seventy students indicated a preference for the Church of Christ.

George Hill, Associate Minister, began conducting devotionals and teaching Bible at Midwestern University in December 1955.

Dr. Harry Ledbetter was instrumental in locating the site for the Bible Chair building. He worked diligently for a number of years to find a desirable location for the building.

Under the vision and oversight of Tenth and Broad Church of Christ, supported by some twenty congregations, the Bible Chair was begun on the campus of Midwestern University at its present location in 1961.

From 1961 to 1967 the Bible Chair functioned under the leadership of James Wilburn as director. He was followed by Tommy Palmer who has served since August 1967.

Since its inception the Bible Chair has taught Biblical studies to some 2,000 students. It is these who actually tell the history of the Bible Chair. VOCATIONAL MISSIONARIES is the term which aptly describes many of the students who have studied at the student center. Some are Gospel preachers, others are teachers in Sunday Schools across the land. Students have often commented that it was at the Bible Chair, through the daily atmosphere of Christian contact, that their lives were changed, molded and challenged.

In speaking about the Church of Christ Bible Chair, Dr. Travis White, President of the University, said: "I was on the campus when the Bible Chair was built and from the very beginning we have had nothing but the very finest of young leadership, with an active program centered in the spiritual interests and needs of the students on this campus."

It is definitely evident from inception through the present and on into the future, the Church of Christ Bible Chair will be functioning to reach young men and women with the wonderful news of the gospel of Jesus

and Broad congregation who, through the years, have given themselves unstintingly to this mission work.

In 1972 there were ninety-six Midwestern University students enrolled in classes at the Bible Chair.

MISSION PROGRAM

The influence of Tenth and Broad Church of Christ has reached around the world to Australia, to the South Pacific in Okinawa, to Canada, the Manhattan Church in New York City, and to Italy, Germany, and across the nation on Herald of Truth.

Some reports of various missionary efforts follow:

GERALD PADEN, ITALY - In July 1953, the elders at Tenth and Broad agreed to support Gerald Paden and to serve as his overseer while in Italy. He was supported in Rome until 1960. The Padens returned in July 1963 to work at Pisa, Italy, until 1967 (summer) under the oversight of the elders at Tenth and Broad with assistance from other congregations. The following is a portion of a letter from Gerald Paden:

Pisa, Italy
May 27, 1965

"Dear Brethren:

The only displeasing aspect of our mutual efforts is that you who supply so faithfully our needs are not permitted to enjoy first hand the moments of success which come to our work . . . of course, we know that you are pleased with the work you accomplish through our efforts, but it hardly seems fair. You must be so far removed from the actual fruits of your sacrifices. Two weeks ago another two souls were baptized into Christ. One of them, Giacomo Spandri, a seventy-one year old man, very sincere, and very grateful to have found the truth, is a retired government employee. The other is a young mother of a three-month old baby, Purifica Nilo. Her husband is to be baptized next week. He wanted to finish reading the New Testament before his immersion . . . There have already been twenty-five baptisms here in Pisa since our coming (1963). We want all the brethren there to know how deeply we appreciate your willing sacrifices in our behalf. Your special interest and prayers of gratitude quiet often go up before the throne of God for you brethren."

LOGAN FOX, an evangelist in Japan and president of IBARAKI Christian College, was supported by the Tenth and Broad congregation in the fifties, as was also Sister Georgia Carver in Germany, and David Hadwin in Uruguay.

GEORGIA CARVER - Sister Georgia Carver did the most valuable works of all people in the German mission field according to Brother Gatewood. So important was her work in teaching other women and the children that when it appeared that this congregation might relinquish her support, Brother Gatewood personally guaranteed her salary to keep her there. When the elders had been properly informed, they were glad to continue her support. Members of Tenth and Broad contributed \$1,463.53 to the German mission work in a special collection following the splendid report by Brother Gatewood. The elders made out a check for an even \$1,500.00. This was the second largest contribution made to this work since Brother Gatewood's return. (Messenger, December 5, 1954)



MOBLEYS, ITALY - Brother and Sister Harold Mobley, under the oversight of the elders, went to Florence, Italy, in February 1961, to assist in the Lord's work there. The Florence congregation enjoyed a slow but steady growth in numbers and spirituality during the Mobley's ten-year stay with them. When the Mobleys' left Florence, Italy, in 1971, the church was completely self-supporting and was meeting in her own building. Many brethren at Tenth and Broad generously helped the Florence Church following the great flood in November 1966. The Tenth and Broad congregation now fully supports the Mobleys in work at Montreal, Quebec. In 1972, the youth at Tenth and Broad, led by Clifton Davis, helped the Mobleys in evangelistic work in Montreal.

PARTLWS - In 1972 Joe Partlow completed training at the Brown Trail School of preaching in Hurst, Texas, and went to work in North Boston, Massachusetts, in a team effort to begin a new congregation in Essex County, Danvers, Massachusetts. Tenth and Broad contributes \$1,250.00 monthly to the support of this work.

NEGRO CONGREGATION - The Negro Church of Wichita Falls was struggling along in a small building on Welch Street in 1940 when Tenth and Austin and Buchanan Street congregations began a unified effort to construct an addition to their meeting house which had been bought by the Negro brethren in 1931. There was a perfect harmony between the Churches and the Negro congregation. There were sixty members meeting at this building on Rosewood and Welch Streets, with only a few having steady employment. Brother F. A. Livingston, the regular minister, was faithful and efficient.

On August 31, 1943, the Negro Church had about eighteen members attending. The regular contribution was about thirteen dollars. There were no young people in class nor was there a Ladie's Bible class. Many were discouraged and down in spirit. In January 1946, an article from Brother M. H. Robinson, then minister, stated, "We couldn't be here if the Lord, through you, had not brought the gospel to our race. Too, we couldn't stay if it were not for your support. My brethren think you are very fine people to work with. Please don't let us down."

A new building was erected at 607 Welch Street in 1966 with the Tenth and Broad congregation making half the payments and the Negro brethren the other half. Brother Winter Johnson, present minister, reported that thirty-two souls were baptized in August 1966, twenty-six of these after moving into the new building.



SUNDAY EKANEM - Through the efforts of Brother and Sister J. C. Thomas, Sunday Ekanem, native of Lagos, Nigeria, entered Sunset School of Preaching at Lubbock, Texas, in July 1971. He was partially supported by Tenth and Broad Church of Christ.

Upon graduation in July 1973, Sunday returned to Nigeria to work

with the churches there, still partially supported by the Church at Tenth and Broad. Much more could be said about Sunday Ekanem, with reference to his knowledge of the scriptures, his love and dedication to the Lord and his work. Eternity alone will reveal the good that comes from this young man and his relation to his native people.

TRENDS THROUGH THE YEARS

Modern language versions of the scriptures are in common use; for instance "The Living Bible Paraphrased" sold in the last two years 4,250,000 copies. It has another version called "Reach Out". The author is honest in that he states in the preface it is a "paraphrase and not a translation of the scriptures". He also states that, "where Greek and Hebrew is difficult the theology of the translator is used".

Another translation which has had a significant impact is the todays "English Version" or "Good News for Modern Man".

It has been further stated that in years to come when scriptures are being discussed with reference to mans relation to God, the question may be asked, "Which Bible are you talking about?" (By Bill Ruhl - Teacher workshop ACC - 1973)

Modern language versions and other trends has brought a change in language used in prayer. THEE and THOU and the expressed reverence of former years have given way to the very informal YOU and a very informal approach.

Formerly, only sectarian churches had workshop, conferences, youth rallies and bus ministries. Now these are quite common.



CLINT STIRMAN

Brother Clint Stirman was born February 4, 1893, on a farm north of what is now downtown Wichita Falls, Texas. His father and mother were

charter members of the Church of Christ in Wichita Falls. They had four boys and six girls. As stated before, his father, W. W. Stirman, was the only man capable of making talks and conducting the worship service in the early days when they were meeting in this Courthouse. His father was one of the first elders. Today Brother Clint has a very sharp memory of the happenings of the past. He and his good wife, Bess, have been a great help in the compiling of this history of the church.

Brother Clint Stirman is a very distinct person, being the only surviving charter member of the Church of Christ in this city so far as is known and was made a deacon in the early 1920's, having served approximately fifty years.

He is confined to his home where he and his wife, Bess, live at 2407 Bullington Street, Wichita Falls, Texas.



BERRY BROWN

Brother Berry Brown was born March 28, 1898, and departed this life August 26, 1968.

Brother Brown was baptized in Osage, Oklahoma, by Brother Walter Teague one morning about day break in the year 1924.

He and his family moved to Albany, Texas, in January 1928. Here the church was very weak, meeting in different homes and finally in the courthouse. The Jim, J. B., and A. M. George families, along with Phill Kendrick, had been instrumental in holding a small group together.

About the middle of 1928 Brother Brown, along with Brother Phill Kendrick and Roy Tuggell, were appointed elders. Immediately, they set out to raise money for a new building. Two thousand eight hundred dollars in money and pledges were made available, with Brother Brown giving \$500.00 toward the project.

Brother Brown and his family moved to Abilene in the late '30's and here he was made a deacon. After a short stay in Abilene, they moved to Wichita Falls in 1940, worshipping at Tenth and Austin. In April 1947, he was appointed an elder. During the early to mid '40's was the time much planning was taking place for the new building to be built at Tenth and Broad. Due to his ability to guide and oversee, he was made Chairman of the Building Committee. He served faithfully until his death.

In Wichita Falls he organized the Berry Brown Company, specializing in tax work.



A. D. NEAL

Brother A. D. Neal was born October 16, 1904, in Sulphur Springs, Texas, and departed this life March 6, 1972. Brother Neal had completed forty-seven years in Education, when he retired in May 1971. As Brother Neal put it, "Teaching is a growing profession and a service to your fellow man."

In addition to his work in Education, he served several years in the Church as an associate minister at Tenth and Austin. During his stay in Iowa Park from 1930-1940, he served as an elder and also did preaching both there and in surrounding communities. Then when the Church started meeting on Lincoln Street, Brother Neal served there as an elder almost twenty years. His retirement plans were to do church work and some writing.



W. W. Foster



Claude Guild

W. W. FOSTER

The late W. W. Foster served Tenth and Broad as an Elder for many years. Of him it has been said, "If it was for the Church, Brother Foster was interested."

Although his business was associated with the oil fields and took him to many areas of the country, W. W. Foster always had a lively, active interest in the work of the Church.

Throughout his years, Brother Foster was generous with young people who needed financial assistance to attend Abilene Christian College. Only God knows how many he helped with finances for education.

Brother W. W. Foster attended the Nashville Bible College as a young man. From first hand experience he knew the struggles of a school with very limited funds. As a result of this background, Brother Foster was generous in his gifts to many of the smaller struggling Christian colleges of his time.

CLAUDE GUILD

Tenth and Broad assisted in the support of Claude Guild from 1967 until his return from Australia in 1973. Since coming back to the United States, brother Guild has moved to Oswego, Oregon, to establish the Church there. Tenth and Broad continues to assist him financially.

Besides doing mission work in the Northwestern part of the U. S., the Guilds have travelled extensively in Canada, Australia, and India and have done evangelistic work in each of these areas.

Brother Guild served as vice president for several years at Columbia Christian College and since, for several years, was president of Fort Worth Christian College.



W. O. Beeman



Richard Pectol

W. O. BEEMAN

Brother W. O. Beeman was born at Dallas, Texas, November 1, 1892, and was baptized at Pearl and Bryan Street Church of Christ in the summer of 1906, by Brother L. S. White. He married Lucille Montague Anderson, Dallas, Texas, June 27, 1913. Brother L. S. White performed the ceremony.

As stated before, he and his family moved to Wichita Falls, Texas, in 1915 when the Church was meeting on Bluff Street. When property was purchased at Tenth and Austin in 1920, Brother Beeman was appointed an Elder and served in that capacity until 1938 when he and his family moved back to Dallas.

Other places he has served as elder include Sears and Summit, Dallas; Mockingbird Lane, Dallas; Skillman Avenue, Dallas; Highland, Memphis, Tennessee, and presently at Wilshire Blvd., Oklahoma City. Brother Beeman has been involved in Christian education with Oklahoma Christian College for the last fifteen years until the present time. He is the last surviving Elder of the Church of Christ at Tenth and Austin Streets.

RICHARD PECTOL

Brother Richard Pectol labored with the Tenth and Broad congregation of the Church from 1967 to August 1973.

Richard was born in Arkansas and was raised in Arizona. He was baptized by Odell White when he was seventeen, and married Gay Haveus five years later. Two children were born to the Pectols, Tommy and Sylvia.

Brother Pectol is a graduate of Abilene Christian College with a Masters Degree.

In his kind efficient manner, Brother Pectol made many impressions for good on Wichita Falls. We love him and wish him God's blessings in his new work.



LYNN RHODES
Present Minister

Brother Rhodes began as minister for the Tenth and Broad congregation of the Church in August 1973.

Brother Rhodes is a Harding College graduate and has previously preached at Abernathy and Tulia, Texas.

Brother and Sister Rhodes have two children, Robert in his fifth year and Cheri, age one.

We look forward with confidence to years of sound growth and productivity as we labor together.



TOMMY PALMER
Bible Chair Director



CLIFTON DAVIS
Associate Minister

Clif Davis is our associate minister and song director. He came to Wichita Falls from his parents' home in the Dallas area, having served as youth director in Denton, Texas, and associate minister at Winters, Texas.

Brother Davis is a graduate of Abilene Christian College. He is married to the former Susan Garretson of Dallas. They have one child, Jannifer Amanda, born October 23, 1972.

Brother Davis has served in campaign work in both Western and Eastern Canada and in several areas of the United States.



MAURINE THOMPSON
Secretary

Maurine Thompson was employed as secretary for the Tenth and Broad congregation of the Church in 1953.

The smooth flow of work through the Church office every week is a real tribute to her interest and ability.

MINISTERS WHO HAVE SERVED THE TENTH AND BROAD CONGREGATION

C. A. Buchanan	- Dec. 1, 1915 - Feb. 1, 1917
C. D. Crouch	
Earnest Christian	
Early Arceneaux	
Elbert Cochran	
R. D. Smith	
L. S. White	- 1924 - 1937
Robert C. Jones	- 1937 - 1944
A. Clyde Hale	- 1944 - 1945
George Stephenson	- March 11, 1945 - 1953
Paul McClung	- June 1953 - June 1959
William F. Walker	- July 1959 - 1965
Jimmy Jividen	- August 1965 - June 1967
Richard Pectol	- August 1967 - Aug. 1973
Lynn Rhodes	- August 20, 1973 -

ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

K. C. Mosier	
Burton Coffman	- 1930
Eugene Smith	
A. D. Neal	
Olin Huff	- Oct. 1948 - June 1951
Tommy Gillentine	- September 1953
Thos. F. Sullivan	- October 1953 - May 1955
George Hill	- June 1, 1955 - August 1956
Richard Jones	- September 1956 - January 1959
George Kerr	- July 1956 - 1957
Dub McClish	- January 1959 - January 1960
Re Wright	- January 1960 - April 1964
Ronnie Throneberry	- April 20, 1966 - March 1, 1968
Benjamin C. Powell	- April 17, 1968 - September 1969
Wayne Bounds	- August 1969 - October 1971
Clifton Davis	- May 30, 1971 -

PRESENT ELDERS



L. H. Hull
Appointed April 1939



Raymond Adcock
Appointed March 16, 1958



J. B. Hickerson
Appointed March 16, 1958



Ralph Myrick
Appointed March 16, 1958

This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. I Timothy 3:1



Thomas B. Taylor
Appointed February 20, 1961



Morris Robinson
Appointed February 20, 1961



Dubose Pipes
Appointed March 16, 1958



Louis Ward
Appointed October 1964

Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof,
not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind;
I Peter 5:2



Paul Fisher
Appointed February 28, 1971



George Stephenson

SILVER ANNIVERSARY THEME: "THE CHURCH"

Featuring the same speakers and topics presented in the opening lectureship twenty-five years ago.

George Stephenson

Sunday, Oct. 7

10:30 A. M. —

"The Establishment of the Church"

6:00 P. M. —

"The Worship of the Church"

Robert C. Jones

Monday, Oct. 8

"The Apostacy"

Don Morris

Tuesday, Oct. 9

"The Restoration"

Burton Coffman

Wednesday, Oct. 10

"The Purpose & Work of the Church"

Raymond Kelcy

Thursday, Oct. 11

"The One Body"



Robert C. Jones



Don Morris



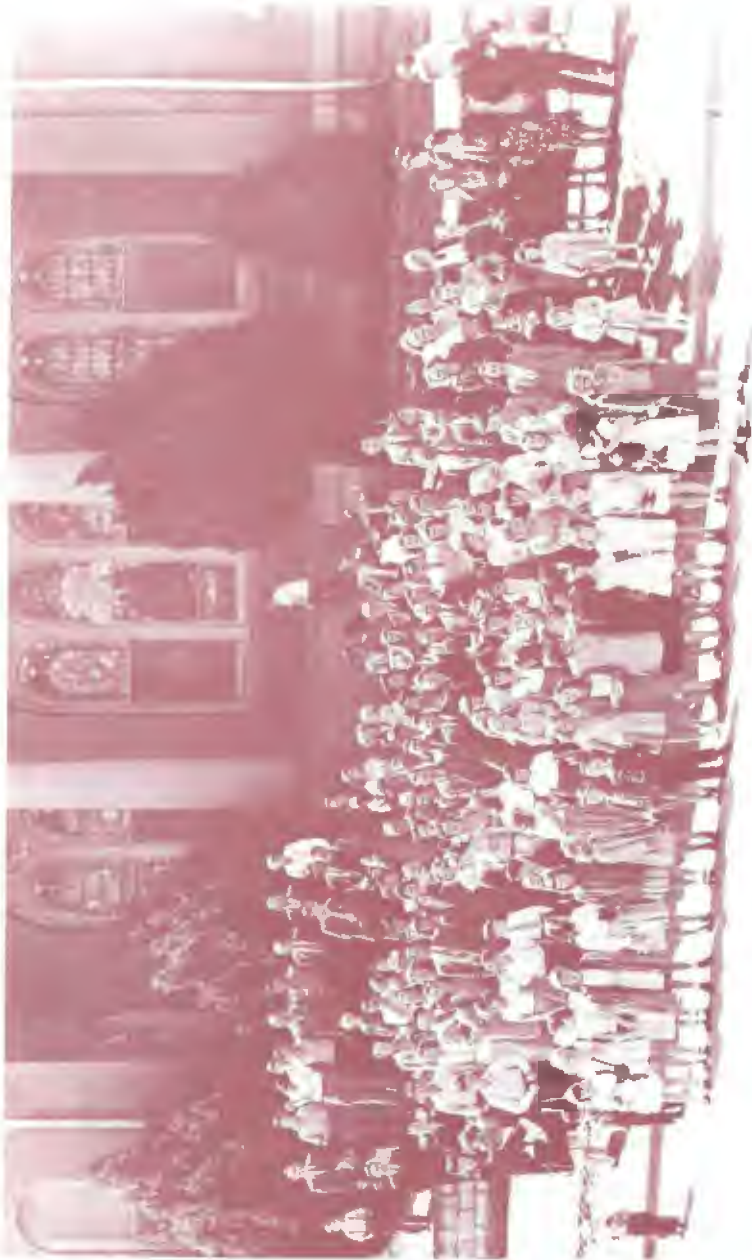
Burton Coffman



Raymond Keley



Tenth & Austin
Farewell to L. S. White
August 1937



Front Entrance To
Tenth and Austin Building



Tenth and Broad Homecoming 1968
All are Former Members at Tenth and Austin



1968 Homecoming Personalities

And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness even so the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have eternal life.

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved. John 3:14-17

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: II Timothy 3:16

And being made perfect, he became the author of eternal salvation unto all them that obey him; Hebrews 5:9

Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

In my Father's house are many mansions: If it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. John 14:1-3

For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil. Ecclesiastes 12:14

