

*From Where I Sit . . .*

**"BROAD STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST"  
1884 - 2004**

Very few congregations with Restoration History background can lay claim to the experience we share at Broad Street this year - 120 years of continuous existence as a congregation. The weekend of October 30 and 31 have been designated as a time for special celebration of this history with our Saturday Fall VBS Reunion and Sunday Homecoming activities. To all of our members, former members, friends far and near we want to invite you to come share with us in a day of glorifying God for the great good He has brought upon us through out the entirety of this congregation's existence.

In preparation for this special occasion, we're interested in collecting as many of your anecdotes and favorite memories of days gone by; special photographs and news articles that could be placed on display. We'd like either copies of or donated originals to go in a permanent scrapbook of the church's history. And we need names and addresses of former members who've moved elsewhere. We want to reach them all and invite them back for the 120th Year Homecoming activities. Please see Ron Harville or Charlene Cobb or direct these to the church office.

The first congregation of the church was started in Scottsboro in 1884 by Dr. Jack Rorex, a dentist who was one of the earlier members of the Stevenson Church of Christ. Dr. Rorex made an appeal through the Gospel Advocate for a minister to come and conduct a gospel meeting. James A. Harding, co-founder of David Lipscomb College, answered the appeal; and in January of 1884, the first service was held. Eight to ten persons were baptized.

In the latter part of 1884, J. W. Sheppard, of Kentucky, conducted a second meeting. In 1886 the first building was erected just off the square on Peachtree Street. James A. Harding was the first minister. In 1950 a new building was erected on the corner of Broad and Charlotte. A minister's house was constructed adjacent to the building on Broad Street. In September of 1968, an annex was added. The minister's house, which was located beside the church building, was moved to the location at 406 East Charlotte Avenue to make room for the annex This house was sold in 2002. In April of 1979, the renovation of the building was completed. Expansion and improvement to our parking lot and accommodations for handicapped access and parking were part of the 1994 remodeling.

1884!! That's the year the first sky-scraper in America was built in Chicago (10 stories tall); The first roller coaster was used (at Coney Island, NY); J. H. Kellogg patented flaked cereal; Grover Cleveland was elected President of the United States; the Washington Monument was completed; the Statue of Liberty was given to the United States by France; and Liberty in Christ began to be preached according to the New Testament pattern in Scottsboro, Alabama.

..... Terry Broome