

¹¹
*O Lord our God
All this abundance
that we have
prepared to build
You a house for
Your holy name
is from Your hand
and is all
Your own."*

1 Chronicles 29:16

*First Baptist Church
of Saks*

Worship Center/Office Complex
Dedicated April 29, 1990

*"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things, and by
your will all things were created and
have their being." Revelation 4:11*



On This Day . . .

For the past 30 years the members of the First Baptist Church of Saks worshipped in a 500 seat auditorium that was lovingly provided by those who came before us. During these years that building stood as a place of comfort and encouragement where God's people could come and find a special touch from God. That building also stood as a symbol of the loving grace of God. Week after week as people entered that building they discovered how God could wonderfully and amazingly change their lives. On this day, we come to dedicate our new Worship Center/Office Complex. As we dedicate this building we confidently believe that now and for decades to come, it too will be a place where all people can discover life worth living through the person of Jesus Christ.

It is my prayer that this building will ever stand as a monument to the glory of God, may it remind us and our community of the majesty and glory of God and may it call us to come and worship in the beauty of holiness. May this building ever be a lighthouse to the sinner, to the downcast and discouraged and may it call them here to find rest and refuge in the Lord Jesus Christ. May this building become a focal point of praise, worship and sweet fellowship for the members of the First Baptist Church of Saks. May this building be a place where lost people will clearly hear the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ calling them unto salvation. May this building be a place where people of all ages can find and follow the will of God for their lives. Finally, may we determine that this building will not be an end within itself but a tool, an instrument that is used to accomplish the Lord's will in our church and in our community.

In reflection, there are scores of people that deserve our thanks, our membership is to be commended for their sacrificial giving, our building committee, Guice Potter and Brad Mitchell of AmSouth Bank, Shelby Dean, Eugene Turner, Danny Turner, Carel Turner, as well as a host of others who gave support to this project. But most of all, our heart should be overwhelmed with gratitude to our Lord Jesus Christ, First Baptist Saks, thank you for being obedient unto Him — I love you for that! "Now unto Him who is able to do exceeding abundantly above all we ask or think . . . unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end." Amen and Amen!!

Your Pastor,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Bill Barnes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Bill Barnes

Dr. Bill Barnes became Pastor
of First Baptist Church of Saks on
July 13, 1983.

In the Beginning . . .

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church was established September 10, 1927, with 13 charter members. Those early meetings were held in the home of the members. On November 7, 1927, Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Harkins donated one-half acre of land to be used as a building site for a sanctuary. That first building was constructed of wood and seated approximately 200 people, the estimated value was \$1,500.00.



Beginning April 12, 1959, a bond campaign was started to raise \$80,000.00, for a new sanctuary. Ground breaking ceremonies were held May 24, of that same year. Approximately one year later, on May 4, 1960, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church became First Baptist Church of Saks. A few weeks later on the second Sunday in June, 1960, the first service was held in our second sanctuary, a \$90,000.00, brick building, capable of accommodating about 500 people. Dedication services were held on July 9, 1960.



Thirty years have past, God has blessed this church in wonderful and powerful ways and today, April 29, 1990, we have the privilege of dedicating our third sanctuary, a 2.5 million dollar facility with a seating capacity of 1200. The membership has grown from those first 13 charter members to 1,750 members. God certainly has brought us far.



*"For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God."
Hebrews 3:4*



This new Worship Center/Office Complex is the product of years of prayer, faith and hard work by the members and staff of First Baptist Church of Saks. Even before the ground breaking ceremonies on January 10, 1988, initial planning meetings were held as early as August, 1986. In 1987, the Building Committee selected H. Shelby Dean Architects to conduct preliminary design and engineering studies. This work eventually led to a detailed design. Through careful review, the church leadership sought to determine a sound, workable approach to finance and construct this tremendous undertaking, while exercising the best principles of Christian stewardship.

Accordingly, the church initiated the "Challenge to Build" campaign in order to help minimize the long-term cost of financing the project. Responding to the call, our church members made this campaign an overwhelming success. The great personal sacrifice and commitment made by so many of our members gives evidence of God's faithfulness and goodness.

During the past one and one-half years, we have seen this facility rise into the air. To many, it seems only yesterday that the initial plans were presented to our congregation for approval. For many others, this period has been one of exhaustive effort in coping with seemingly endless construction details.

Today our Worship Center/Office Complex stands completed! Through God's grace and direction, our church can join as a family in worship and celebration of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. May this beautiful facility bring glory to God, not to man and inspire us to worship and to live by His word.

*"And let them make Me a sanctuary
that I may dwell among them."
Exodus 25:8*

Services of Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP

PASTOR *"Surely the Lord is in this place. This is none other but the house of God."*

PEOPLE *"The hour cometh and now is when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in Spirit and in truth for the Father seeketh such to worship Him."*

CHOIR *"The Lord is in His Holy Temple"*

CHORUS *"Surely The Presence Of The Lord Is In This Place"*

INVOCATION Dr. Don Carroll, Director of Missions

HYMN *"How Great Thou Art"* No. 4

PRESENTATION OF KEYS AND BUILDING COMMITTEE Johnny Green, Chairman

COVENANT OF DEDICATION

PASTOR *For the Faith and vision and the sacrifice of Thy people who through the years have desired to build this house . . .*

PEOPLE *We thank Thee, Gracious Father.*

PASTOR *For being prospered by the hand of God to finish the work, which in His providence we are called upon to perform . . .*

PEOPLE *We thank Thee, Gracious Father.*

PASTOR *For the worship of God, Our Father; and Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour; and the Holy Spirit, our Comforter and Guide . . .*

PEOPLE *We do now, with joy and gratitude, solemnly dedicate this building.*

PASTOR *For the study, preaching and teaching of the Bible, the word of God . . .*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this building.*

PASTOR *For the salvation of the lost; for the deliverance of those who are tempted; for the strengthening of Christian faith; for the comforting of those who are in sorrow; for the uplifting of the discouraged . . .*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this building.*

PASTOR *For the nurture of childhood; for the inspiration of youth; for the enrichment of the aged; and for the support of Christian ideals in our homes and community . . .*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this building.*

PASTOR *For the spread of the gospel; for the extension of the Christian faith by missions to the uttermost parts of the earth . . .*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this building.*

IN UNISON *We do now, the people of this Church and Congregation, compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses, DEDICATE OURSELVES, anew, to the worship of God in this place and to the great work of establishing His Kingdom in the world.*

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Dr. Bill Barnes

WELCOME AND RECOGNITION OF GUESTS

H. Shelby Dean, Architect
Eugene Turner, General Contractor, Inc.

Guice Potter, President, AmSouth Bank
Brad Mitchell, Vice President, AmSouth Bank

DENOMINATIONAL AND PASTORAL GREETINGS

OFFERTORY HYMN *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* No. 43

DEDICATION OFFERING Aaron Acker

SPECIAL MUSIC Dr. Dan Marsengill

MID-SERVICE CONCERT Betty Gorham, organ
Tammy Norton, piano

Worship and Dedication

*"Enter into His gates with
thanksgiving and into His courts with
praise: be thankful unto him and
bless His name." Psalm 100:4*

CALL TO WORSHIP

PASTOR *"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands."*
PEOPLE *"They take the timbrel and harp, and rejoice at the sound of the organ;
PASTOR "Praise ye the Lord. Sing unto the Lord a new song and His praise in the congregation of the saints."
PEOPLE "And they sang as it were a new song before the throne."*

PRAYER Rev. John Meyer

HYMN *"He Keeps Me Singing"* No. 488

PASTOR'S GREETING

DEDICATION OF THE INSTRUMENTS Rev. Chris Daglis

MINISTER *It is a good thing to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises unto Thy name, O Most High.*

PEOPLE *To show forth Thy loving kindness every morning and Thy faithfulness every night.*

MINISTER *Let the word of Christ dwell in you in all richness; teaching one another in Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs; singing with grace in your hearts unto the Lord.*

PEOPLE *Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee.*

MINISTER *To the glory of God, the Author of perfect peace and harmony;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this organ and piano.*

MINISTER *To the honor of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world, at whose birth the angels sang;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this organ and piano.*

MINISTER *To the praise of the Holy Spirit, in Whose fellowship the discords of life are lost in the glorious harmony of God;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate this organ and piano.*

MINISTER *To kindle the flame of devotion, that the people of God who here assemble may worship the Father in spirit and in truth;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate these instruments of praise.*

MINISTER *To bear up the melody of psalm and hymn and spiritual song in such ways that men may go forth from this house of God with high resolve to do His holy will;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate these instruments of praise.*

MINISTER *For the singing of God's praises and in gratitude for those who once sang with us and have gone on to their eternal reward;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate these hymnals.*

MINISTER *To make a joyful noise unto the Lord, to serve Him with gladness, and to come before His presence with singing;*

PEOPLE *We dedicate our voices.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Dr. Bill Barnes

CHORAL PRAISE *"We Will Be Your Church"* Sanctuary Choir

HYMN *"The Solid Rock"* No. 404

OFFERTORY HYMN *"Victory In Jesus"* No. 473

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

SPECIAL MUSIC *"Together We'll Build"* Youth Ensemble

SCRIPTURE READING *I Chronicles 29:16* Dr. Bill Barnes

CHORAL PRAISE *"Holy Is He"* Sanctuary Choir

MESSAGE *"On This Day"* Dr. Bill Barnes

HYMN OF INVITATION *"Just As I Am"* No. 342

HYMN OF BENEDICTION *"Revive Us Again"* No. 295

*"O Lord, I love the habitation of
Thy house, and the place where Thy
glory dwells." Psalm 26:8*

The visual appeal of the Worship Center exterior is founded in the unique architectural design. The architectural style is best described as "Contemporary Romanesque". The exterior is dominated by 9 arched windows. The 3 central windows rise to over 47 feet, with each of the side windows reaching 40 feet. Each has been handcrafted using 2000 square feet of leaded stained glass and are among the largest in the southeastern United States.

The spacious interior of the Worship Center, with a seating capacity of 1200, has been created with physical comfort and beauty in mind and the goal of enhancing the worship experience at the forefront. Hidden within much of this beauty are dozens of specially engineered features which contribute to the acoustical and visual performance of the facility.

A large vestibule welcomes those entering the Worship Center, to the left is the parlor where the Pastor's reception is held, to the right the bride's room.

The main level of the fan-shaped sanctuary has a gently sloping floor to improve lines of sight. The oak-floored pulpit podium is flanked on either side by the piano from our former sanctuary and the organ console.





The organ is actually a combination of the Zimmer organ from our former sanctuary and a Moller organ, Opus 5029. The result will be a combination of these two organs plus some additional stops. When completed, the instrument will be one of the largest organs in a Southern Baptist church in the southern United States featuring approximately 4,500 pipes, 63 stops and 74 ranks. At present only 1,324 of the pipes, 17 stops and 20 ranks are installed. The remainder will be installed when funds are available.



Behind the podium is the choir loft accommodating 90 choir members. At the apex of the 49 foot ceiling hangs a Williamsburg style, 3-tier chandelier, the largest in the area, measuring over 13 feet in diameter and 12 feet in height with 56 lamps.

The Office Complex houses offices for the Pastor, Associate Pastor, Minister of Music/Youth, Administrative Assistant, Church Secretary and Receptionist/Financial Secretary. The Media Center/Library and three conference rooms also occupy the first floor, providing meeting space for numerous committees. Upstairs on the second floor is the choir suite including a spacious choir room, two robing rooms, music library and space for graded choirs.



"I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

Acknowledgments

Building Committee

John Green
Aaron Acker
John Bonds
Randy Fortune
Betty Gorham
Alfred Harrelson
Hughes Martin
Myron Wilson

We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of all who have given sacrificially of their resources to build this facility.

A special thanks to all the subcommittee members and workers that we are not able to acknowledge by name, who had the faith that God would allow us to build Him a sanctuary.

Challenge To Build Committee

Aaron Acker
Mike Burford
Polly Crow
Bill Elkins
Larry Meharg
Judi Page
Jack Thomas
Gladys Turley
Mike Wolf
Harold Cushing — Consultant



To God be the glory, great things He has done . . .

Construction Profile

Architect: H. Shelby Dean Architects, Inc.
Contractor: Eugene Turner General Contractor, Inc.
Construction Period: 21 months
Construction Materials Used:

- 1,400 cubic yards of concrete
- 105,000 bricks
- 55,000 blocks
- 192 tons of steel
- over 6 miles of wood trim
- 1,400 gallons of paint
- 562 lighting fixtures
- 1365 light bulbs (232 in sanctuary only)
- over 22 miles of electrical wiring

Information of Interest

- Total floor space: 37,000 square feet
- Sanctuary floor space: 12,200 square feet
- Sanctuary volume: 363,500 cubic feet
- Roof height: 56 feet above floor
- Ceiling height: 48 feet above floor
- Steeple height: 115 feet above floor
- Total building weight: Approximately 6,000 tons
- Air conditioning capacity: 97 tons

Sub-Contractors:

- Acker Electric Company
- Anniston Concrete Company
- C & S Tile Company
- Hudak Hardware & Paint Supply Company
- King Furniture Manufacturing Company
- Lumpkin Stain Glass Company
- Nunnally's Glass
- Piedmont Systems
- S. L. Pappas & Company
- Sherman Plumbing Company
- Spurlin Masonry
- Triplett Paint & Decorating
- Turner Roofing Company