

# A BRIEF HISTORY OF COLUMBUS CHURCH OF CHRIST 1921 - 2016

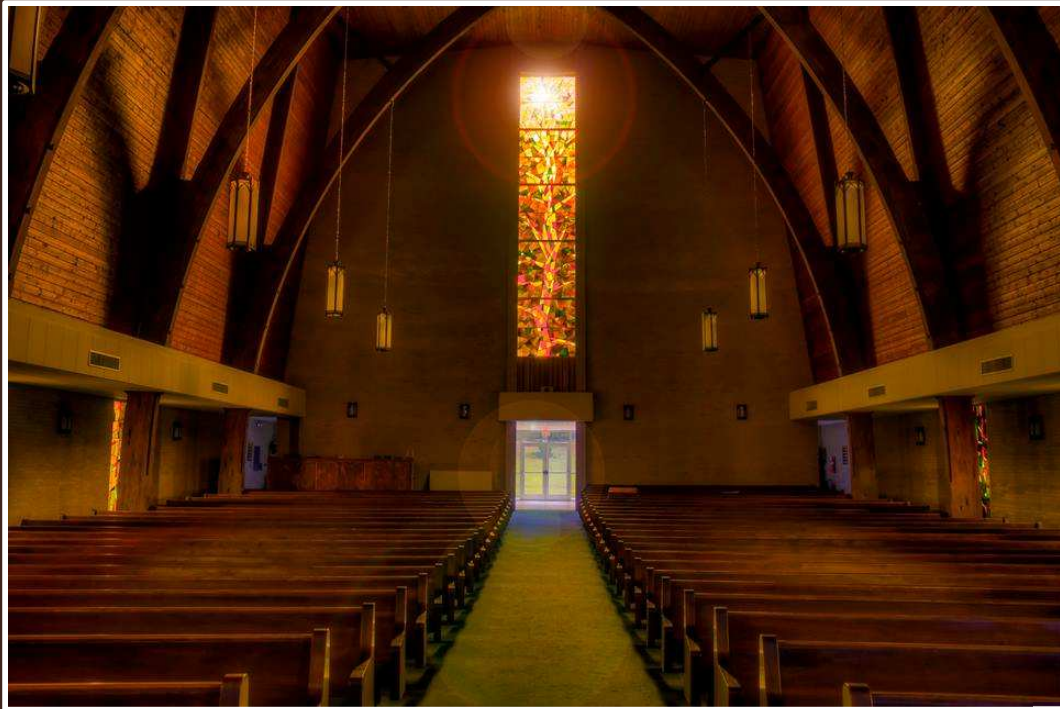
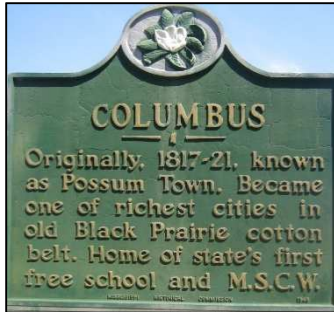


Photo Credit: Matt Warren

Ralph & Michelle Collins Carter



Columbus, Mississippi was incorporated in 1821 and religious organizations have been part of the town since the beginning. In 1839, the Restoration Movement came to

Columbus when Talbert Fanning preached following the Bible without creeds. About 80 people were baptized and called themselves "Christians." The Christian Church was formed during this time and continued to grow through the work of Brother Fanning and Alexander Campbell. After the Civil War, the Christian Church in Columbus joined the Mississippi Christian Missionary Convention and the groups separated into what later became known as First Christian Church and Columbus Church of Christ.



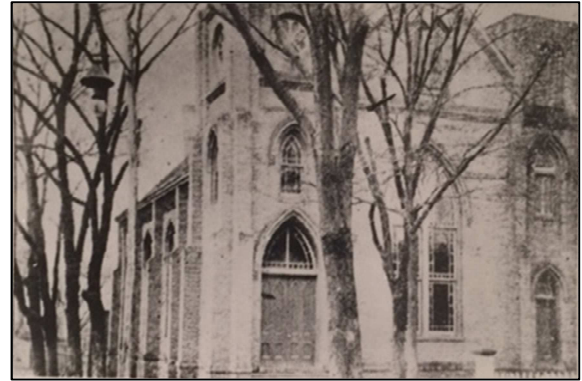
## EARLY YEARS 1920-1946

The non-instrumental, autonomous church organization Christians were few in number and met sporadically in private homes and rented facilities with little recorded history until 1920. At that time, the Christians were meeting in a one-room schoolhouse on Airline Road. **Brother Matthew C.**

Mrs. A. J. Holly- 218 6th. Ave. So. Columbus, Mississippi  
 Mrs. J. W. Redus- 12th. St. & 5th. Ave. "  
 Mrs. M. A. Goff- 410 6th. Ave.  
 Mr. W. H. Hammack- 410 6th. Ave.  
 Mrs. W. H. Hammack- "  
 Mr. C. B. Lollar- 602 18th. St. cor. 6th. Ave. So.  
 Mrs. C. B. Lollar- "  
 Mrs. J. B. Carroll- 1116 7th. Ave. N.  
 Mrs. John Fancher- 125 3rd. St. N.  
 Mrs. D. D. Whitaker- 1817 College St.  
 Mr. J. W. Howell- 800 Military St.  
 Mrs. J. W. Howell- "  
 Mr. B. E. Seal- Beard Plaza- 624 Main St.  
 Mrs. B. E. Seal- "  
 Mr. John Melton- "  
 Frank D. Ellis- 302 3rd. St. S.  
 Mrs. Frank D. Ellis- "  
 Prof. T. F. McBeth- 1002 2nd. Ave. S.  
 Mr. J. H. Lenders- 2 1/2 miles from Columbus  
 L. D. Bell- R F D 5 Box 18 Columbus  
 R. E. Cullum- Military Road- R F D Columbus  
 Mrs. R. E. Cullum- "  
 Mrs. A. C. Browning- "  
 Mr. Jno. W. Fromm- Bent Oak- R F D -Columbus  
 Mrs. Jno. W. Fromm- "  
 Dr. Henry Fromm- "  
 Mr. M. A. Dodson- "  
 Mrs. Mark Lowrey- Columbus- R F D 2  
 Mr. C. A. Dodson- Air Line Road  
 Mr. I. L. Sparkman- Crawford, Miss.  
 Mrs. I. L. Sparkman- "

**Cayce** came to Columbus from Nashville, Tennessee, to hold a tent meeting. Because of this meeting, 30 Christians

started the Columbus Church of Christ in 1921 after



purchasing the Cumberland Presbyterian Church building at the corner of Fourth Street and Third Avenue South. **Brother J. W. Howell**, one of the charter members, served as the first regular preacher from 1923 to 1926. The church continued to meet in this building until 1924. Visiting preachers continued to hold meeting and monthly appointments during the span of Brother Howell's work with the Columbus Church of Christ.

Many of the visiting preachers advised the church to move closer to the people of Columbus, so a new building was constructed at 1113 Sixth Avenue North. This area of Columbus was heavily populated. There were no classrooms, baptistry, or restrooms. The first service in the new meeting place was held on May 25, 1924. The onset of the depression was hard on the church, but the few faithful members continued to hold two-



week gospel meetings each year. In 1927, **Brother Charlie Nichols** became the preacher of the church. The congregation could not support a full-time preacher so he held part-time jobs while preaching until 1930. October 1933, **Brother Howard White**, a graduate of David Lipscomb Junior College, became the preacher. The church supported this young, single minister with a salary of \$15.00 per month. He continued working with the church in Columbus until March 1935. **Brother Robert Farrish** came to replace Brother White in 1935. Brother Farrish did a

good work with the church by engaging in meetings and mission work in surrounding counties. He continued to preach until January 1937.

Following Brother Farrish as preacher for about one year was **Brother Phillip G. Spears**. It was in this year of 1937 that the first church bulletin-newspaper was written and published. Visiting preachers continued to hold long gospel meetings. Women's ministries were strengthened during this time period. The ladies engaged in activities such as washing and ironing the linens for the communion table, teaching Sunday Bible classes, hosting visiting preachers in their homes during the two-week meetings, cleaning the building, and providing for an orphan girl by sewing wardrobes and providing holiday gifts for her.

**Brother Robert Box** and his wife worked with the church for the lean year of 1938. The church helped other churches by buying literature and benevolent work even though the weekly contribution never reached \$50.00 in a two-year span. The next year, 1939, **Brother James Benson** was the preacher. The church's weekly contribution increased and so did the church's benevolence work. Orphans were helped, the needy had help with buying groceries and coal, gifts for the sick were given, and the church helped with the work among the minority community. Brother Benson began a radio program; however, he did not stay for the entire year. In 1940, **Brother John Brinn** and his wife engaged in a successful span of work until 1944. The radio program was expanded and special contributions were made to support the churches in Amory and Meridian. Mission meetings were conducted in Amory and Rural Hill in Monroe County. The note due on the Sixth Avenue church building was paid in full during this time. In the wake of World War II, several outstanding military men worshipped with the Columbus Church of Christ. In February 1943, a stock of grape juice for communion was purchased before the Ration Board freeze. About this time, the economy of the church was increased to the extent that six new classrooms, a baptistry, and restrooms were added to the building. These new quarters were not used very long until a tent meeting was held in the vacant lot at the corner of Fourth Avenue and

Fifth Street South. During this meeting, the church decided to purchase the lot and erect a new building.

## Years of Growth and Expansion 1946-1969

In June 1944, the church gained the confidence to make plans for a new church building, so the building at Sixth Avenue North was sold and the congregation assembled for worship at the Lowndes County Courthouse for nineteen months. The membership at this time was 119. The new church building was planned to be built in uptown Columbus and would be the first fully air conditioned church in Columbus.



The new edifice cost approximately \$60,000. The preacher at this time was **Brother C. W. Brannon**.

The elders were sensitive to the heartaches caused by former divisions in the church and they sought to assure the membership that the intent of worship would always be after the New Testament order. Four restrictive clauses were placed in the new property deed:

- The object and intention of purchasing this property is to build up congregations that will use only what the New Testament orders and requires, rejecting all innovations and inventions of men, such as organs, and all other kind of instruments of music at any and all gatherings on said premises.
- No society or convention or any other organization other than the Church of Christ in the work of teaching the Bible and worship shall use the building located on said premises. A class of vocal music to teach singing in the public congregation shall not be a violation of this clause and is not prohibited.



- Should a division arise over or concerning these restrictions or other matters, the title of the property shall vest in and adhere to those, whether a majority or minority, who hold to the provisions herein set forth, and made a part of this Deed.
- Finally, should this property ever be sold or exchanged for other property by the Trustees or their successors, each and all of these clauses (four in number) must and shall remain in the conveyance. Every deed of conveyance or transfer of this property for other property in lieu of this particular property, the same Restrictive Clauses shall apply to the property received or constructed.

These restrictions were later removed with a mutual agreement between the Vaughn family and the elders when the church needed to sell the property at 5<sup>th</sup> Street in September 1973.

A special series of lectures were given at the completion of the building. Visiting preachers lecturing were Boyd Stocks, H. A. Dixon, and N. B. Hardeman along with the local preacher Brother Brannon. The membership at this time was around 150 with weekly average contribution of around \$200.00.

From May 1948 to November 1948, several weekend preachers were adopted until a new preacher was hired. One particular weekend preacher, Kenneth Reed, conducted the annual two-week vacation Bible school for toddlers through senior high, staffed by local teachers and helpers. In November 1948, **Harold and Frances Trimble** joined Columbus Church of Christ. Due to an improved economy, the preacher's pay was \$80.00 weekly and considerable financial assistance was given to support a sister congregation and their minister. The ladies of the church continued to be engaged in benevolent work, including clothes for orphans homes, and Christmas baskets and gifts for shut-ins and the needy. Special events included Vacation Bible School and two ten-day gospel meetings.

In 1950, the Trimble family left and a regular preacher did not fill the pulpit from July 1950 until August 1951.

Extensive advertising was done to promote interest in a May 1951 meeting conducted by Brother Alonzo Welch. In mid-summer 1951, the first preacher's home

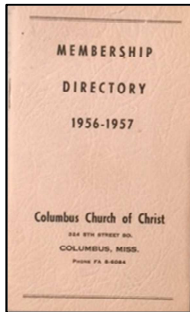


was bought at 1002 Ninth Street North. **Brother A. C. Dreaden** and his wife, Nancy, moved into the new preacher's home and

worked with the congregation until October 1953. Annual gospel meetings were held including joint meetings with other congregations. Mission and benevolent work was extended to Rome, Italy, Bales Orphan Home, the "Herald of Truth" program, and the Cottdale, Alabama church. The annual giving during 1942 to 1958 grew from \$3,194 to \$20,466.

During the years 1950 to 1952, the controversy arose over the subject of support to orphans' homes and the cooperation relative to television programs, particularly the Herald of Truth. From this movement, a group of about eight or nine families left the church and established the East Columbus church of Christ. The membership of the Columbus Church of Christ was 285. The elders were Aubrey Belue, Louis Nabors, Leo Olive, and P. L. Vaughn. The deacons were J. Roy Johnson, O. C. Logan, and M. B. McCrary.

In December 1953, **Brother Bob Anderson** and his wife, Jean, began working with the church and lived in the preacher's home at Ninth Street North. He was a dynamic, young minister and he successfully led the church into a productive span of growth, despite losing members of long standing to the East Columbus church. Mission work was expanded to new areas—the University of Alabama, West Point, East Tupelo, Macon, Aberdeen, and Okolona. Extensive benevolent help was given to several widowed members of the church. The radio program over WCBI continued three days a week, as well as the television program, "Herald of Truth," continued on Sunday mornings.



Membership was around 300. Eldership included J. Roy Johnson, Louis Nabors, and P. L. Vaughn. Deacons were O. L. Cobb, R. A. Hickman, T. L. McFerrin, V. J. Wood, and Lloyd Yates. The first pocket membership directory was printed in 1956 with names, addresses, and telephone numbers.

The Anderson family moved in December 1956.

**M. L. and Charlene Sexton** began their work with the Columbus church in January 1957 and continued until October 1959. A new preacher's home was purchased at 1203 Southdown Parkway. The church



continued with its regular activities, study, teaching, radio, benevolent work, and preaching. A noonday worship

service was started for the college girls at Mississippi State College for Women (MSCW).

**Jimmy and Flodine Powell** began working with the Fifth Street church on November 17, 1959, and continued until January 1966. He served as the speaker for the Sunday night television program "Way of Life" on WCBI-TV. He also conducted an early morning program on WACR radio. Many were concerned about future growth of the church and thus purchased a three and one-half acres of land at the corner of Warpath and Lehmberg Road for expansion. Gospel meetings were continually held during these years. The elders were Lloyd Yates, J. Roy Johnson, and Louis Nabors. Deacons were Willard Collins, Wyman Garrison, Herbert Graham, J. B. Hopper, Thomas McFerrin, and V. J. Wood. The song leaders were Barney Barnhart, Herbert Graham, and Bob Hickman. In 1964, contributions totaled \$26,972, and average attendance of 355.

On March 18 and 19, 1966, the first Christian Youth Forum was held at Joe Cook Junior High School under the guidance of Bill Brumley. Weeks of planning went into this event and with this great success, it was decided to make this an annual affair.



About 500 people attended each session with 53 cities and eight states represented.

**Bill and Jean Jackson** came to work with the Columbus Church of Christ in March 1966 direct from their mission work in Ipswich, England. In April, serious work began to establish regular devotionals for the MSCW girls. New deacons were appointed in 1966—Bill Brumley, Bob Hickman, Roy King, Woodford Polk, and C. V. Stewart, Jr. The elders, assisted by Brother Jackson, initiated a new concept of special assignments for themselves and for the deacons to conduct the work of the church in a more complete way. They inaugurated a planned teaching program to involve the entire congregation. All 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday evening sessions were devoted to singing. Firm plans were set to establish a library for the congregation's study purposes. In November 1966, members requested for the elders to consider future plans for a new church location. An option to purchase the land at 2401 Seventh Street North at Willowbrook was made.

The elders realized the great demand for evangelists and began scheduling gospel meetings far in advance. Many Christians from MSCW, as well as young men from Columbus Air Force Base, worshipped with the church. It was inspirational for the church to see the faithfulness of these young people. A residence was rented at 1020 Fourth Avenue South for the MSCW girls to use as a student center.

In August 1967, **Brad and Shirley Brumley** came to the Columbus church. The elders decided to sell the present preacher's home on Southdown Parkway and purchase a larger



home at 1733 Canterbury Drive. Brother Brumley was a pioneer for improving the educational work with a new system of teaching. Adult classes changed to larger groups and the concept of team teaching began to be implemented in the lower grades. Teenagers were separated from the regularly scheduled Bible classes and organized themselves into a group called "Teenagers in Christ." Their objectives were helping each other to be better Christians, doing good works, and teaching others about Christ. Financial statements showed total contributions of \$88,712.

In 1968, the style and floor plan for the proposed new church building was completed and financing for the new \$300,000 facility was being raised. Brother Brad Brumley had considerable input in the planning of the building. **Frances White** was the first full-time secretary and C. V. Stewart was the director of the Christian Service Groups. Several families started a new congregation on Highway 69 South and a new building was constructed there. The fourth annual Christian Youth Forum was held again at Joe Cook Junior High School.

### **New Era of Worship, Education, and Fellowship 1970s-1990s**



On Sunday, January 11, 1970, the first services were held in the new church building at 2401 Seventh Street North. The entire new structure was designed with three basic ideas—worship, education, and fellowship. The auditorium could accommodate 750 worshippers. The entire structure covered 27,000 square feet, providing educational facilities for 500 or more. During the dedication, the challenge stated there was more to do from the physical standpoint than ever before in the history of the Columbus Church of Christ—the immediate need being intelligent planning with effective implementation.

The budget was set for \$1,500 per week for 400 members. The elders were J. Roy Johnson, Louis Nabors, Sr., Bill Brumley, Harold Dobbs, and Lloyd Yates. **Helen Garofalo** was the church secretary. Herbert Graham and Bob Hickman were the song leaders. Under the leadership of Brad Brumley, an outstanding teaching program was implemented. In April, the church hosted a teachers' workshop for congregations throughout the mid-south.

In 1971, **Glen McDoniel** began as the preacher for the Columbus church and continued until 1975. **Betty Bishop** became the church secretary in 1971. Harvey Starling held a gospel meeting in October. Attendance increased over 1971 in all services. The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Forum was held on March 31 through April 1, 1972. This project had participants from all church members and reported 1800 registered attendees from 13 states and 144 cities. Support in missions grew through the efforts of Brother McDoniel. Support for Sunnybrook Children's Home began and continued strongly throughout the 1970s. **Dewayne and Cathy Spivey** moved to work with the Columbus church in September 1972.

Preparation for the Youth Forum began early in 1973; however, it was cancelled due to the serious flood in March. Major flooding in the Tombigbee System caused more than \$15 million in damage to Columbus and other urban areas. The church provided shelter and food for many who were homeless and suffered loss.

**Maye Weathers** became the new church secretary. Five additional deacons were appointed in August, bringing the total number to seventeen. In September 1973, the old church property at 5<sup>th</sup> Street was sold. A new church pictorial directory was made, the first since 1968.

**Steve and Julie Smith** came to work with the Columbus church in February 1974, but left in June. He was active in study groups, prayer sessions, and recreation while directing the senior high youth group. The elders met with other churches of Christ at the Lone Oak church building to work among the minority community, including establishing a new church building at 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, near Hunt High School.

For several months, plans were being made to assist in the Waupaca campaign, which became a story of success.

The McDoniel family moved away in July 1975. The elders expressed the highest esteem for the accomplishments of Brother McDoniel. **Brother C. Bruce White** and his family moved into the Canterbury Drive residence and began his work with the Columbus church. **Tom Norvill** came to work as the new Youth Director and Personal Work Director in September. Attendance for morning worship reached 510 in April. Our teaching program continued to draw attention when guests from Chattanooga, Tennessee, came to observe our methods. C. V. Stewart was selected to be an elder in November. Our support of Sunnybrook continued as Herbert Graham headed the Christmas box program.

In 1976, Brother White encouraged members to bring their Bibles to worship service and taught about personal evangelism. Our Ladies Bible Class continued to be very active. Benevolent work continued. The new building addition was completed, adding several new classrooms to the education wing. A business meeting of the membership and congregation was held in February for the purpose of incorporating the Columbus Church of Christ with the Secretary of State, as a non-profit, non-share corporation under the laws of the State of Mississippi. The Waynesboro, Mississippi, mission campaign helped the young people of the church grow closer in love, spirit, and purpose in life. Dr. Willard Collins from David Lipscomb College held our gospel meeting in June.

In 1977, the 12<sup>th</sup> annual Christian Youth Forum was held in March and two gospel meetings—in June held by Guy N. Woods and in October held by Jack Exum. **Sherrill Bennett** and family joined the staff in the area of personal evangelism. The contribution averaged \$3,450 per week. In 1978, the 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays were designated to have a special evangelistic atmosphere with everyone to bring a friend, neighbor, or loved one. As a way to increase our influence in the area, Sunday evening worship services began broadcasting on WCBI. The benevolent center remained active, assisting local needs of food and clothing. A pictorial directory was

prepared. In early December, the contribution was above the \$4,000 mark. New deacons were added in 1978—Dr. Robert Buckley, George Creel, Melvin Easley, Troy Holder, Joe Suazo, and Gene Yates. A goal of 600 in attendance was set for the Sunday morning Bible class and was surpassed, totaling 611 in Bible class and 694 in morning assembly worship. In December 1978, two additional elders were selected—Robert Hickman and Edwin Moore. Unity was the theme for the church. **Hardeman Nichols** became the pulpit minister in June 1979.

The 1980s saw the continued emphasis on worship, benevolence, and missions as the theme. Brother Nichols hired **June Dobbs** as church secretary in 1981. On November 1, 1983, **Max Johnson** became the pulpit minister. He began a monthly newsletter addressed specifically to the “family,” which included a calendar of events and emphasis on Bible School attendance and strengthening as described by Associate Minister, **Gerry Parker**. The decade saw an average worship attendance ranging from 410 to 437, the Visitation program was expanded, the Circles of Concern continued with their work, we hosted Bible Bowl, Family Bible Study, and a Dream program was initiated. The auditorium received a face lift with new carpet and the chapel was repainted.

**Mark McVey** began working with the youth in January, 1987. **Pat O’Shields** was part-time secretary. We had six elders – Bill Brumley, Harold Dobbs, Robert Hickman, Roy Johnson, Edwin Moore, and Lloyd Yates and had 24 deacons. Workers in the mission field updated the church in 1988 and 1989. More than 100 free Bible Correspondence Courses began in Manila, Philippines. Brother McVey moved away in February 1989, and **Mark Hawk** began in May working with the youth.

In 1992, the average Sunday morning worship was 405 and average contribution was \$5,827. Mission work took church members to Curacao, Guyana, Russia, Venezuela, Germany with Let’s Start Talking, and the southwest United States. The Benevolence room was well staffed by Kirby and Carrie Maude Arnold and Willard and Willadean Collins each week, and they helped meet the community families in need. Max Johnson semi-retired in 1992 and **Gary Hundley** began as pulpit minister in June. Special events for



1992 included the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Christian Youth Forum, a marriage enrichment seminar, and annual gospel meeting. In 1993, the church held an Elder Appreciation Day, honoring all past and current elders of the congregation. The Serving and Living Together (S.A.L.T.) committees put many of their plans into action, including the Greeters program, reorganized Circons (Circles of Concern), and VBS.

Homecoming was held in October 1994 with 543 at morning worship. The church grew the number of new servants by installing new deacons. In November 1994, **Jerry Black** began working with the youth and families. Missions work continued to be an emphasis through support of the church work in India, in Texas with Hardeman Nichols, in Curacao with Frank Thornton, in Iowa at the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Church of Christ, and the Let's Start Talking program. Through the work of Mission Mississippi, we helped support congregations and training opportunities for the state. This mission work included Brother Johnny Beckwith in Philadelphia, the church in Aberdeen, Magnolia Bible College, and Brother Paul Swindle in Union. **Vinita Long** served as part-time secretary in the church office with Sister Dobbs.

In 1995, **Denny Calloway** became the pulpit minister. **Patsy Conquest** served as part-time secretary and **Terri Tindall** did finances. In 1998, two new elders, Tom O'Shields and Terry Stubblefield, joined Eddie Cox, Harold Dobbs, Bob Hickman, Max Johnson, Tom Nabors, and J.L.Pate. Fifteen new deacons were added, bringing the total to 32. The men who served as deacons at this time were: Gordon Banks, Dennis Blake, Carl Brown, Brent Chaddick, Les Chaffin, Roger Collins, Gary Conquest, Bill Davis, Louis Dinkins, Charles Dismuke, Frank Golden, Herb Graham, Glenn Griffin, Don Hartman, Aaron Hill, Doyle Kelley, Wally Locke, Mike Mays, Mark Meadows, Dave Monahan, Chris Morrow, Rick Penter, Bonnie Reaves, John Redmond, Barry Sanford, James Stone, Marc Tindall, Don White, Michael White, Roy White, Earl Windle, and V.J. Wood.

The Mother's Day Out Program began in September 1995 by Rhonda Reaves Clark. This program developed into Noah's Ark Daycare in April 1996, and the present-day Columbus Christian School. Glenda Monahan joined the office staff and Edna Cole began

serving as Director in 1997. CCS was incorporated on June 15, 1998, with a Board of Directors made up of Church of Christ members. Lisa Ferguson joined the CCS office staff in August, 2001. Amy Crownover became the Director of Columbus Christian School in 2007, and Judy Smith served as Director from 2009-2015. Joyce Edgeworth worked in the office as a bookkeeper and Beverly Arndt began in June 2015. Sylvia Collins was named Director in August. Columbus Christian School serves the families of almost 160 students.



## A New Century 2000s-Present

The new century began with a new pulpit minister. **Billy Ferguson** and his family joined the Columbus church in April 2001. The church sold the preacher's home on Canterbury and we offered the benefit of a housing allowance to the preacher. **Paul Bennett** and family began working with the youth in 2001 as well. Sister June Dobbs, retired as church secretary after faithfully serving in this capacity for almost 20 years, but continued to volunteer in the office. **Donna King** was the new church secretary until they moved. **Vicki Barksdale** became church secretary in 2004.

Life Groups Ministry was reorganized as a new program in August 2004 with the emphasis of reaching the lost and building up the body of Christ.

In August 2005, Hurricane Katrina hit the Mississippi coast and we had several refugees come to Columbus. Our congregation collected \$19,431.82 in monetary donations and physical need supplies to provide for the immediate needs of people escaping the hurricane damage. We worked diligently with the Orange Grove Church of Christ in Gulfport to assist those directly affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Our children's education was expanded into a program called Champions for Christ. Super Church was created for 3-year-old to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade children and Cross Trainers for 3<sup>rd</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> grade children.



The Columbus Youth Group stays busy with Bible studies and fun activities - any reason to spend time together serving others and advancing the Kingdom of God.



Several programs focusing on serving the church body began. Anna's Army was a group of women who diligently prayed for needs. Common Grounds was created as a fellowship area for morning coffee and donuts. The Welcome Basket ministry was a way to bring new families into the body through a kind gift. To help serve in our community, we started Christians Serving In: Columbus (CSI: Columbus). This program has continued in different CSI forms, all helping to serve "the least of these." This year the group served in New Mexico. Online giving was setup for weekly contributions, memorials, honorariums, and donations.

Our food pantry was expanded into a program called Bread of Life Food Pantry. The first and third Thursday of each month usually brings about 130 families to the building for assistance. We continued the ministries of Primetimers, local benevolence, and Sunnybrook. In 2016, the Primetimers ventured out on a trip to Niagara Falls! Our foreign missions work includes Honduras, Mexico, Rwanda, China, Czech Republic, Ukraine, and India.

In 2016, Columbus Church of Christ has an average Sunday morning worship attendance of 255 members. The congregation is led by four elders—Les Chaffin, Don Cole, David Kilpatrick, and Wade Ward. We employ a preaching minister, youth minister, and church secretary. The 17 deacons each serve specific needs of the congregation:

Brice Allsup	Children's Ministry
Earl Arndt	Foreign Missions
Ralph Carter	Finance
Roger Collins	Building
Lee Glenn	Life Groups
Frank Golden	Audio, Building
Dan Harris	Local Missions
Aaron Hill	Benevolence
Andy Hill	Youth Group
Lynn Johnson	Local Missions
Dave Monahan	Worship Order
Keith Monahan	Widows
Keith Patrick	CCS Liaison

Bobby Polk	Bread of Life pantry
Kevin Price	Widows
Mike Smith	Primetimers
Wally Swedenburg	Transportation

Our vision of Love God, Love Each Other, and Serve the World drives decision-making. We "Love God" by striving to obey his Holy Bible, worshipping him whole-heartedly in spirit and in song, and communicating with him through prayer and studying his Word. We "Love Each Other" in our actions by coming together to worship God, through Family Life Groups, and by serving in our community. We "Serve the World" in our foreign missions, benevolence, Columbus Christian School, and The Bread of Life food pantry.

We believe in the future of the Columbus Church of Christ. Our desire is to increase, first of all in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and, as a result, grow in number as the Lord adds daily those who are being saved. Our intent is to glorify God by serving one another, through Christ our Savior. We are far more than individual entities. We are part of something much greater—the family of God—united by the blood of Christ. Our Jesus has carried the burden of our sins, and brought us back to God. Let us share together in the joys of life, and support one another during the seasons of sorrow. There are no limits to what God can do through us, if we will surrender to his power.