• William Guirey, born in Georgia backwoods in 1773
  – Initially connected with Episcopalians, Methodists, O’Kellyites, and Christian Baptists between 1792 or 1793 and 1810.
  – An immersionist, he joined with Christian Church (O’Kellyites) in 1810.
  – He was reported to have “traveled from Philadelphia to the southern frontier of Georgia, preaching the word.”
  – Not known if he, or his influence ever connected with the Churches of Christ in Georgia.
• James Buys
  – Dekalb County, Georgia – 1828 wrote to Christian Messenger (CM) concerning efforts in that county.
  – Communion Meeting at Bethel Meeting House eleven elders.
  – Stated that 26 “joined the Church of Christ” at this meeting. CM, Dec. 1828, p.43
  – In 1830 reported another camp meeting 7th of Oct. where “twenty professed faith in Christ, and fourteen joined the church.” CM, Jan. 1830, p.46f.
  – Also said in same report that he had traveled to Jackson County, Ga on 21st of Oct to a camp-meeting, “the result was, about fifteen professed faith in him; ten joined the Church, and about the same number were baptized.” CM, Jan. 1830, p.46f.
  – Also reported a meeting in Pike County, “about ten made an open profession of faith in Christ, while Christians were much encouraged” CM, Jan. 1830, p.46f.
• Christian Preachers Who Evangelized Early
  – 1833 - Thacker V. Griffin, Winchester, Tn came to Ga. in winter.
  – William T. Lowe baptized in Old Rose Creek, near the church, by William R. Pendleton, believed to be the first man in North Georgia to be baptized for the remission of sins. (Excluding Dunning and Dasher in South Georgia)
• 1835 – William R. Shehane, of Tenn. Made preaching trips among Ga. Churches in April, 1835
• 1836 – William R. Hooton, Tenn. Evangelist came in the winter of 1836
• The Obituary Of Dr. D.W. Elder (1809-1901) stated that he was one of the first men in Georgia. (Read the Bible thru hundreds of times). He was an elder of the Republican Church.
• Early 1830s. James J. Trott, a Methodist Missionary to the Cherokee Indians, read Campbell’s writings while imprisoned in Georgia for refusal to take an oath of allegiance to the State.
• 1819 – Christian Herman Dasher: Salzburger Lutheran Who Studied His Bible
• Searched For A Person To Immerse Him
• S.C. Dunning, A Baptist Preacher From Savannah contacted
• Immersed Dasher
• Church Began In Effingham County & At Savannah
• 1825 Dashers Move To Lowndes County, Starting a work at Dasher
• 1807- Republican Methodists (O’Kelleyites) from North Carolina moved onto Skull Shoals, Southern Clark, now Oconee County

• 1822 – Reorganization took place, calling themselves, “Bible Christians.”
  – Gave up sprinkling infants
  – Gave up all human creeds

• 1842 – Division took place over the teachings of Alexander Campbell

• 1843 – Full Restoration Under Direction Of Nathan W. Smith, Dr. Daniel Hook, & James Shannon

• 1844 – Reorganization, first Georgia church — called Antioch Church of Christ

• Became Mother Church To Many Churches
• 1842 – Mt. Vernon Church of Christ, Walton County
• 1843 – County Line Church of Christ, Fayette County
• 1845 – Union Church, Oconee County
• 1863 – Bogart Church, Oconee County, formerly Bethany, Jackson County
Earliest Years

• Arthur Dupree
  – Wrote Christian Messenger in Jan. 1830 issue, p. 44ff. concerning the churches in Georgia at that time. The Report:
  – 23 churches or congregations, each with about 25 members.
  – About 575 member in all, 20 Elders & 6 licensed preachers.
  – An annual conference of Elders and Preachers, Deacons, delegates and private or lay members attended. Usually beginning the Friday before the 3rd Sat. in Dec.
    • They held that baptism must be by immersion, after conversion (but later this changed).
    • Mentions an enjoyed Camp Meeting at Skull-Shoals, in Clark County.
1832 – Nathan Williamson Smith

- Moved to Clarke (now Oconee) County from his native North Carolina in 1831.
- Baptized by Arthur Dupree in 1832, and united with the little congregation.
- At first opposed the teachings of the Disciples, but later accepted them.
- Set to the ministry in 1836.
- In Millennial Harbinger, June, 1838, p. 183 he reported, “I am traveling and trying to preach the word of God, the only traveling preacher in the reformation in the whole state of Georgia that I know of, and I have left my family to spend the year in the good cause, and have not the promise of one cent as a reward for my time, from any man or set of men.”
Dr. Daniel Hook (1795-1870)
Born in Maryland, settled in Louisville, Jefferson County, Ga., in 1817.
1828 Hook was introduced to writings of Alexander Campbell: Baptized in Brushy Creek
Attached to Ozzias Baptist Church, licensed to preach.
The “pastor” of the church J.H.T Kilpatrick denounced Hook as a “wolf in sheep’s clothing.”
1832 Hook moved to Augusta.
• Built a home in Richmond Hill, six miles south of town.
• In 1834 or 1835 every member of his family was stricken with scarlet fever – the two youngest children, Emily and America, died.
• 1835 His wife Catherine’s brother, William Schley was elected the 18th governor of Georgia.
• Hook met a Capt. Edward Campfield & wife Margaret, Baptists, who were attracted to the plea of the Disciples.
• When they communed with other Disciples from Savannah they were all three expelled from the Baptists.
• In 1835, Hook & The Campfields met in their homes.  
  – Three people together for worship.  
  – They had praying, reading of Scripture, singing, and observance of the Lord’s supper.  
• In 1836, Mrs. Emily Harvey Tubman (1794-1885) joined the fellowship.  
  – The same year she was widowed by the wealthy Richard Tubman.  
  – She had resided in Augusta since 1819, following her marriage.  
  – She was from Frankfurt, Ky, and had been immersed by Silas M. Noel (Baptist) in 1828.  
  – Never worshipped with Baptists  
  – Soon after her baptism she had met and accepted the teaching of A. Campbell.
More On Dr. Daniel Hook

- 1839 Augusta was hit with a severe epidemic of Yellow Fever
- Dr. Hook stayed in the city helping to cure the disease
  - Hook treated 200 cases and only lost two.
  - Seeing the danger he sat down and wrote his own treatment and gave it to another doctor, as he knew he would soon catch the disease, saving his own life when he contracted the disease.
- In 1840 the citizens of Augusta made him mayor of the city. Served two terms
- Other Claims Of Note
  - Trustee Of The University of Georgia, elected by the State Legislature
  - Member of Board of Trustees for Atlanta Medical College in 1853
- 1845 he left Augusta after a visit from A. Campbell due to public opinion.
• 1850 – Atlanta had 10,000 pop.
• 1851 – Dr. Hook established the first congregation of the Church of Christ in Atlanta
• 1853 – First Building At Corner Of Pryor And Mitchell Streets
• 1854 – Church Moved To An Existing Building On Decatur St. Near Ivy.
• 1855 – Dr. Alvinzi Gano Thomas (1833-1903) became the first paid minister
  – Born In Taversville, Twiggs County
  – Georgia’s First Student To Be Educated At Bethany College
  – Read 10 Languages And Spoke 4
  – 1859 M.D. From Atlanta Med. Col.
  – Confederate Chaplin During War

Dr. Daniel Hook
Dr. A.G. Thomas
• 1845 – Nathan W. Smith and Dr. Hook planted a church in Hampton, Georgia
• William Sadler Fears and his family were among the first to be baptized for the remission of sins.
• Church established there – Berea Christian Church
• “Over my dead body!” — W.S. Fears
• Thomas Marcus Harris (1829-1893)
• Dr. Daniel Hook was his sister’s father-in-law. She had married Hook’s son – Judge James Schley Hook.
• Harris had been preaching for ten years among the Methodists
• Came in contact with writings of Alexander Campbell – Obeyed the gospel
• At age 28 he obeyed the gospel
• Took over 40 Methodists members with him to establish N.T. Christianity in Davisboro
• Among The Blacks
  – Helped Organize Churches
  – Ordained Ministers
  – Donated Land For Black Congregations To Build Buildings
• 1861-1865 Had its affect on the south.
• Many preachers both in north and south became chaplains in the military
• A.G. Thomas was chaplain
  – Fanning’s visit- Dec. 21, 1860 in the home of A.G. Thomas
  – Later wrote: “Dr. A.G. Thomas is a brother of fine address, superior talents and learning, but we saw him with a feather in his hat and a glittering sword in his right hand, and doubted if he would be able to hold the sword of Georgia in one hand and the sword of the Spirit in the other.”
• T.M. Harris reached Major, but was soon honorably dismissed because of an attack of Typhoid Fever. Recalled to lead a group of Wash. Cty. Regiment at the Battle of Atlanta.
The Church was devastated by the effects of the war.

- Many church doors were closed, works given up.
- Homes of Christians were looted and destroyed.
- Nathan W. Smith’s work in Acworth was affected.
  - Sherman’s forces had destroyed the Acworth building using its timber to build shanties at Allatoona
  - Smith wrote letters to the Gospel Advocate requesting relief
    - Building was overtaken and destroyed
    - Lipscomb wrote, “Send bread now, brethren, and afterwards the Bibles and preachers.” GA Jun 13, 1867, p. 476.
  - D. Lipscomb helped to promote relief for the poor Georgia Christians
    - Sent Smith one of his own horses so he could plow.
1849 ACMS Organized In Cincinnati, Ohio
- Dr. Daniel Hook from Georgia with 10\textsuperscript{th} of 20 vice-presidents elected.
- S.J. Pinkerton Of Augusta was with Walter Scott on committee on order of business and nominating committee.
- Most Georgia Preachers And Churches Supported Organization

By 1871 Isaac Errett reported in the Christian Standard that there were 3000 members of the church in Georgia.

1875 – Augusta church was prob. first to add the instrument to the worship. Many followed.
- Not without a fight. One Rome church member said, “I’d rather eat bacon and eggs off the communion table than have an organ in the church.”
- W.S. Fears, Berea “Over my dead body.”

1902 Yearbook, 142 churches, 12,000 members
Some Churches Not Moved By Change

- 1881 - Liberty Hill Congregation, Mableton Area (Now S. Cobb church)
- 1885 - Pleasant Grove, Marietta
- 1895, Halls Valley near Trion, Georgia work
- Perhaps Others
• 1901 – O.D. Bearden family moved to Atlanta, finding no sound church to worship with.
• S.H. Hall had graduated from Nashville Bible School in 1905. Moved his family to Atlanta, Jan. 1907 to work with church.
• 1910 South Pryor Street was Planted (became Moreland Ave. Church)
• 1911 East Point Church w/150 Additions (100 baptisms)
• After 14 years work Hall reported good efforts taking place in “Macon, Rome, Menlo, Rockmart, Pleasant Grove and Liberty Hill
• 1917 – Dalton work planted by W.C. Philips

• 1920 – B.C. Goodpasture followed Hall in the work at West End - Hall to California after 14 years in Atlanta
  – When Goodpasture departed in 1927 he left with over 600 in attendance
  – After a year in Florence, Alabama, he returned to work 7 more years with the newly formed Seminole Ave. Congregation (Druid Hills) Feb. 1928

• 1928 Bainbridge work by S.H. Hall; Summit, GA w/ A.R. Hill
Continual Growth

1927 – H. Clyde Hale followed B.C. Goodpasture at West End Avenue
   - Baptized by S.H. Hall in 1922
   - 26 yrs. old when coming to Atlanta
   - 1929 – New building built on cnr. Gordon and Hopkins St. (name changed to West End)

1929, Feb. 19, Hale conducted the first radio broadcast of the church on radio, WAGA, 12:15pm daily for 10 years

1933 Athens work planted by H. Clyde Hale
Continual Growth

- 1931, Aug. 10th, Hale brought Marshall Keeble in to plant the work among the Black population
  - Tent pitched on Simpson St.
  - As many as 2,500 came, never less than 1000
  - Preached four hours each evening
  - Baptized 166, Beginning the Simpson St. Church.

- Mid 30’s tent meetings held all over Atlanta, incl. Gainesville, Fitzgerald, Cartersville, etc.

- 1942 - Northwest Congregation

- 1944 Hale returned to Nashville area after 16 years in Georgia
  - Having Started Five Churches
  - West End - 800 Attendees

- 1949 - Hapeville Planted
• 1950’s saw the planting of a number of churches
  – 1954 Smyrna planted by the Olive Street church
  – 1950s North Ave., Hapeville
  – 1955 Fayetteville Work Established
  – 1959 Forest Park, Cascade Heights

• 1960s Hillcrest, Riverdale (‘62), Chestnut Drive

• 1970s Jackson, (’72) Lithia Springs, (’74) Peachtree City, (’76) Tara, Jonesboro

• 1976 Statistics, Ralph Henley stated in May GA, p.343
  – 119 of 159 counties in Georgia had congregations
  – 30 Counties churches had all Black members
  – As Of April, 89 churches in Georgia
  – 66 Counties w/30 or less members
• Mac Lynn Reported
Concerning Restoration
Related Churches In
Georgia
  – 1984 – 10,558 Disciples
    of Christ in 77
    Congregations
  – 1987 – 34,024 Christian
    Church (Instrumental) in
    158 Congregations
  – 1987 – 28,700 members
    of Churches of Christ in
    385 Congregations
• Today the numbers
  would be less