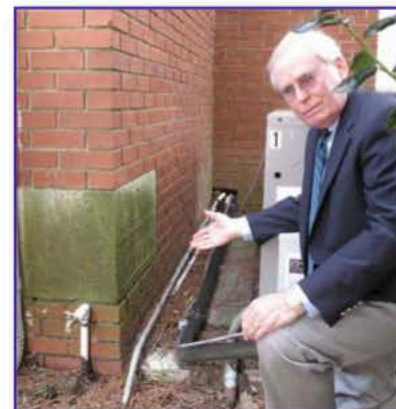


60th Anniversary of the Dedication of Christ Church at 1521 North Patterson Street, Valdosta, Georgia by Dr. Joseph Tomberlin

While reading the Christ Church archival material, Dr. Joseph Tomberlin, member of Christ Church since 1971 and former Professor of History at Valdosta State University, discovered that the cornerstone of our church was laid 60 years ago. The stone is the same one that had been in the former home of the church on Central Avenue. The stone was turned around, carved on the opposite side and used for our building. The service for the occasion is re-typed below. The articles deposited in the stone as a historical record are also listed below. The entire year from Sept. 2008 - Sept. 2009 is our 60th anniversary year. The first service was held in the new building on Feb. 20, 1949. The stone is located at the northwest corner of the property at College Ave. and Patterson St.



Dr. Joseph Tomberlin at
the cornerstone

LAYING OF THE CORNERSTONE CHRIST CHURCH VALDOSTA, GEORGIA September 10, 1948

Cornerstone laid September 10, 1948 at 10 AM., Rev. Clifton White, Vicar- by Mr. Arthur W. Goodin, Treasurer, acting as Bishop's Deputy

Responsive Reading:

1. Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honor and power.
2. For thou has created all things, and for thy pleasure they are, and were created.
3. Blessing, and honour, and glory, and power be unto him that sitteth upon the throne.
4. And unto the lamb for ever and ever.
5. Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them.
6. And they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

V: Let us pray. Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: Christ, have mercy upon us.

V: Lord, have mercy upon us.

All: Our Father. . .etc. (THE LORD'S PRAYER)

V: Praise ye the Lord.

All: The Lord's Name be praised.

V: Beloved, we are assembled to found a house which is to be set apart to the honour and service of Almighty God, in the Name of Christ our Lord. Harken, therefore, and consider what our Saviour Christ saith of Himself: I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.

I am the Vine, ye are the branches: he that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit.

All: I believe. . .etc. (APOSTLES' CREED)

V: The Lord be with you.

All: And with thy spirit.

V: Let us pray. (After this prayer all respond Amen.)

Here shall the Bishop or his Deputy name the articles to be deposited within the stone. The articles then within it, the Bishop or Deputy assisted by the Vestrymen of the Church and the builders shall lay the stone in its place. The Bishop or Deputy shall, striking the stone thrice with a trowel, say:

B: Except the Lord build the house their labour is but lost that build it.

All: Our help is in the Name of the Lord who hath made heaven and earth.

B: Blessed be the Name of the Lord, from this time forth forevermore. I lay the Cornerstone of a building to be named Christ Church and to be devoted to the service of Almighty God in Accordance with the doctrine, discipline, and worship of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America, that here true faith with the fear of God and brotherly love may forever flourish and abound: and that this place may be a House of Prayer for all time to come. Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

V: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

All: Amen.

V: Let thy merciful kindness, O Lord, be upon us.

All: Like as we do put our trust in thee.

V: Let us pray: (Here shall prayers be offered, to each of which as to the Blessing following, all shall respond Amen.)

The Blessing: Unto God's gracious mercy and protection we commit you. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace both now and evermore. Amen.

Articles placed within the stone:

1. A copy of the Holy Bible
2. A copy of the Book of Common Prayer
3. A summary of the history of this Church in four parts:
 - a. From 1885 to 1947
 - b. From 1947 to September 10, 1948
 - c. History of the building campaign
 - d. A historical list of the officials who worked in the building campaign
4. A photograph of the service of groundbreaking held earlier that summer
5. A program of the groundbreaking ceremonies
6. Certain coins which were deposited within the stone in 1885.

During construction of the Church, these services were held in the auditorium of the Georgia State Womans College:

- 8 a.m. Holy Eucharist (Low)
- 9:45 a.m. Church School
- 11 a.m. Choral Service and Sermon