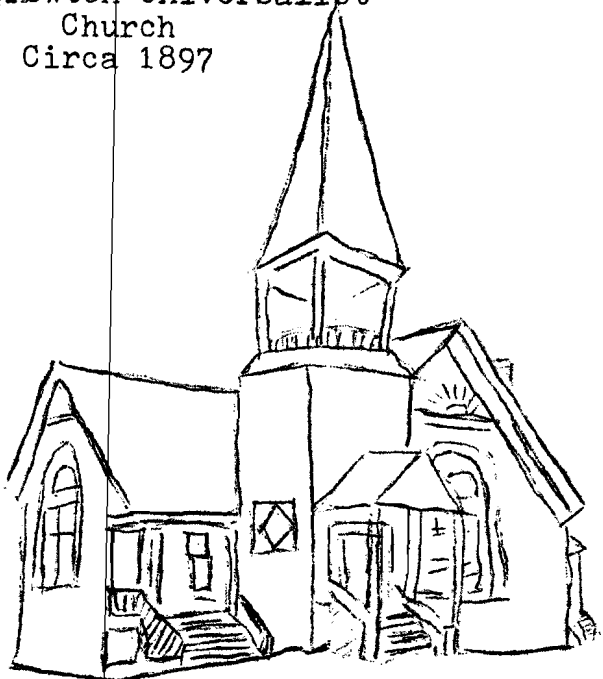


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\*Brewton Universalist  
Church  
\* Circa 1897



ESCAMBIA ECHOES

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P.O. Box 276  
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Editor and Secretary -  
Mrs. Barry L. Emerich

Dues - \$6.00 per year, due  
January 1st.

NOTICE OF MEETING:

November 27, 1979, Tuesday

Change of Time to 7:30 p.m.

Speaker: Ed Leigh McMillan II

Subject: History of the Brewton  
Universalist Church

No stranger to us is the speaker for the November meeting, born and raised in Brewton as was his father the late Thomas E. McMillan for whom our museum is named and his grandfather the late Ed Leigh McMillan. ED LEIGH McMILLAN II was educated in the Brewton school system, attended North Carolina State College where he earned his degree in Forestry and the University of Alabama where he earned his degree in Business Administration. After completing his college education he returned to Brewton and took charge of the Forestry Department of the T.R. Miller Mill Company of which he is now Vice-President Woodlands and Corporate Secretary, and of the woodlands of the D.W. McMillan Trust of which he is now one of the Trustees, of Neal Land & Timber Company of Blountstown, Florida of which he is presently Corporate Secretary. He also has a large farm in operation known as Double "M" Farms on the Kirkland Road, Brewton, formerly known as the Padgett or Moran Farm. Ed Leigh has been active in the Universalist Church all his life, served several terms as Chairman of the Board, and is presently Secretary-Treasurer. His great-grandfather, T.R. Miller, was one of the initial organizers of the church. He is married to the former Mary Ann Self of Brewton, has two sons, Ed III and Dan, and one grandson, Edward IV.

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The 1978 Quarterlies are being indexed by Greg Mantel, the youngest member of this Society and a Senior at W.S. Neal High School. We appreciate Greg volunteering to do this task. Greg first became interested in history through tracing his family ancestry.

MEMORIALS PAID FOR MUSEUM FUND:

BARNES F. PARKER

By: Mrs. E. P. Yeldell

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF MEMORIALS: ALL THE WORLDS'S A STAGE and men and women are merely players, they have their entrances and their exits and each one in his time plays many parts. (Shakespear's "As You Like It") It is important that we remember and memorialize those who have gone on before us leading the way and inspiring us to do better things and leaving the world a better place by their having been here. Everyone, everyone is a part of history and plays a part and should be remembered for what they did. Those before us have provided us with that which we procide for the future. Everyone has his own space in the annals of history. A memorial paid to the museum fund assures that that persons name will be engraved on the Memorial Plaque in the museum for all future generations to see and make note of. It is a much better footprint to leave than a grave-marker in some cemetery where only those that visit that cemetery will see and possibly remember the part in history played by the occupant of the grave.

THE MEMORIAL PLAQUE IS BEING REVISED and will hereafter have the memorials listed under the year in which the contribution was made. Mrs. John David Finlay, Sr. undertook the task of reworking the list. She readily admits that she got so involved in re-reading the newsletters for the past two years that it took her three times as long to complete the task. We appreciate her efforts and her undying enthusiasm for making the museum everything that it can possibly be. She also stresses the need for more memorial funds for the museum's use for other research material, exhibit cases, equipment etc.

THE ESCAMBIA COUNTY HISTORY BOOK COMMITTEE headed by J.W.Caldwell and Mrs. Annie C. Waters is hard at work organizing, planning, and deciding upon what methods should be pursued. If you have any items that need to be included in the book please contact them.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 1980 - 81, Rev. J.W.Caldwell is Chairman of this committee. If you have thoughts or suggestions regarding the slate of officers to serve for the next two years please contact him.

ITEMS CONTRIBUTED FOR THE MUSEUM:

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Brown has contributed a small machine for pitting cherries to be placed in the museum's housewares exhibit.

Mrs. Carolyn L. Emerich has contributed a 69 caliber minnie ball from the Civil War Battle at Kennesaw Mountain, Georgia.

Mrs. John David Finlay has loaned to the museum a German machine gun and a Civil War canteen owned by William J. Jackson, Company E, 15th Regiment of Calvary. He was recruited at Pollard, served there, returned to Pollard and was elected County Treasurer.

Mrs. John David Finlay has contributed a World War I uniform and shoes belonging to her late husband.

Mrs. John David Finlay has loaned for the housewares exhibit an antique butter mold.

If you have anything to give or loan to the museum to enhance the exhibits you are encouraged to talk with John Powell, Museum Curator, 867-4832, Extension 69.

"A ROSTER OF REVOLUTIONARY SOLDIERS AND PATRIOTS IN ALABAMA" published by Alabama Society of Daughters of American Revolution, 1979, price \$25.00 can be ordered from Mrs. David V. Patton, State Regent, 107 N. Houston Street, Athens, Alabama 35611. A copy of this book has been purchased by the Society and is in the museum reference center.

MEMBERSHIP DUES - \$6.00 will be due on January 1st. A membership makes an appropriate Christmas gift. Some of our members bring in their Christmas list year after year for family and friends.

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UNIVERSALISM IN ALABAMA

from

UNIVERSALISM IN AMERICA - Vol. II by  
Richard Eddy D.D., Published 1801-1886

At what time Universalism was first preached in this State we have no means of knowing. So far as we are informed, Rev. W. Atkins was the pioneer preacher, about 1832. In 1834 he organized churches at Mount Olympus and Montgomery, and about this time Rev. Messrs. L.F.W. Andrews and S.J. McMorris also entered the State. Mr. Andrews edited and published a paper. Subsequently Mr. McMorris also started a denominational journal; but of these, and others issued in Alabama, mention will be made in another place. In 1844 Rev. I.D. Williamson visited Mobile, for the benefit of his health. A fine church property was purchased, and a large congregation was gathered. A suit of law followed the purchase of the property, and by defect of title it was lost to the Universalists. In 1858 a State Convention was organized, "composed of 5 delegates from each church and 5 from each county where no church is organized." At the breaking out of the war in 1861, there were six societies or churches, five meeting-houses, and seven preachers in the State.

During the war, and for a few years after its close, Universalism was at a low ebb and its organization badly demoralized in Alabama. It is now reviving. The State convention was organized in 1870. In 1886 there are twelve parishes, eleven churches, nine church edifices, and eight resident preachers in the State. None of the parishes are strong, either numerically or financially, and several of the church edifices are owned in common with other sects.

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DREAMS AND DEEDS

Dear Master, in whose life I see, All that I long and fail to be;  
Let thy clear light for ever shine, to shame and guide this life  
of mine.

Though what I dream and what I do, In my poor days are always two,  
Help me, oppressed by things undone, O thou, whose dreams and  
deeds were one.

--John Hunter