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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### First Baptist Church in Americus, GA, to Receive Award From Georgia Historical Society

**Savannah, GA – October 10, 2008.** W. Todd Groce, Ph.D., president and CEO of the Georgia Historical Society (GHS), will present a Presidential Citation to the congregation of the First Baptist Church in Americus on October 15 at 6:30 p.m.

The citation recognizes the recent publication of *A Journey of Grace: A History of the First Baptist Church of Americus, Georgia*, by Alan Anderson, which sets the history of First Baptist in the broader context of Georgia history and the development of the city of Americus.

“The book commemorates the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of one of Georgia’s most historic churches in one of the state’s most historically significant communities,” according to Dr. Groce. “The Georgia Historical Society is pleased to recognize this outstanding contribution to local and state history.”

“We are delighted that both First Baptist and the book are being honored by the Georgia Historical Society,” says Keith Parks, lead pastor of First Baptist. “State Senator George Hooks was instrumental in making *A Journey of Grace* possible. It was a major achievement and resulted in some wonderfully unexpected discoveries about the church, including the fact that our beautiful pulpit has historical significance.”

First Baptist Church is located at 221 South Lee Street in Americus, Georgia. The program is free and open to the public.

The Georgia Historical Society, headquartered in Savannah, is the oldest cultural institution in the state and one of the oldest historical organizations in the nation. It is the first and only statewide historical society in Georgia. For nearly 175 years, GHS has collected, preserved, and shared Georgia history through a variety of educational outreach programs, publications, and research services. For more information visit:

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