

HISTORY OF CHURCH PROPERTY
Winder Presbyterian Church

January 20, 1896

Professor Samuel Orr, charter member and ruling Elder of the church and principal of the Winder Public Schools, "in consideration of the love he bears for his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and the Church of Winder," donated a "lot" of land, located at the corner of "Church and Redwine Streets" to be used for the congregation's first church building.

November 1899

The moderator appointed the members of the Session, "Elders" S. P. Orr, W. H. Quarterman, J. F. Wilhite, L. C. Russell, J. J. Carr, J. N. Quarterman, and E. Kendrick as a Committee on Building and Soliciting Subscriptions for a church. Under this authority, the Committee named sold the lot given by Professor Orr.

September 21, 1902

Sold lot at "Church and Redwine" for \$350, recorded book F. F. Page 216, Jackson County, Georgia.

November 10, 1902

Purchased a lot of land at the corner of Athens and Beulah Street, Winder, Gwinnett County, Georgia. A church building was built in 1902-1903 on this site at a cost of approximately \$1,500. Rev. W. L. Harrell was pastor during this time.

February 1934

Remodeled and improved the Winder Presbyterian Church at the corner of Athens and Beulah Streets:

- Entirely new ceiling
- French window sashes
- Attractive lights
- Improved heating system
- New pipe organ (gift from Mr. & Mrs. P. M. Wise)
- New pews (gift from Mr. & Mrs. Howard Perry, Sr.)
- Sunday School rooms repainted

June 27, 1939

The purchase of the church's first manse: Trustees Chas. L. Henry and Robert L. Russell purchased a house from O. W. Smith, this being on Beulah Street South and next to the church. The price was \$1,375. The manse was renovated by the Auxiliary and Deacons. The inside was painted and the floors were refinished in a natural color. The kitchen was improved with two new wall cabinets and a metal drain board. The kitchen floor was covered with linoleum and the exterior was painted. Rev. and Mrs. John R. Smith were the first occupants.

September 1940

A new roof was put on the church building. The Women's Auxiliary planned a Bar-B-Q and raised \$75 toward the new roof which cost \$243.

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1942

During 1942 the interior of the church was painted: the ceiling, side walls, wood work, and Sunday School rooms; the whole interior was made to look good again.

Summer 1942

Mrs. Ina Moore made a donation of \$100 in behalf of her late son, Jack Moore, for the purpose of putting new carpet on the church isles.

Summer 1944

Being the recipient of several donations, the church auditorium and Sunday Schoolroom floors were sanded and finished in the natural wood at a cost of \$150. The exterior of the church was given two coats of good paint at a cost of \$156. "The Lord has blessed us richly for which we are very thankful."

August 1, 1948

The church building at Athens and Beulah Streets was remodeled to include a fellowship hall, kitchen, church office, and Sunday School rooms. The entire church roof was rebuilt and a heating system was installed; other repairs were made. Total cost = \$6,244.66. Rev. George Scotchmer was pastor at this time. The Building Committee was C. E. Richmond, Chairman, Thornton Brown, Guy Ouzts, and Jean Withers.

1955

A building fund was started for a new church. \$4,000 was contributed the first year. Rev. William J. Bodiford was pastor.

October 15, 1957

A new manse was purchased on East High Street at a cost of \$11,000. The former manse on Beulah Street was converted to Sunday School rooms; later it was torn down.

August 20, 1959

The lovely house of Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson on Athens Street (adjoining the church property) was given to the church by Mr. and Mrs. Robinson; estimated value \$35,000.

June 15, 1961

A lot 100' x 200' joining and to the rear of the new church manse, facing Porter Street, was acquired for \$2,500.

1965

A lot at the corner of Marion and Candler Streets was purchased from the estate of Mr. Marion Maynard at a price of \$10,000. Plans were started for a new church building (the present location in 1995).

October 15, 1969

Ground was broken to build a new church building on the corner of Candler and Marion Streets. The Building Committee was as follows: Jean Withers, Chairman; Walter Perry, Treasurer; W.C. "Bill" Landress; and Dr. Richard Graves (now deceased). Approximate total cost of the church building and grounds \$198,000.

The last service held in the old church building was on August 2, 1970. With this service, sixty-eight years of worship and work had come to a close at this place. We can remember the marriages, baptisms, funerals, and fellowship we have known here. This building has served as a house for the body of Christ. We moved out with cherished memories and renewed enthusiasm to build our faith and to grow in the Christian life.

The first Sunday morning worship service in our new church on the corner of Candler and Marion Streets was held on August 9, 1970.

The old church property was sold in August, 1970, for \$32,000. A new manse was purchased for \$27,000 on North Avenue, Winder, Georgia.

All material published is subject to edit and revision. Please share with the Centennial Celebration Committee any information you have regarding the history of our church.