

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Winder, Ga.

1998 CHURCH HISTORY

The First Presbyterian Church of Winder, Ga. elected as elders for the Class of 2000, Joe Colosimo and Susan Mullis. The 1998 budget was presented to the congregation. Also, the minister's call was approved by the congregation. Rev. Brock Burnett continued as the pastor.

Communion services were held throughout the year. The Session met once a month and when called.

During the Easter season, Palm Sunday was observed, Maundy Thursday Service was held, Easter Sunrise Service at church as held and Easter Sunday Service was observed.

A special Mother's Day offering was collected and sent to the Presbyterian Homes in Quitman and Austell.

The Presbyterian Women met throughout the year. They enjoyed fellowship, Bible study and friendship. They hosted a baby shower for Katie Wilson (the church's pianist), hosted covered dish luncheons after Sunday Service, hosted a reception after the grand piano dedication, etc. Pat Osley and her husband Gordon guided the group in a church cookbook fundraiser. Members of the church submitted recipes and children of the church provided artwork. Pat Landress drew the cover for the book. With a \$10 donation for each cookbook and a donation by Mrs. Ernest Vandiver in memory of her mother, Mrs. Syble Russell, the church was able to purchase 10 tables and approximately 50 chairs for the Fellowship Hall. The PW group also fixed meals for the homeless shelter in Winder and had a work day to clean the church's kitchen. A night circle was started September.

Saltshakers continued to meet.

Presbyterian Men continued their fellowship, Bible study and discussions twice a month on Saturday at local restaurants.

A pictorial directory was compiled for the church members by Joe Colosimo.

A new secretary was hired, Kathy Woodall.

The First Presbyterian Church offered various Sunday School classes for all ages. A kick-off was held in August. The adult class started meeting downstairs with the first quarter's class being taught by Mitch King on church music. Joe Colosimo and Kipp Mullis continued throughout the year with various subjects. In the Fall, the time for Sunday School changed to 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m. with fellowship time from 10:30 a.m. -11:00 a.m. A Children's Memorization Program was begun.

Revs. Charlie Shedd and Harold Corbin filled in for the pastor while he was on a trip to China.

The Mission Committee continued to lead the church in helping others in our community and elsewhere. Those missions included our pastor's mission trip to China, Joe Colosimo and Kipp Mullis participating in the Presbytery's Mexico Mission (building homes in that country), a trip by Richard Guzman to the Philippines where we support the Children's Medical Center monetarily and prayerfully, collecting money from the congregation at a Mexican Fiesta supper for the Mexico mission effort, donating to the Mexico Mission by the youth and children's Sunday School classes, participating in the Come Alive Ministries in Winder, and participating in the Samaritan's Purse "Operation Christmas Child" shoeboxes for children at Christmastime. A highlight was the Missions Weekend in November, which included a Friday night reception with Rev. Burnett speaking of his experiences in China, a covered dish supper Saturday night with Kipp and Joe speaking of their experiences in Mexico and other members of the Missions committee explaining other missions and how we help and we can continue to help. Mr. and Mrs. Cody Watson of the Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship were speakers during Sunday School and Church Service. As always there were numerous other ways our church continued to share their faith and resources.

A successful Stewardship Campaign was held during the Fall.

A church picnic was held at the home of Bill and Pat Landress in August.

The youth and children enjoyed some fun activities which included a night of bowling, a night making their own pizzas, Christmas tree decorating, etc.

Families enjoyed an outing to Six Flags. Some enjoyed a trip to Unicoi State Park to view the colorful leaves of Fall, others joined together during Christmas for a trip to Lanier Islands for the "Magical Night of Lights".

The church building got a much needed roof.

We made a \$300 donation to the Gideon Society.

Dr. Karen Bernard continued to lead our church and choir in wonderful music. A grand piano was donated and dedicated with a special musical performance by our choir. Throughout the year special music was presented. The choir performed for the community along with other choirs to benefit the Barrow County Food Pantry.

Jack McKinley Wilson, son of Darian and Katie Wilson, was baptized.

Advent was a time of rejoicing. The Presbyterian Women provided flowers for the sanctuary. Some went caroling. Special music at Sunday services were provided by the choir. We kept the tradition of the Angel tree, Chrismon tree and the lighting of the Advent Wreath. A Christmas Eve service was observed.

We are reaching toward 1999 with renewed faith and excitement for what the Lord has for us as individuals and as a church.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Anne Gaw