

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINDER, GEORGIA

2004 CHURCH HISTORY

Staff:

Rev. R. Brock Burnett - Pastor

Bradley Peppers - Minister of Music Ministries(hired mid-year)

Kathy Woodall - Secretary

Cathy Ashley - Nursery Attendant and Church Janitor

Kelly Babin - Part-time Youth Worker(hired mid-year)

Andy Marzak - Part-time Youth Worker(hired mid-year)

Rodney Broach - Treasurer

Mary Anne Gaw - Presbyterian Women Director

The office hours were 9:00 a.m. -12:00 noon M-F; which expanded to include 1 :00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. M-F by the end of the year.

A church website was maintained and the directory updated. A Church Family Picture Board was maintained in the narthex.

Sunday worship hour was 11 :00 a.m. except during the summer months the worship hour was held at 10:00 a.m.

A Congregational Meeting was held on 2/1/04 for the presentation of the 2004 Budget and vote on the pastor's terms of call.

The Session Members of Jan. 1 included elders Bob Gaw, Rick Mechtly, Glenn Thompson, Diane Lemaster, Rodney Broach and Angela King. A Congregational Meeting was held to elect Mary Gilmer and Alan Toliver as elders to replace Mrs. Lemaster and Mr. Mechtly.

The Session met once a month and as needed.

Presbytery meetings and workshops were attended.

Rev. Burnett represented the Northeast Georgia Presbytery at the Synod meeting held in Florida.

Rev. Stan Sizemore filled in for Rev. Burnett during vacation times.

Our Daily Bread devotionals were available to the congregation.

Live flowers were placed in the sanctuary each Sunday during worship hour in memory or in honor of loved ones or To The Glory of God.

Compact Discs of the worship hour were made available. Also the "Soundmate" listening devices were available for the hearing impaired.

A six week Bible Study by Rev. Burnett was held on Wednesday evenings. The study was Rick Warren's "The Purpose Driven Life".

World Communion Day was observed and communion was held periodically throughout the year.

A "Reading through the Bible in a Year" schedule was listed on the back of each Sunday worship bulletin.

Camp Meeting/Hymn Sing was held during a Sunday worship time in the summer, followed by lunch.

New Members:

Dr. Koffi Tsogbe 12/26/04
Rachel Tsogbe 12/26/04
Linda Tsogbe 12/26/04
Deborah Tsogbe 12/26/04

Baptisms:

Francisco Junior Tsogbe - infant 12/26/04
Parents - Koffi and Rachel Tsogbe

Births:

Madelyn Grey Huff 7/10/04
Parents - Greg and Sally Huff

Deaths:

Lois Hall 5/21/04
Gordon Osley 10/5/10
Gladys Hanes Hogan 8/12/04
Fred Churchill 11/2/04

Wedding:

Carol Cole and Mike Drew 3/14/04

Graduates:

High School - Travis Cole
Rachel Deal

Alex King
Kate Russell
Rachel Shaw

College - Ellie King

Our Sunday School program continued with adult and children's classes. Sunday School teachers meetings were held. One of the Adult SS class topic was "Basic Teachings of Christianity"

The First Presbyterian Church participated in the following missions by either funds, items needed, time, or prayer:

Mother's Day Offering - for the Presbyterian Homes

One Great Hour of Sharing - combat hunger worldwide

Local Food Pantry - Congregation participated in "Sou per Bowl"(contest between members to bring needed items in for the food pantry), staffed the food pantry in July, brought in needed items throughout the year.

African Palm Crosses - available to help families in Tanzania, Africa

Come Alive Ministries - participate and support Celebrate Life Banquet, offering, items needed collected.

Mexico Mission - Five members went to Mexico to help build houses:Rick Mechtly, Brandon Burnett, Stephen Emerson, Alex King and Velda King, change in cans for mission, Mexican Fiesta Lunch Fundraiser, offering Georgia Presbyterian Cursillio

Dr. Koffie Tsogbe - a member who works with UN in war-torn areas of Africa

Bradley Peppers was hired as Director of Music Ministries mid-year. The choir expanded and the program took off with special music, special piano solos and concerts by Bradley, etc. Handbell choir performed periodically. The choir joined with the Harmony Grove Methodist choir for special music at each church during Christmas. The choir traveled to Eastside Baptist Church to take part in special music there.

Building and Grounds:

Thanks to a specified donation the sanctuary was refurbished by painting the back wall, new stairs, new carpet, new sound system, and pews cleaned. Also we were able to put new carpet in the fellowship hall and clean the sofa and rugs in the narthex. Bob Gaw and Duke Bruce served as team leaders with members Betty Ann Russell, Susan Reynolds, Raymond Reynolds and Weston Reigel. This was finished in June.

Lawn mowing schedule placed on bulletin board.

Sunday School rooms downstairs were painted.

Fellowship opportunities:

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Fall Leaf trip to Unicoi beginning with a breakfast at the church, saltshakers at the home of Susan and Raymond Reynolds, trip to Park Seed Co. in Greenwood, SC, covered dish luncheons which included Thanksgiving Feast, Mexican Fiesta, spotlight on church cookbook, chili cook-off and fish fry.

Men's Fellowship group met for breakfast at the church and a cookout at Lake Russell.

Presbyterian Women continued to meet each month Sept. -May. Day and Night circles met. The group hosted a bridal/recipe shower for Danielle and Garth Magness at the home of Betty Ann Russell. The PW hosted a baby shower for Sally Huff. The PW continued their Bible studies, fellowship and missions.

A Wednesday Ladies Bible Study was held each Wednesday at the church at 10:00 a.m. from Sept. - May. One of the topics was the Apostles.

The Presbyterian Youth Fellowship continued to meet throughout the year with the Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church-Statham and Jefferson Church. This included regular meetings of fellowship and Bible study, cookout at the Parrish Farm, trip to Lake Russell, trip to Dahlonega to pan for gold, movies, water day, bowling, etc. Their mission projects included shopping for items for the shoeboxes for Samaritan's Purse, participating in 30 Hr. Famine project for World Vision Hunger Program, caroling at Magnolia Estates, participated in Winder's Summer's End 5K Run/Walk for Habitat for Humanity, assembled cans for change for Mexico Mission, hosted a send-off to those in group traveling to Mexico to build houses. Kelly Babin and Andy Marzak, University of Georgia students, were hired part-time to assist in the PYF program. Ken Sanividge, co-director for the Presbytery's Mexico Mission, came to share about the program.

Special Church Seasons:

The Easter Season was observed with an Easter Egg Hunt for the children, Maundy Thursday Service, Easter Sunrise Service at the home of Betty Ann Russell, Easter cantata presented by the choir, and crosses and Easter lilies were placed in the sanctuary. The lilies were placed in honor of or in memory of loved ones or To the Glory of God.

Christmas season starts with our church becoming the local relay center for the shoeboxes collected for the Samaritan's Purse Operational Christmas Child mission. Our church also assembles shoeboxes for the needy children. The church was decorated with our traditional Christmas Tree and live poinsettias. Families lit the Advent wreath each Sunday, members brought gifts for the Angel Tree (for the local Peace Place-battered women's shelter), a Christmas store provided for residents of

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Mulberry Grove to "buy" free gifts for loved ones, Hanging of the Greens Service, Adult Cantata program presented, a children's special presented, special music by the director of music and a Christmas Eve service was held.

This history is only an overview of the church's activities during 2004. The history was compiled from the Sunday Worship bulletins

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Anne Gaw