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FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WINDER, GEORGIA

2005 CHURCH HISTORY

Staff:

Rev. R. Brock Burnett - Pastor
Bradley Peppers - Director of Music Ministries
Kathy Woodall - Secretary
Cathy Ashley - Nursery Attendant and Church Janitor
Kelly Babin - Part-time Youth Worker
Andy Marzak - Part-time Youth Worker

Rodney Broach - Treasurer
Mary Anne Gaw - Presbyterian Women Director

The office hours were 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon M-F and 1 :00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
M-Th

The church website was maintained, directory and family picture board updated.

The Session members as of Jan. 1st were elders Bob Gaw, Glenn Thompson, Rodney Broach, Angela King, Mary Gilmer and Alan Toliver.

A Congregational Meeting was held mid-year to elect Rick Mechtly and Vance Hunter to replace Angela King and Mary Gilmer.

A Congregational Meeting was held on Jan. 16 to present the 2005 budget and to vote on the pastor's terms of call.

The Session met monthly and as needed.

Presbytery meetings and workshops were attended.

The 110th Anniversary was observed in October with a catered meal.

During the summer months the worship service was moved to 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Stan Sizemore and Rev. Alex Williams filled in for Rev. Burnett during his vacation.

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

Live flowers were placed in the sanctuary each Sunday during worship

service in memory or in honor of loved ones or To The Glory of God.

Our Daily Bread devotionals were available to the congregation.

The church continued their care and prayers for all concerns and for those homebound and in assisted living homes.

New Members:

Mike Schrage - 2/13/05

Cathy Schrage - 2/13/05

Ashley Schrage - 2/13/05 by Profession of Faith

Baptisms:

Greg Huff - 2/6/05

Madelyn Grey Huff - 2/6/05 infant

Dawn Moore - 3/20/05

Ashley Thompson - 2/13/05

Deaths:

Carolyn Russell Nelson - 5/1/05

Dub McDougal - 12/17/05

Duke Bruce - Memorial Service 5/16/05

Graduates:

High School - Will Broach

Harley Ashley

Brandon Cole

Nathan Cole

College - Kelly Babin

Andy Marzak

A CPR! First Aid Class was held at the church.

The church hosted a seminar on gangs in the area. The Barrow Co. Foster Parents Organization and Winder Police Dept. teamed to present the information.

The First Presbyterian Church participated in the following missions by funds, collecting items, time and prayer.

Come Alive Ministries - recycled newspapers, support the Celebrate Life

Banquet, collect needed items, offering

Gideon International - Offering

Mother's Day Offering - For Presbyterian Homes

One Great Hour of Sharing - Offering to alleviate hunger in the world

- Presbyterian Disaster Fund - funds and items for victims of Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes
- Sardis Presbyterian Church - contributed to assistance with refugees from Katrina
- Thornwell Home in SC - Offering
- Habitat for Humanity - recycled cans, funds
- Chemotherapy Treatments for children - recycled pop tabs
- Georgia Presbyterian Cursillio
- Dr. Koffi Tsogbe - member who works with UN in war-torn areas of Africa
- Pentocost Fund(for at risk children) - Offering
- Mexico Missions - (NE Ga. Presbytery involvement in building houses in Mexico), sent Bob Gaw and Matt Gaw to Mexico, raised funds with fundraiser Mexican Fiesta lunch, offerings, sent Rick Mechtly to meet with the presbytery in Mexico.
- Local Food Pantry - "Sou per Bowl" contest among congregation to bring needed items, offering, staff pantry in July
- The Tree House
- Homeless Shelter
- Meals on Wheels
- Farmer's Market at church to share homegrown vegetables

Our Sunday School Program continued with Adult and Children's classes. Sunday School Appreciation Banquet and Cook out held. One of Adult SS class topics was "Spiritual Disciplines with the Church".

The music department thrived under the direction of Bradley Peppers. The choir grew, leading the congregation in songs on Sunday. Their were special musical presentations and concerts. Bradley and Garth Magness presented a special "Winterscape".

Fellowship Opportunities: .

Covered dish luncheons(potluck, Mexican Fiesta, Thanksgiving Feast), a leaf trip to Unicoi in the fall, a trip to see the Atlanta Braves play, golf tournament, valentine party at the church, etc.

Presbyterian Women met each month from Sept. - May at 10 a.m. A night circle met from time to time. The group continued their Bible studies, prayer, missions, and fellowship. The study for the year was Beth Moore's " A Heart Like His, A Study of David". The PW began a campaign to collect items for educational packets for Rivers of the World, created a church cook book "Presbyterian Delights" named by Dawn Moore winning a naming contest. The PW continued supporting all missions and projects of the church

A Wednesday Ladies Bible Study was held on Wednesday mornings.

studying the Book of Acts. A craft morning on the first Wednesday of each month was started.

A Men's Breakfast Fellowship was held periodically on Saturday mornings. The Building and Grounds were maintained. A lawn mowing schedule was placed on the bulletin board. Church Workdays were held. The parking lot was resurfaced.

The Presbyterian Youth Fellowship continued throughout the year with the Pleasant Hill Presbyterian Church-Statham and Jefferson Church. Mary Anne Gaw continued as leader along with the assistance of Rusty Giles from Pleasant Hill. Kelly Babin and Andy Marzak, students from the University of Georgia, were hired temporarily as part-time youth workers. PYF held meetings of fellowship, Bible Study and meals on Sunday nights. Other activities and mission work included participation in the 30Hr. Famine program of World Vision (raising money to combat world hunger and food for local food pantry), stuffed educational packets for Rivers of the World, change in cans for Mexico Missions, water day at church, trip to Central Presbyterian Church in Athens for a contemporary Christian music concert, an occasional movie at church or theater, trip to a corn maze in the fall, a send-off at the Mellow Mushroom for Bob Gaw and Matt Gaw who went to Mexico to build houses (plus members from the other churches), trick-or-treat for the local food pantry, and a Christmas party at the church.

Special Church Seasons:

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

Christmas started with the church serving as the local relay center for Samaritan Purse Operation Christmas Child program. The sanctuary was decorated with the traditional Christmas tree, live poinsettias and wreaths. Families lit the Advent wreath each Sunday. Members brought gifts for the Angel Tree (for Come Alive Families). A Christmas store for the Mulberry Grove residents was provided to "buy" gifts for loved ones. The Adult Choir presented their annual Christmas cantata and the children had a special program. Christmas Eve Service was held and since Christmas was on Sunday, the worship service included celebration, carols and communion.

This history was compiled from the Sunday Worship bulletins and is only an overview of the activities of the church in 2005.

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Respectively submitted:
Mary Anne Gaw