

HISTORY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SYLVANIA, GEORGIA

A vision of a Presbyterian Church in Sylvania was conceived in the mind of Rev. H. L. Sneed in the early 1940's. This vision was caught by the Macon-Augusta Presbytery's Executive Secretary in the early 1950's. A number of visits were made to the field by members of the Presbytery, when the field was surveyed and locations for a Presbyterian Church were discussed. But not until the fall of 1956 was any real fruit of these efforts realized.

At this time some fifteen persons, wishing a Presbyterian Church organized in Sylvania, petitioned the Fall meeting of Presbytery to organize a church. Mr. Sandford Hershey acting as leader of the group, wrote to Rev. H. L. Sneed asking that he come to Sylvania to be their minister and to guide them in this effort.

Mr. Sneed came during November and December and worked for several weeks. He agreed to return later, in the event the Spring meeting of Presbytery ruled to organize the church. Mr. Sneed and Mr. Hershey attended the Spring Presbytery at which time Presbytery appointed a Commission to meet in Sylvania March 10, 1957 to organize the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania.

The group, up to this time, had met at the Recreation Center where they held regular Sunday School at 10 A. M. and a Devotional service at 11 o'clock.

Feeling that a more suitable place was necessary, the group, after some searching, followed the suggestion of Mr. Sneed and contacted the Masons about using the first floor of their building as a temporary home. This proved to be a happy solution to the problem. It was here that services were then held.

The group was faced with securing some equipment. Mr. Cary White made a table for the Kindergarten, Mrs. J. B. Sanders supplied toys; the women made curtains to partition corners for classes. Some 18 adult chairs and 18 chairs for children were bought. Mr. Counts was asked to select a second-hand piano, and purchase same. Mr. Hinson learned that the First Presbyterian Church of Savannah was willing to donate some ten nice pews. A Communion set was bought. The Hinsons gave two offering plates. Other necessary tables were loaned or made and the building was furnished and ready for use.

On the date of March 10, 1957 the Commission from the Macon-Augusta Presbytery organized the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania, Georgia.

The outline of the Organization Services follows:

Rev. J. Boyce Nelson, Presiding
Doxology
Invocation--Lord's Prayer--Rev. Leroy Secrest
Hymn - 270: Faith of Our Fathers
Scripture Lesson - Matthew 16:13-19 -- Mr. Henry North
Prayer - Mr. F. S. Bryan
Presentation of Charter Members--Mr. Sandford Hershey
Covenant of the People
Pronouncement of Declaration
Prayer for the new church--Mr. David McNeil
Hymn 194: The Church's One Foundation
Election of Elders and Deacons
Report of the Nominations Committee
Nominations from the floor
Warrant and Nature of the office of Elder and Deacon--
Rev. Daniel Churton
Ordination Vows - read in unison - Elders and Deacons
Congregational Vows - read in unison - by Congregation
Ordination Prayer - Rev. Robert Earnest
Pronouncement and Declaration---of Ordination
Charge to Elders and Deacons - Gen. R. P. Hueper
Charge to Congregation - Dr. Charles H. Gibboney
Benediction - Rev. H. L. Sneed

The officers elected, ordained and installed were four
Elders: Mr. Sandford Hershey, Mr. Albert Hinson, Mr. Cary
White and Mr. G. D. Counts, Jr. Reverend Henry L. Sneed
was named Stated Supply.

The Charter members of the newly organized church were:
Mr. and Mrs. Sandford Hershey, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hinson,
Albert Hinson, Jr., Laurie Hinson, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Counts,
Jr., Agatha and Rebecca Counts, Mr. and Mrs. Cary White,
Mrs. Henry L. Sneed, Mr. Jim Conner, Mr. and Mrs. Walker
Beard, Kathryn Louise Mobley, Mrs. Harvey Hogan, and Mrs.
Brigham Sanders. A total of nineteen members.

The officers and teachers of the Sunday School were:
Albert C. Hinson-----Supt.
Cary C. White-----Assistant Supt.
G. D. Counts, Jr.-----Sec.-Treas.
Sandford Hershey-----Adult Bible Teacher
Mrs. G. D. Counts-----Young People
Mrs. Cary White-----Junior Dept.
Mrs. Sanders, Hershey, Hogan, Sneed--Children's Dept.
Becky Counts-----Pianist

The Women of the Church organized and held their first regular monthly meeting in April, 1957. The officers elected were:

President	Mrs. Harvey Hogan
Vice President	Mrs. Albert Hinson
Secretary	Mrs. H. L. Sneed
Treasurer	Mrs. Sandford Hershey
Spiritual Life and Historian	Mrs. B. Sanders
World Missions	Mrs. C. C. White
Church Extension	Mrs. Claude Mobley
Christian Education	Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Annuities and Relief	Mrs. Walker Beard
Stewardship	Mrs. Sandford Hershey
General Fund	Miss Louise Chevous

The Youth Fellowship officers were:

President	Kathryn L. Mobley
Vice Pres. and Program Chairman	Becky Counts
Treasurer	Laurie Hinson

FINANCES

The newly organized church had no stated budger for the year 1957. The Treasurer's report on February 1 showed:

Cash on hand	\$ 259.46
Special offerings	270.00
Total	<u>529.46</u>
Expenditures	<u>111.64</u>

Balance	\$ 417.82
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March 24 the Treasurer's report showed:

Balance on hand	\$ 417.82
Home Mission check	100.00
Offering	<u>292.41</u>

Total	810.23
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Expenditures:

Minister's rent, utilities and car	\$ 72.25
Song Books	55.80
Piano payment	24.90
Farmers' Hdw. (pipes)	<u>23.81</u>

Total	176.42	<u>176.42</u>
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Balance on hand March 24 \$ 663.81

Outstanding bills for chairs, fuel and plumber, etc. not received.

In June the Treasurer's report showed a Building Fund set up.

Presbytery's checks to go to Fund \$ 500.00
Total Current Expenses \$121.15
Balance of \$97.52 left in Gen. Treasury

Treasurer's report in August showed:

Building Fund		\$ 740.00
Current Expense Fund	288.90	
Received	<u>140.46</u>	
Total	399.36	
Expenditures	<u>176.00</u>	
Balance		\$ 223.36

In November, 1958, the Every Member Canvass was made preparatory for setting up a budget for 1958.

The following is a summary report for the year, January 1, 1957 through December 31, 1957:

Total operation expense for church	\$ 1519.94
" " " " Sunday School	186.11
Youth Work	<u>15.50</u>
Total Expenses	1721.55
Total to Benevolence Causes	<u>167.69</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ 1889.24

The average giving per capita \$99.43
The Building Fund at this time \$1189.00

The Church was organized with 19 charter members. One added by letter, one dismissed, one non-resident, one infant baptism, making a total of 18 members at this time.

Church Programs

The Church has carried the Assembly planned program in simplest form.

10 A.M. Regular Sunday School for each age group
11 A.M. Worship services each Sunday
7 P.M. Fellowship suppers on 4th. Sunday
8 P.M. W.O.C. meeting in homes on 2nd. Monday

In the Church:

The regular quarterly Communion was observed
The Presbytery's Benevolent appointments accepted
The Every Member participation in Survey subscriptions

The Every Member Canvass made
The Special monthly emphasis on various courses noted
Sent representatives to Presbytery

In the Sunday School:

Stressed Bible study
Used the regular graded and International Lessons
Observed Easter with egg hunt and picnic
Sponsored Vacation Bible School
Observed Rally Day with offering to Christian Education
Gave Thanksgiving program and special offering on
Thornwell Orphanage

In Youth Group:

Attended Youth Conference
Participated in devotional at Fellowship services
Played or sang in choir
Canvassed for Survey subscriptions

In Women of the Church:

Used the Bible Study on Christian Citizenship
Each lesson was presented by a different leader
A tentative budget was set up-- \$100.00, to be financed
by free will offerings and individual pledges:

Literature (1957 and 1958)	\$ 18.47
Other Supplies and Misc.	5 5.50
Sil Silver for Church	9.00
Contingent Fund	3.60
General Benevolences	25.00
Women's Birthday Offering	10.00
Total	<u>71.57</u>

Offerings and Pledges \$99.17 less 71.57; Balance \$27.60
\$25.00 was given to the local Church for the Building
Fund, leaving a balance of \$2.60.

Ordered and used Year Books and Officers' and Secretary's Handbooks

Used devotional Day by Day, Presbyterian Survey, and
Presbyterian Women for study and guidance in programs

Held Birthday Party at the Church and invited general
public; took offering

Attended District Conference

Engaged in following projects:

Literature carried to Prison camp
Articles of clothing sent to migrant workers in Fla.
Love Gift offering was taken each month to provide
Get Well and Sympathy cards
Friendly visitation to new comers and strangers
Sponsored the Joy Gift program for a night service
at the Church
Christmas box sent for children at Thornwell

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
1958

Reverend Henry Lee Sneed, Minister

President: Mrs. Albert Hinson
Vice President: Mrs. Cary C. White
Secretary: Mrs. Henry L. Sneed
Treasurer: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
Historian: Mrs. Brigham Sanders
World Missions: Mrs. C. C. White
Church Extension: Mrs. Claude Mobley
Christian Education: Mrs. G. D. Counts Jr.
Annuities-Relief: Mrs. Walker Beard
Stewardship: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
General Fund Agencies: Miss Louise Chevous

I Only one regular meeting was held each month. This was in the home of the members. The President presided. The regular business was transacted. The Bible study was led by a different member each time. A social hour was enjoyed and refreshments were served by the hostess. Average attendance was seven(7).

The roll at the end of the year follows:

(1) Beard, Mrs. Tommie, (2) Counts, Mrs. G. D. Jr., (3) Hinson, Mrs. Albert, (4) Hershey, Mrs. Sanford, (5) Morgan, Miss Arrie, (6) Sanders, Mrs. Brigham, (7) Sneed, Mrs. H. L. There were two associate members, Mrs. Dougal Campbell, and Mrs. Kathryn Hanley. During the year we lost three members, by families leaving town: (1) White, Mrs. C. C., (2) Reddick, Mrs. J. W. and (3) Hogan, Mrs. Harvey. Two Associate members, (1) Mobley, Mrs. C., and (2) Chevous, Miss Louise asked that they be dropped from the roll since they were not able to attend.

II Thornwell Orphanage was remembered with special Christmas package at Christmas. The Joy Gift offering was sponsored and program presented used for Ministerial Relief.

III The first week in June the Vacation Bible School was held. The women provided helpers and refreshments for the children for the five days. They also provided room and board for the A. T. S. student provided to assist by the Macon-Augusta Presbytery. There were three high school girls who attended P Y F Conference.

IV The General Fund Agencies received percentage of General Benevolence in our budget.

V Spiritual Growth was promoted by Bible Study in the Circle, and Sunday School class. The Day by Day was used as a guide for a prayer band. Each member had a copy. The Presbyterian Survey was taken by each family in the Church.

VI Stewardship was promoted, the tithe was stressed, and all funds were secured from pledges and free will offerings.

VII The World Mission books were ordered and passed for reading. Clothes were collected and sent for Overseas Relief. Also 8¢ per lb. was sent for processing. White Cross quota was met.

VIII Christian Social service: We visited strangers and carried literature to the County Work Camp. We sent cards to hospitals and the sick.

IX The outstanding event of the year was Open House held on October 26, when the first unit of the Church plant was opened for use. The Women of the Church served dinner after the 11 o'clock worship service. They then remained for Open House from 2:00 to 5:00 o'clock when many friends came and enjoyed coffee and cake. Rev. R. D. Ernest came for the occasion and remained for night services each night during the week.

X The Treasurer's report showed the following budget was met:

General Benevolence	\$ 25.00
Contingent Fund	3.36
Synodical T. S. assesment	1.25
Literature	8.10
Miscellaneous (Flowers, postage, refreshments)	16.68
Birthday Offering	10.70
Shrubbery for Church grounds	20.00
Joy Gift	12.00
Total	\$ 97.09

Mrs. Brigham Sanders

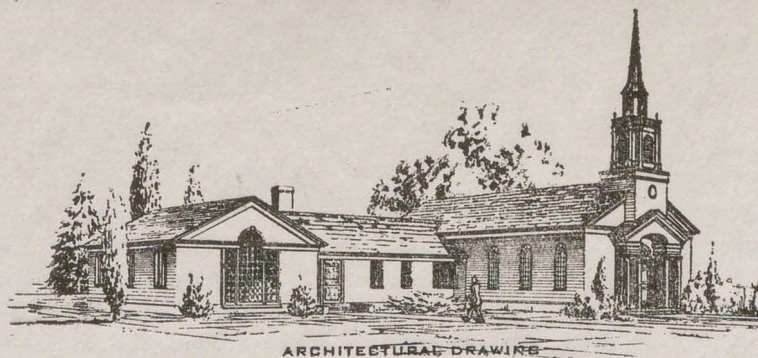
Historian: Mrs. Brigham Sanders

Mrs. H. L. Sneed.

Secretary: Mrs. H. L. Sneed

April 14, 1959

REV. H. L. SNEED,
PASTOR
PHONE LO 4-9316



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA

*File this - Received by Mrs. Roland Hitchcock,
Historian, Women of the Church, Augusta -
Maine Presbytery, on November 26, 1958.*

Reverend H. L. Sneed, Minister
First Presb. Church, Sylvania, Ga.
August 1958.

General Officers

President: Mrs. G. L. Smith
Vice President: Mrs. E. L. Sneed
Secretary: Mrs. Sanford Sweeney
Historian: Mrs. E. L. Sneed

Board of Elders

Spiritual Growth: Mrs. Gladys Bailey
Word Ministry: Mrs. Margaret Sweeney
Church Extension: Mrs. William Sweeney
Christian Education: Mrs. E. L. Sneed
Social Service: Mrs. Sanford Sweeney
Stewardship: Mrs. Gladys Bailey
Parish Life: Mrs. E. L. Sneed
Music: Mrs. E. L. Sneed

AUGUSTA-MACON PRESBYTERY

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SYLVANIA, GEORGIA

1959

Reverend Henry Lee Sneed, Minister
Frank Sapp, Seminary student assisting with
summer work.

General Officers

President: Mrs. G. D. Counts
Vice President: Mrs. H. L. Sneed
Secretary: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
Historian: Mrs. H. L. Sneed

Committee Chairmen

Spiritual Growth: Mrs. Jimmy Hanley
World Missions: Mrs. Brigham Sanders
Church Extension: Mrs. Walker Beard
Christian Education: Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Annuities-Relief: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
Stewardship: Miss Arrie Morgan
General Fund Agencies: Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Homes: Mrs. H. L. Sneed

- I Only one regular meeting was held each month. This was in the home of the members. The President presided. The regular business was transacted. The Bible study was led by a different member each time. A social hour was enjoyed and refreshments were served by the hostess. Average attendance was five(5).

The roll at the end of the year follows:

(1) Beard, Mrs. Walker, (2) Counts, Mrs. G. D. Jr., (3) Hershey , Mrs. Sanford, (4) Hinson, Mrs. A. C., (5) Morgan, Miss Arrie, (6) Sanders, Mrs. Brigham, (7) Sneed, Mrs. H. L., (8) McSwain, Mrs. Dan, (9) Youmans, Mrs. Gus. There were two associate members, Mrs. Dougal Campbell, and Mrs. Jimmy Hanley. During the year we lost three members, by families leaving town: (1) Breedlove, Mrs. (2) Duff, Mrs., (3) Sneed, Mrs. H.L. (Dec.)

- II Thornwell Orphanage was remembered with special Christmas package at Christmas. The Joy Gift offering was sponsored and program presented used for Ministerial Relief.

- III The first week in June the Vacation Bible School was held. The women provided helpers and refreshments for the children for the five days. They also provided room and board for the A. T. S. student provided to assist by the Macon-Augusta Presbytery. There was one high school girl and one grammar school girl who attended P Y F Conference. President attended Synodical Tr. Sch.

- IV The General Fund Agencies received percentage of General Benevolence in our budget. President attended

- V Spiritual Growth was promoted by Bible Study in the Circle and Sunday School class. The Day by Day was used as a guide for a prayer band. Each member had a copy. The Presbyterian Survey was taken by each family in the Church.

- VI Stewardship was promoted, the tithe was stressed, and all funds were secured from pledges and free will offerings.

- VII Clothes were collected twice during the year and sent for Overseas Relief. Also 8¢ per lb. was sent for processing. White Cross quota was met. (Money to pay for material was given by children attending Bible School). (13.00)

- VIII Christian Social Service: We visited strangers and carried literature to the County Work Camp. We sent cards to hospitals, the sick, and we sent birthday cards to residents of The Presbyterian Home in Quitman.

X The Treasurer's report showed the following budget was met:

General Benevolence	\$ 25.00
Synodical T. S. assessment	1.50
Presbyterian assessment	2.80
Literature	6.70
Miscellaneous(Flowers, postage, cleaning, refreshments)	11.75
Birthday Offering	13.20
Shrubbery for Church grounds	20.00
Joy Gift	14.31

Total

\$ 95.26

President: Mrs. G. D. COUNTS

Mrs. G. D. Counts

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Historian(1960): Mrs. A. C. Hinson Millhaven, Ga

March 14, 1960

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
1960

James Wiest, Seminary student
Joe D. Bishop, Seminary student

General Officers

President: Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Vice President: Mrs. Dan McSwain
Secretary: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
Historian: Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Committee Chairmen

Spiritual Growth: Mrs. Jimmy Hanley
World Missions: Mrs. Brigham Sanders
Church Extension: Mrs. Walker Beard
Christian Education: Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Annuities-Relief: Mrs. Sanford Hershey
Stewardship: Miss Arrie Morgan
General Fund Agencies: Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Homes: Mrs. Walker Beard

One Executive Board meeting was held during the year. This was on January 10 at the church and plans for the year were made. Mrs. Counts, the President, presided and opened the meeting with prayer. The most important matters discussed were the lessons to be studied during the year, time of Circle meetings, the financial budget, and the decision to ask Mrs. Dan McSwain to fill the vacancy of Vice-President.

Six regular Circle meetings were held during the nine month year. These were held in the homes of the members and presided over by the President. The regular business was transacted, followed by the Bible Study which was moderated by a different member each month. Refreshments were served by the hostess each time and average attendance was five. The roll at the end of the year was: (1) Beard, Mrs. Walker, (2) Bishop, Mrs. Joe D., (3) Counts, Mrs. G. D., (4) Hinson, Mrs. A. C., (5) Holmes, Mrs. Paul, (6) Sanders, Mrs. Brigham, (7) Youmans, Mrs. Gus, (8) White, Mrs. Carey. We lost four members and two associate members during the year, by families leaving town: (1) Hershey, Mrs. Sanford, (2) Morgan, Miss Arrie, (3) McSwain, Mrs. Dan, (4) Swalm, Mrs. Ralph; (1) Campbell, Mrs. Dougal, (2) Mrs. Jimmy Hanley. We gained three new members: (1) Bishop, Mrs. Joe D., (2) Holmes, Mrs. Paul, and (3) White, Mrs. Carey.

The Birthday of the Women of the Church was observed in April at the church and an offering of \$8.50 was given.

Vacation Bible School was held the first week of August. The Women provided teachers and helpers for the five days, and paid for part of the cost of refreshments.

Birthday cards were sent to some of the guests of the Presbyterian Home in Quitman.

The General Fund Agencies received a percentage of General Benevolences in our budget.

Spiritual Growth was promoted by Bible Study in the Circle meetings and Sunday School classes. Each member was given the Day by Day to be used as a guide for Family Alters. Each family in the Church subscribed to Presbyterian Survey, and several members of the Women of the Church subscribed to Presbyterian Women.

Stewardship in our church was promoted and the tithe was stressed. All funds were secured from pledges and free will offerings.

World Missions received a percentage of General Benevolences in our budget, through a special offering. In addition, clothes were collected and sent for Overseas Relief; 8¢ a pound was sent for processing. The White Cross quota was met.

Newcomers to our County were visited and invited to our services at Church and our Circle meetings. Cards and flowers were sent to the sick and visits made to the hospital.

Lovely Communion Cloths were given to the Church by the Women Of The Church.

We did not have a regular Minister during 1960 but were served by two Seminary students, Mr. James Wiest and Mr. Joe D. Bishop, and several visitors. As Mr. Wiest drove down for the day only, Sunday dinners were provided by the Women of the Church. Mr. Bishop's family moved to Sylvania and every effort was made by the WOC to assist them in settling in their new home. Flowers for the Sunday Services were furnished by the Women of the Church. Weekly Presbyterian news was put in the two newspapers by one of our members. One of the most important things done by our Women was having a piano repaired for use in the Primary Department of the Sunday School. The piano was secured for us by Mr. James Wiest and part payment for repairs was made by WOC.

The Treasurer's report showed the following budget was met:

General Benevolences	\$ 25.00
World Missions	6.50
Synodical T. S. Assessment	1.50
Presbyterial Assessment	3.24
Literature	6.32
Miscellaneous (Cards, Postage, V.B.S refreshments, etc.)	7.35
Communion Cloths	16.88
Birthday Offering	8.50
Repairs on piano	63.46

Total	\$138.75
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President: Mrs. G. D. Counts

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Historian(1960): Mrs. A. C. Hinson

January 23, 1961

701290
Women of the Church
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia
Auguata - Macon Presbytery
Synod of Georgia
1961 (Including Oct. - Dec., 1960)
Student Pastors - Joe Bishop, Wayne Hoffmann,
Bob Johnston and Bill Johnston

General Officers 1960 and 1961

President: Mrs. C. C. White
Vice-Pres: Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Secretary: Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Treasurer: Mrs. T. W. Beard, Mrs. H.L. Sneed
Historian: Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Committee Chairmen

Spiritual Growth: Mrs. Joe Bishop, Mrs. H. L. Sneed
World Missions: Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Church Extension: Mrs. T. W. Beard, Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Annuities & Relief: Mrs. Brigham, Sanders, Mrs. Paul Holmes
Stewardship: Miss Arrie Morgan, Mrs. Wayne Hoffmann
General Fund Agencies: Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Homes: Mrs. C. C. White

During the months of October, November and December, 1960, there were three meetings held - one each month - in the homes of the members. The meetings were presided over by the President, Mrs. C. C. White, and the regular business of the Women of the Church was transacted. The Bible Study followed, being led by a different member each time. A social hour was enjoyed and refreshments served. An average of five members was present. Besides the regular monthly meetings, in December, the Women of the Church helped with the annual Christmas program and party, and furnished the refreshments.

The roll at the end of 1960 was as follows: Mrs. T. W. Beard, Mrs. Joe Bishop, Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr., Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Mrs. Paul Holmes, Mrs. Brigham Sanders, Mrs. C. C. White, Mrs. Gus Youmans.

Each member of the Women of the Church brought a gift to the December meeting for Thornwell Orphanage. Clothes were collected and mailed for Overseas Relief.

In 1961, there were only six meetings of the Women of the Church held, with an average of five members present. Three of these meetings were held in the homes and then it was decided to meet at the Church on the first Sunday afternoon of each month so that our student pastor's wife, Mrs. Wayne Hoffmann, could meet with us. The Session of the Church planned to meet at this time also, to make it more convenient for everyone as so many of our members live several miles from the Church.

As in the past, the regular business of the Women of the Church was transacted at these meetings, and the President presided. Refreshments were discontinued after the meetings were being held in the Church. The roll at the end of 1961 was as follows: Mrs. Ralph Brannen, Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr., Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Mrs. Wayne Hoffmann, Mrs. Paul Holmes, Mrs. Brigham Sanders, Mrs. Joe Sasser, Mrs. H. L. Sneed, Mrs. C. C. White and Mrs. Gus Youmans.

Thornwell Orphanage was again remembered with a special Christmas Package. The Joy Gift program was presented at a special night service, and an offering of \$17.52 was taken and sent for Ministerial Relief.

Vacation Bible School was held in July and the Women of the Church provided refreshments and helped in various ways.

Although we had no birthday party in 1961, a special offering was sent for the Birthday Objective. The General Fund Agencies received a percentage of General Benevolences in our budget.

Spiritual Growth was promoted by Bible Study in the Circle meeting and Sunday School Class. The Day by Day was used by most of the members and Thy Will, My Will was made available to the younger members of our church.

101280
The Presbyterian Survey was subscribed to by every family in the Church.

Stewardship was promoted, the tithe was stressed, and all funds were secured from pledges and free will offerings.

Mrs. C. C. White sent letters several times during the year with interesting news of our church to absent members and interested friends. Cards were sent to the sick - members and friends not affiliated with our church.

The Treasurer's report showed the following budget was met from October 1, 1960 through December 31, 1961:

General Benevolences	\$ 25.00
Synodical T. S. Assessment	1.50
P Presbyterian Assessment	3.45
Liter Literature	4.85
Miscellaneous	7.81
Birthday Offering	18.00
Joy Gift	17.52
Piano Repairs	94.22
	\$172.35

Una M. Henson, Historian
(ms. a. c.)

5/31/62

108315
Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Historian
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia

General Officers January - October, 1964

President	Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Vice-President	Mrs. G. D. Counts
Secretary	Mrs. C. C. White
Treasurer	Mrs. H. L. Sneed

General Officers and Chairmen October - Jan., 1964

President	Mrs. G. D. Counts
Vice-President	Mrs. J. C. Sasser
Secretary	Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Treasurer	Mrs. H. L. Sneed

Personal Faith and Family Life	Mrs. H. L. Sneed
Christian Community Action	Mrs. E. U. McRae
Ecumenical Mission and Relations	Mrs. J. C. Sasser
Leadership and Resources	Mrs. G. D. Counts

Supply Pastors

Mr. D. Swicord
Mr. Ned Iverson

Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Historian
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia

108315

The Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania, Georgia met four times in 1964. Although small in number, and unable to have regular meetings, several things were accomplished.

The Vacation Bible school was sponsored by the Women of the Church. They also helped to furnish an apartment for one of the Supply Pastors, Rev. D. A. Swicord and Mrs. Swicord. A birthday offering of \$10.00 was given, a Home Mission offering of \$10.00 was given, and \$10.00 was paid on refrigerator for the Church kitchen.

A sign showing an open Bible with a verse of Scripture was made to be used in front of the Church every Christmas. This was designed and paid for by the Women of the Church, and was thought by everyone to be very effective.

At the meetings, everyone took part in the Bible Study, and the Day by Day was used by the members. Also, Thy Will, My Will was made available to the younger members of the Church.

For several months Mr. Ned Iverson served as Supply Pastor, coming down on Sundays from Augusta. The Women of the Church arranged for dinner for him every Sunday.

Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Historian
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia

On February 19, 1967, ten years after the organization of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania, Georgia, the beautiful new sanctuary was dedicated. One month later the Rev. Oliver N. Hamby moved to Sylvania to serve the Church as Pastor. Moving with him were his wife and son, Stanley, who is a college student at Alabama College in Montevallo, Alabama. Mr. and Mrs. Hamby also have a married daughter, Mrs. Sam A Johnson III and a granddaughter, Cynthia Diane in Alabama.

During the year the Church had an increase of fourteen members and a substantial increase in the budget, which was met.

The Women of the Church was reorganized October 2, 1967 after two and a half years of inactivity. Three meetings were held in 1967 with an average attendance of six members. The following officers and chairmen were elected:

Women's Council

President	Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby
Vice-President	Mrs. V. R. Morgan
Secretary	Mrs. Don Watt
Treasurer	Mrs. George Boyd
Historian	Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Program Chairmen

Personal Faith and Family Life	Mrs. G. D. Counts
Christian Community Action	Mrs. Barbara Bilderback
Ecumenical Mission and Relations	Mrs. E. U. McRae
Leadership and Resources	Mrs. H. L. Sneed

Although not active in May, an offering of \$18.23 was taken up at the Vacation Bible School in June and was sent in to be used in the Birthday Objective of the W O C.

In December, the Joy Gift Program was carried out in conjunction with a Christmas party and an offering of \$30.63 was contributed to Ministerial Relief.

There were seventeen members, six of whom were non-residents. Mrs. E. U. McRae, the Ecumenical Mission and Relations Chairmen, died after a short illness, on December 20 and was buried in Valdosta, Georgia on December 22. Mrs. McRae's granddaughter, Mrs. T. M. O'Barr, was asked to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. McRae. Mrs. J. C. Sasser was asked to serve as Vice-President as Mrs. Morgan moved away.

The W O C and the First Presbyterian Church expect to grow and look forward to a fruitful year of service for Our Lord in 1968.

118142

Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Historian
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia

The Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania had a very interesting and rewarding year in 1968. There were ten meetings held with an average attendance of five(5). Two of these were supper meetings. In October, 1968 the following officers and chairmen took office:

Women's Council

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Historian

Mrs. J. C. Sasser
Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Mrs. A. C. Hinson
Mrs. George Boyd
Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Program Chairmen:

Personal Faith and Family Life
Christian Community Action
Ecumenical Mission and Relations
Leadership and Resources

Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby
Mrs. H. L. Sneed
Mrs. T. M. O'Barr
Mrs. G. D. Counts

In addition to paying all expenses, the W O C gave \$31.47 to the Church treasurer to be used on General Benevolences and \$31.47 to be used on the Building Fund debt. The Joy Gift program, sponsored by the W O C, was put on during the Sunday School hour and an offering of \$55.54 was sent to Ministerial Relief.

\$10.00 was sent to Marks Surgical Co. to take care of the White Cross quota. The Mission Study books were read by the members during the Mission Season.

In May, a birthday party was held and all of the Church was invited to see the film strip and enjoy refreshments. An offering of \$29.35 was given for the birthday objective.

In the fall, World-wide Bible reading lists were given to all of the members to be used during the Mission Season of 1969.

Some of the other activities of the W O C were the following:

The collection of clothes for needy members of the Church.

Seeing that the church buildings were cleaned regularly and supplies furnished for bathrooms and kitchen.

Clothing sent to Thornwell.

Christmas presents sent to Thornwell instead of exchanging gifts.

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Christmas cards sent to church members who are in the Armed Services.

Boxes of groceries and presents given to families who were in need at Christmas.

A new addition in one of the Sunday school rooms was painted.

118142
From the Memorial Fund of a former member, Mrs. E. U. McRae, a baptismal font was put in the Church, tile was laid in the Kitchen and a table was made for the Fellowship room.

Through the efforts of one of the members, Mrs. H. L. Sneed, a Communion pew was placed in the Church to complete the furniture given in memory of Rev. H. L. Sneed.

Flowers were placed in the Church every Sunday.

The W O C did not grow in numbers, even though new members were brought in, due to the fact that other members moved away. However, more projects were carried out and it is hoped that they will continue to grow in numbers and activity.

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

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Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Historian
First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia
Rev. O. N. Hamby, Pastor

HISTORY OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
JANUARY 1, 1969 - December 31, 1969

The Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania have one(1) Circle of fifteen(15) members. There were nine(9) meetings in 1969 in addition to the Birthday party in May. Five members attended the District Group Conference in October in Augusta.

The following officers and chairmen took office in October:

Women's Council

President

Mrs. J. C. Sasser

Vice President

Mrs. G. D. Counts

Secretary

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Treasurer

Mrs. George Boyd

Historian

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

Chairmen

Personal Faith and Family Life

Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby

Christian Community Action

Mrs. V. R. Morgan

Ecumenical Mission and Relations

Mrs. T. M. O'Barr

Leadership and Resources

Mrs. H. L. Sneed

The total of current expenses was \$22.00 and total gifts to Benevolences was \$90.00. In addition to this \$75.00 (the balance in the treasury October 1) was given to the church treasurer to be used on carpeting in the Sanctuary.

At each circle meeting the Chairman on Personal Faith and Family Life told us about the Emphasis for the month from Presbyterian Women. She also ordered and distributed Prayer guides, personal bible reading booklets and mission study books to all circle members.

One of the most rewarding and interesting activities of the W O C was the visits to the local Nursing Home. Recreation for the aged and sick was conducted by W O C members and visits to patients not able to participate were made. Also rewarding was the interest in and the work done by some of the circle members with the Wee Care Center - an organization for the mentally retarded.

Some of the responsibilities of the W O C which were carried out were furnishing flowers for church services, seeing that the church and Sunday school buildings were cleaned regularly and supplies kept in the bathrooms and kitchen. Through the efforts of the members, tile was laid in the bathrooms. In the nursery, a cradle roll chart was prepared, sheets for the baby crib were furnished and laundered. New felt was put in collection plates in the church and new collection baskets were bought for the Sunday school. Last, but not least, clothing was collected and distributed to needy families and some was sent to Thornwell Orphanage.

Toward the end of the year, several families joined the Church, giving the W O C three (3) new members. This has been a great inspiration and help to the entire church and we have faith that this growth will continue in 1970.

Mrs. A. C. Hinson

HISTORY WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
PRESBYTERY AUGUSTA-MACON
CHURCH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
JANUARY 1, 1970-DECEMBER 31, 1970

122868

The Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania have twenty-two⁽²²⁾ resident members. We have one⁽¹⁾ circle. We had eight regular meetings, two supper meetings with the Men of the Church, and our Birthday Party in May with all the members of the church invited. This made a total of eleven⁽¹¹⁾ meetings, with an average attendance of 7.5 members.

The following took office in October,

WOMEN'S COUNCIL

President--Mrs. G.D. Counts

Vice-President--Mrs. H.L. Sneed

Secretary--Mrs. A.C. Hinson

Treasurer -- Mrs. Robert N. Bourne

Historian-- Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby

CHAIRMEN

Personal Faith and Family Life--Mrs. Chester D. Flanders

Christian Community Action -- Mrs. George Boyd (Taking Mrs. V.R. Morgan's place)

Ecumenical Missions and Relations--Mrs. Thomas O'Barr

Leadership and Resources --Mrs. Joe Sasser

Our total current expenses were \$136.69. Our total to benevolences were \$133.71.

We met our White Cross quota, Our Birthday offering was \$22.50, and our Joy Gift offering was \$77.63. We gave \$25.00 to the local church treasurer for benevolences.

The monthly emphasis was given each month from the Presbyterian Women by the Personal Faith and Family Life chairman. The Bible study was given from the workbook at each meeting. In January Mission study books for all age groups were ordered. These were passed around and read.

We participated in the Pre-Easter services with other Denominations in town. Had a part in the community Thanksgiving service, which meets in a different church each year. Took part in the area wide Crusade for Christ at the local High School.

We gave food, clothing, and toys for boxes for low-income families at Christmas. We answered the request from a local Negro church for help with their Christmas boxes for needy families by giving them a large box of food and clothing. Some of us go to the dental clinic for low-income school children one day a month. Most of these children are Negro. Mrs. O.N. Hamby (the Minister's wife) collected her own clothes closet and cleaned, repaired and altered the clothes for several needy families in the winter and spring. We visited the local nursing home four times during the year, contributing funds for recreation for the patients. We also visited patients unable to attend.

Mrs. Joe Sasser keeps a day kindergarten during the school year in the educational building of the church. The Bible is taught at sometime during the session each day.

✓ Mrs. Chester D. Flanders taught a Bible class one day a week at the Wee-Care Center for retarded children during the winter and spring.

Some of the things we are responsible for are flowers in the sanctuary each Sunday, overseeing the cleaning of the sanctuary and educational building, keeping supplies in the kitchen and bathrooms, helping the young people clean the lawns, prune shrubbery, and replant some. Mrs. A.C. Hinson has charge of seeing that there is someone in the nursery each Sunday morning (we take turns), furnish refreshments for the Youth Fellowship meetings on Sunday nights.

We bought a blackboard for a Sunday School class, saw the beautiful new red carpet laid in the sanctuary (we contributed to that last year), the educational building was air conditioned, (by the Sunday School and Church)

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
JANUARY 1, 1970-December 31, 1970

2

had a planter planted to use in the sanctuary when no flowers were available, and furnished a maid for the nursery during the revival services in July.

The Sylvania church will be fourteen (14) years old on March 10, 1971. The following item from the Augusta-Macon Stewardship's Facts and Figures showed that Sylvania First from 1960-1969 (with only 4 years with a pastor) had grown from 25 members to 63 members, and from \$46 to \$837 to benevolences. An increase of 1700% - by far the greatest increase of any church in the presbytery.

The present pastor is Rev. Oliver N. Hamby, who has been here since March 1967.

We hope to grow in faith and spirituality as we enter this new year of 1971 under the leadership of our new president Mrs. G.D. Counts, (the daughter of Rev. Henry L. Sneed founder of the church).

Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby, Historian
January 18, 1971

122868

HISTORY WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
PRESBYTERY AUGUSTA MACON
CHURCH FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
JAN UARY 1,1971-DECEMBER 1,1971

127081

The Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania have twenty-one (21) resident members. We have one circle. We had ten (10) regular meetings. Our Birthday party in May included the entire membership of the church, and the Joy Gift Program and Christmas party included the entire membership. Our average attendance at our regular meetings was 5.5 %.

We lost two members by death; Mrs. Emory Sutton Boyd on March 10, 1971, and Mrs. Gussie Boyd on August 5, 1971.

The following took office in October,
Women's council

President—Mrs. G.D. Counts, Jr.

Vice-President—Mrs. A.C. Hinson

Treasurer—Mrs. Robert N. Bourne

Secretary—Mrs. James E. Boyd

Historian—Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby

Chairmen

Personal Faith and Family Life —Mrs. Chester D. Flanders

Leadership and Resources —Mrs. J.C. Sasser

Ecumenical Missions and Relations—Mrs. A.C. Hinson

Christian Community Action —Mrs. George Boyd

Our total expenses were \$159.67. Our total circle offering was \$94.63. Birthday offering \$27.17, Joy Gift Offering \$45.28. We have \$17.50 in a separate fund for tile.

The Bible study in the workbook was used as our guide in the Circle Bible study. The Presbyterian Women was used for the monthly emphasis at some of the meetings. We ordered manuals for the officers and chairmen and had one training session. Bible guides were ordered by the chairman of Personal Faith and Family Life for use during the week of prayer for unity.

We had three ladies to attend the group conference in Augusta at Covenant Church.

We participated in the Pre-Easter and Easter Sunrise Services with other denominations in the community. The sunrise service was at our church this year. Some of the ladies served coffee and doughnuts afterwards. We took part in the community Thanksgiving service.

At Christmas the people brought gifts for two needy families instead of exchanging gifts. Small gifts for the youngest were furnished by the church. An old Fashioned Hymn sing was part of our Joy Gift program.

One member Mrs. J.C. Sasser runs a weekday kindergarten during the school year. This is not limited to Presbyterians.

One member Mrs. Chester D. Flanders has a week-day Bible class for Juniors during the school year. (This is also not limited to Presbyterians) The Members with the help of friends erected a brick and marble bulletin board on the church lawn.

We gave our surplus Sunday School literature to a local Negro church.

Our biggest project was the presentation of a Honorary Life Membership Pin to Mrs. Henry Lee Sneed, Sr. Wife of a former pastor. (Story and Picture on another page).

We had our regular Bible School in August for all ages.

We had our revival in May and most of the Ladies took part in the pre-service prayer services. They also helped in the nursery and with meals for the visiting Minister.

In February a seated tea was given by the Women of the Church in the home of Mrs. Robert N. Bourne for Mrs. Stanley Hamby a recent bride of the Pastor's son.

We are responsible for keeping the church and educational building clean and for the altar flowers each Sunday. The young people help with the keeping of the grounds.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SYLVANIA, GEORGIA
WOMEN OF THE CHURCH
JANUARY 1, 1971-DECEMBER 1, 1971

Our progress has not been as great as we would have liked, but we feel we have grown in Faith and love. Our goals for the coming year are the organization of a circle for the younger women of the congregation (we have a nice group to work with), and the installation of tile in the nursery.

Mrs. Speed was born in 1894 in a small town in the State of Georgia. She served as Secretary of the First Presbyterian Church of Sylvania, Georgia, for many years. During the following years she has served as Treasurer, and has been active in the Church, including and serving on the Board of Christian Education. She has faithfully served the needs of the church, and expects to continue to do so in the future.

Mrs. Speed was the wife of the late Rev. Harry Lee Speed, Sr., Minister and first pastor of the church who is now deceased March 10, 1954. She is the mother of five children: Mrs. G. B. Smith, Jr., who is the president of the Sylvania Women of the Church, Mrs. Stanley Smith, Mrs. Lillian (L.C.) Brown, Mr. Harry L. Smith, Jr., and Mr. William B. Speed.

Until the first of January 1971, Mrs. Speed lived in Sylvania most of the time. She is now residing at the Brookhaven Home in Marietta, Ga.

As the Sylvania Presbyterian Women of the Church take pride and pleasure in presenting to Mrs. Speed this honorary life membership pin and certificate in recognition of her many years of faithful service.

The above was read by the pastor, Rev. Oliver A. Smith when he presented the pin to Mrs. G. B. Smith, Jr., who placed it on her mother, Mrs. Harry Lee Speed, Sr.

The presentation was planned for Mother's Day (May 8, 1971) but could not be held at that time; it was presented July 18, 1971 during the morning worship service.

Mrs. Oliver H. Smith
February 17, 1972



MRS. HENRY LEE SNEED, SR.

MRS. HENRY LEE SNEED, SR. was a charter member of the Sylvania Presbyterian Women of the Church when it was first organized in April, 1957. She served as Secretary of the first organization. During the following years she has served as Treasurer, Vice-president, Spiritual Growth Chairman, Leadership and Resources Chairman, Christian Community Action Chairman and Historian. She has faithfully fulfilled the duties of these offices, and helped the organization in every way she could.

Mrs. Sneed was the wife of the late Rev. Henry Lee Sneed, Sr., Promoter and first pastor of the church when it was organized March 10, 1957. She is the mother of five children: Mrs. G.D. Counts, Jr., who is the president of the Sylvania Women of the Church now, Mrs. Stanley Booth, Mrs. Lillian (L.O.) Brown, Mr. Henry L. Sneed, Jr. and Mr. William O. Sneed.

Until the first of January 1971, Mrs. Sneed lived in Sylvania most of the time. She is now residing at the Presbyterian Home in Summerville, S.C..

We the Sylvania Presbyterian Women of the Church, take pride and pleasure in presenting to Mrs. Sneed this Honorary Life Membership Pin and certificate in recognition of her many years of faithful service.

The above was read by the Pastor Rev. Oliver N. Hamby when he presented the pin to Mrs. G.D. Counts, Jr. who pinned it on her mother, Mrs. Henry Lee Sneed, Sr.

The presentation was planned for Mother's Day (since Mrs. Sneed could not be here at that time) it was presented July 18, 1971 during the morning worship service.

*Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby
February 17, 1972*

Macon-Augusta Presbytery
Women of The First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia
1972

There were seventeen members of The Women of the Church in 1972. The officers were as follows: President-Mrs. A. C. Hinson, Vice-President-Mrs. Robert N. Bourne, Treasurer-Mrs. Robert N. Bourne, Secretary-Mrs. James E. Boyd, Historian-Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr., Personal Life and Family Life Chairman-Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby, Leadership and Resources-Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr., Ecumenical Missions and Relations-Mrs. Thomas M. O'Barr, Christian Community Action-Mrs. Chester Flanders.

Mrs. Gussie Mock Waters, faithful member of The Women of the Church since she joined the church on September 7, 1969, died on February 17, 1972. The Gussie Memorial Fund provided funds for the purchase of hymnbooks for the Sunday School in her memory.

The Women of the Church was a vital part of the program of the Sylvania Presbyterian Church in 1972. They were active in preparation for and attendance at the Crusade of Revival and Evangelism, April 30 through May 4. A Family Night supper to welcome the visiting evangelist, the Reverend Joe C. Gardner of Paducah, Kentucky, was enjoyed on Saturday, April 29.

The Women of the Church assumed responsibility for having the entire church cleaned and for placing flowers in the sanctuary each Sunday. Beautiful arrangements with significant religious meaning were enjoyed by the congregation on special occasions. On the following page there is a photograph of the arrangement done by Mrs. Chester Flanders for the Joy Gift Program. The Joy Gift offering of \$55.00 was sent to the Presbytery for Ministerial Relief. The Birthday of the Women of the Church was observed on May 18 with 22 persons present and an offering of \$30.30 was given for the 1972 Birthday Objective-"Ministry to American, Indian, Afro, Spanish, and Anglo." Mrs. H. L. Sneed, now a resident at Presbyterian Home in Summerville, S. C., was present for the Birthday Program. She recalled that she attended in another state the W.O.C. Birthday Program when it was begun in 1922.

The Women of the Church accepted a White Cross quota for hospital supplies in the Republic of Zaire in Africa. The materials for bed sheets and baby sacques and the postage for mailing amounted to \$14.94.

*Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Historian*

First Presbyterian Church
Sylvania, Georgia
Women of the Church
1972

Tile for the floor in the children's large assembly room in the educational building was bought and installed by the Women of the Church at a cost of \$85.07.

Benevolent giving in addition to that already listed included \$20.00 for Georgia Lodge at Montreat, \$20.00 for Villa International in Atlanta, and \$10.00 for the Presbyterian Home at Quitman, Georgia.

The Women of the Church make provision for a nursery during the morning worship hour. Members of the Women of the Church served as director and as teachers for the Vacation Bible School, July 31- August 4. Mrs. Harold Waters and Mr. Waters provided refreshments at the Vacation Bible School each day.

The membership of the W.O.C. gave of themselves in time and money to promote the total church program and to prepare themselves for more effective service. The Bible Study in the workbook was used at each monthly meeting. The chairman of Personal Life and Family Life gave the devotional at the monthly meetings. Mrs. Oliver N. Hamby was local chairman of Personal and Family Life and was also Presbyterial Chairman of Personal Faith and Family Life. One or more members attended each of the following meetings: Augusta-Macon Presbyterial in March, the Presbyterial meeting in April, Synodical Training School in June, Presbyterial Conference in October and the Joy of Learning Workshop in November.

It is the prayer of all the members that through Bible study and working together, we will be more effective witnesses to the saving power of Jesus Christ, our Saviour and our Lord.



*Mrs. G. D. Counts, Jr.
Historian*

Arrangement for the Joy Gift Program

*Arrangement on altar
table - by Mrs.
Marjorie A. Flinders*