

ADEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, ADEL, GEORGIA

The Presbyterian Church at Adel was organized in 1890, the following persons constituting the membership; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Hall, Mrs. Hall's sister and her husband, Mr. and Mrs. Bob Wilby, and Mrs. and Mrs. F. H. Hall. Dr. Edward Mack was the first minister. Mr. F. H. Hall was the outstanding member. He was a deacon and bore the greater part of the expenses for many years.

When the church was burned in - Mr. F. H. Hall, with the assistance of a few others, rebuilt it. His home was known as "the minister's home". After his death, Mrs. Hall held the Sunday School together for a number of years, often acting as superintendent and teaching the Bible class. When she moved away, her mantle fell on her sister, Miss Margaret Peabody, who took up the work.

For many years the church was grouped with Tifton for pastoral supply. The Valdosta church has also assisted in maintaining regular services. Major J. O. Varnedoe, elder of the Valdosta church, often conducted services there, and for a number of years, Rev. L. R. Scott, of the Valdosta church, has conducted a monthly service on the third Sunday afternoon.

For 40 years (1895-1935) Mr. F. D. Hicks, who had moved from North Carolina, served as ruling elder with great fidelity. Before his death, Mr. Dan. McPhaul had been elected elder, and he carries on faithfully in this office.

Never a large group, the Adel church has displayed a staunch loyalty to its spiritual heritage, and through the years has held up the torch of gospel preaching and teaching, contributing to the religious life of the community in no small way.

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(copy of the sketch as filed in Savannah Presbyterian collection- this church transferred from that presbytery to S.W. Georgia.)

72495

ADEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

ADEL, GEORGIA

ORGANIZED 1891

Rev. W. C. Smith, Pastor, Installed Nov. 16, 1944

1944 -45 two members died -

Net membership April 1, 1945 - 12

Contributions - Pastors Salary \$180.00

Home Missions 5.00

Miscellaneous 20.00

Total Contributions 1944-45 205.00

1945-5 46

Elders 0

Deacons 0

Received by letter 4 - Harold V. Wright. Mrs. Harold V. Wright.
Grier Davis - Emmett Wright

Received Prof 0

Total No. 16

Contribution:

Benevolence \$12.00

Expenses & Repairs \$ 111.00

Pastors Salary 180.00

Total Contributions 303.00

June 16th H. V. Wright Elected Elder

16th Grier Davis & Emmett Wright Elected Deacons

June 30 H. V. Wright & Grier Davis installed

Aug. 4 Emmett F. Wright installed

Jan. 19, 1947 Grier Davis & Emmett Wright Elected Elders

Jan. 19, 1947 J. C. Baker, Thomas Hicks, Elwood Wright, elected decans

Feb. 2nd. The above officers installed

New Members for the year 1946 - 47

Mr. & Mrs. J. C. Baker
Mrs. Ben Hutchenson
Barbara & Eleanor Estelle Wright
Elwood H. Wright
Thomas Hicks
Mrs. Sanijtan, Mrs. Lettie N. Johnston, Mrs. C. E. Ray
Mrs. Montla Hicks, Luella Jean Kitchen, Kenneth Lowell Kitchens
William Kitchens.

Reported : Elders 3
Deacons 3
Rec'd by letter 6
" " Prof. 8
Lost by letter 2

Net no. 28.

Contributions:

	126.33
Pastor's salary	180.00
Church exp.	212.55
Bldg Exp	118.84

Total to 511.39

Grand Total 637.72

Mr. Ellis Wright, elected Elder Aug 5, 1947

Mr. Ellis Wright ordained Elder Oct. 19, 1947

Elder H. V. Wright & Family dismissed Oct. 19, 1947

New Members for year 1947 - 1948

Mr. Ellis Wright
Mr. & Mrs. Willard Carl Parrish
Miss Dixie Elizabeth Schultz

Report 1948

Gains - Reportes last year 28.

Added on prof. 1

Certificate 4

Relined Roll 1

Total added 6 Total 34

Dismissed 3 Net 31

Babies Baptised - two Barber children

73495

1948

1949

HISTORY OF THE "WOMEN OF THE CHURCH "

ADEL, GEORGIA

President of Auxiliary - Mrs. Eleanor Hutchinson

Vice President - Miss Valiera Hicks

Sec. & Treas. - Mrs. Sarah Wright

Foreign Missions & Assembly's Home Missions * Miss Delle Beamguard

Religious Education - Mrs. J. C. Baker.

Receipts

Pledges from members		\$ 53.75
Donations, Mr. Smith		6.50
Aux. Birthday offering		5.50
White Cross	, 1	2.60
Total		68.35

Disbursements -

Aux Birthday offering	\$ 5.50
White Cross	2.60
Local Church Work and materials	10.34
60% of Pledges and donations	36.15
Total Disbursements	54.59
Balance on hand	13.76
Total accounted for as above	68.35

1948-

Adell Presbyterian Church
+
Auxiliary -

1949-

The ladies of the Auxiliary of the Adell Presbyterian Church, took it on themselves to pay for a communion service in 1947.

July the 13, 1948 the Auxiliary gave Southwest Presbytery dinner.

The membership of the auxiliary is small there were five to serve the dinner, two friends cooked cake.

Since March - first Sunday, the church has been having special Sunday school services three Sundays each month, they are doing good work. Southwest Georgia Presbytery wants to build up their Sunday Schools.

Mr. Ellis Wright - Superintendant of Sunday School
Miss Delle Beamguard - " "
Miss Delle Beamguard - Lectures the adult Class in Sunday School.
Mrs. J. C. Baker teaches the little children in Sunday School
Mrs. Ellis Wright pianost.

Adel Presbyterian Church 85936
Southwest Ga. Presbytery

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH - 1955

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers:

President ;.....Mrs. T.H.Chesnutt
Vice-Pres.Miss Dell Beamguard
Secretary &
TreasurerMrs. Joe Holmes
HistorianMiss Mary Hicks
Mrs. E.W.Wright

Active Membership of W.O.C. - 15
Bible Teacher ... Mrs. R.T.Wallace
Meetings ... Each First Tuesday - 4:15

MEMBERS

Miss Dell Beamguard
Mrs. Gertrude Burney
Mrs. T.H.Chesnutt
Mrs. J.A.Dampier
Mrs. Gaines Gaskins
Mrs. Joe Holmes
Mrs. Dottie Satterfield
Mrs. E.W.Wright
Mrs. Herman Gordon
Mrs. Elwood Wright
Mrs. Rapph Wheeler
Mrs. Bertie Moncrief
Miss Mary Hicks
Mrs. F.D.Hicks
Miss Valera Hicks
Mrs. Theron Hicks
Mrs. Ben Hutchinson

Mrs. Estelle Pope Nashville, Ga.
Mrs. Bertha Gailfreath .. Sparks, Ga.

HISTORY OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

"Adventure is the doing the telling comes later." For the past twelve months the women have been quite busy doing, and now it's time to do the telling. The "doings" have been many, and perhaps each service or ministry was an adventure. With the telling now we find that history has been made!

The secretary (Mrs. Joe Holmes) says, "Yes, we became a WOMEN of the CHURCH organization of Southwest Georgia Presbyterial this 1955." The women enrolled in the Adel W.O.C. are fifteen (15) strong, and each has found joy in serving her Lord in many ways, and TOGETHER the women accomplished so much.

Meetings have been held each first Tuesday afternoon of the month, in the homes of members, or at the church. Two (2) members are to be commended for 100% attendance for the year. We salute Mrs. Joe Holmes and Mrs. E.W.Wright.

"Living the Faith", the Bible Study based on the Book of Romans, was presented each month, in a fine manner, by Mrs. R.T.Wallace, wife of Pastor Wallace.

The Women of the Church have been faithful in publishing good tidings through teaching, serving, giving, loving, praying, and doing.

The women came very near to attaining the 1955 SPECIAL GOAL - EVERY WOMAN IN SUNDAY SCHOOL. Of the fifteen members twelve are active in Sunday School - serving as musicians, or teachers, or attendants in classes. Mrs. E.W.Wright and Mrs. Ben Hutchinson are our musicians for Sunday School and church. Teachers are Mrs. Gertrude Burney, Mrs. E.W. Wright, Mrs. Ralph Wheeler, and Miss Dell Beamguard.

In addition to being in Sunday School the women have made it possible for a number of children to attend regularly - by providing transportation Sunday after Sunday. One of the finest contributions made in behalf of the children, is the Catechism Class conducted each Friday afternoon, by Mrs. T.H.Chesnutt. The children come to the church after school and, under the tutelage of Mrs. Chesnutt, study the catechism and memorize portions of the Scriptures. Mrs. Chesnutt is assisted by several of the church women who take turns in coming. Then each Sunday morning the children recite, in assembly, portions of their memory work.

In their ministry to the children the women have provided many pieces of warm clothing and wearing apparel suitable for all seasons and occasions, as well as food and toys on special occasions. This special way of serving has extended out into the community, and even across the world - with gifts of warm clothing for Korea, and several hundred (400) Christmas cards sent to Brazil to be used by our missionaries, Rev. and Mrs. Douglas Charles.

An outstanding contribution to the local church was the women's share in remodeling and beautifying the church building. The remodeling provided three muchly needed class rooms, and sheet rock walls, celotex ceiling, and paint for the sanctuary. With floors painted, with walls a soft green, and woodwork all white, the sanctuary is a place of restful beauty.

The Women have had busy times and happy times and sad times, - sad when beloved friends had to move away. Church families must often suffer the loss of faithful members and workers when duties and jobs call them to new fields. It was not easy to give up Rev. and Mrs. R.T. Wallace. Mr. Wallace had served as Pastor for over two years, coming each second and fourth Sundays from Thomasville. Mrs. Wallace had been the Bible teacher for the Women of the Church. (Rev. Wallace came to the Adel Church in February of '53)

The happy times included parties, and a stork shower for Mrs. Ralph Wheeler, a farewell party for Mrs. Wallace. Both of these latter events were at the October meeting of the W.O.C. Of course there was the Christmas party, and other occasions when the women enjoyed just being together.

The Adel Women of the Church had splendid representation at the meeting of Southwest Georgia Presbyterial, when it convened in the Thomasville Church, October 13th and 14th. Those of our W.O.C. were Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt, Mrs. Gaines Gaskins, Miss Mary Hicks, and Miss Dora Woods.

The various seasons of Church program emphasis were duly observed by the W.O.C.. Church Paper Week, Dec. 4-10th, brought in a remarkable increase of subscribers to the Christian Observer. A record was set - the women made it possible for every church family to receive the weekly issues.

The JOY GIFT Season was an important event, with a special Prayer Meeting service, on the Wednesday prior to Christmas. A very generous contribution of \$ 34 was made. And of course the entire church family enjoyed the annual Christmas Tree and special program. Recitations, songs, Scripture readings, were presented by the Sunday School children, under the direction of Miss Dell Beamguard. From a gaily ornamented tree gifts were presented to all - children and grown-ups. Candy and fruit were an added treat.

In November Rev. John R. Smith came to the Adel Church, to preach, not just twice each month, but every Sunday. The women have indeed been the gracious hostesses and have taken turns in entertaining the entire Smith family - Mr. Smith, Mrs. Smith, Beth, and Raymond. The Smiths reside in Valdosta, where Mr. Smith serves the West End Presbyterian Church, and the Cecil Thompson Chapel.

Adel Presbyterian Church
Women of the Church - 1955

The 1955 Church activities came to a fitting close with a worship service on Christmas morning (Sunday).

The year is past, and for the women many dreams became realities. And now, the women " whose hearts have stirred them up " are ready to step into a brand new year, ready to venture forth in a continuing service for their Master.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

HISTORY

1953 - 1955

ADEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

¹³⁸
Margaret Asken Smith

Mrs. John R. Smith

Jan. 20th 1956

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

HISTORY

1962 - 1963

ADEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Adel Presbyterian Church
Southwest Georgia Presbytery
Synod of Georgia
1962-1963

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1962-1963 OFFICERS:

President - - - - - Mrs. John R. Smith
Secretary - - - - - Miss Delle Beamguard
Treasurer - - - - - Mrs. Ben Hutchinson
Historian - - - - - Mrs. Joe Holmes

CHAIRMEN:

Spiritual Growth - - - Mrs. J.H. Parrish
Christian Education - - Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt
Stewardship - - - - - Miss Delle Beamguard
Church Extension - - - Mrs. Ellis Wright
World Missions - - - - Mrs. Elwood Wright
Annuities & Relief - - Mrs. Ben Hutchinson, Mrs. Allen Kent
General Fund Agencies - Mrs. John Dampier
White Cross - - - - - Mrs. Herman Gordon
Homes - - - - - Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt, Mrs. Flora Smith

WOMEN ON THE CHURCH ROLL - 18

Eight attend the W.O.C.
Four are non-resident
Nine attend Sunday School - Five teach
Six have no share in the W.O.C.

The Women of the Church, through monthly circle meetings, continued to project the work of the church through the Bible Study, offerings to the many causes, ministry to the sick and distressed, and through special projects and activities in the Church, Sunday School and out in the community.

Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in the homes of the respective members. There is no general meeting since the group is small, and the majority of members teach in the local schools or work in the business world.

The women share in the teaching of the Sunday School classes and in the Circle, using the proposed plan of moderator in the latter group. Sunday School teachers include Miss Delle Beamguard, Mrs. John R. Smith, Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt, Mrs. Ellis Wright, Mrs. Herman Gordon, Mrs. J.H. Parrish, and Mrs. John R. Smith presently serves as S.S. superintendent. Mrs. Ellis Wright is S.S. pianist, and she and Mrs. Ben Hutchinson alternate as the church pianist.

For the Circle the Quitman Home has held special interest, as has Thornwell Orphanage to which special gifts have been contributed. For Quitman Home the special Mother's Day offering, taken together with the church, was \$60.00. For Thornwell a box of special items was collected, in addition to the Thanksgiving offering of \$57.35.

Flowers for the church and meals for the young people of the Youth Fellowship, and refreshments for the Vacation Bible School children have been provided by the Women of the Church.

During the fall, winter and spring months the church pulpit was filled by the Rev. Saunders Garwood, Valdosta State College associate professor of history, and student pastors sent from Columbia Seminary. Rev. Garwood and the student pastors alternated in coming each Sunday. Student pastors included Mr. John Thompson, Atlanta, Mr. Jeff Coker of Chattanooga, Tenn. and Saunders Pinckard of Moultrie, Ga. The Women of the Church entertained the visiting preachers in the respective homes at Sunday dinner.

Special events during the year included:

December - The annual Christmas party for the entire church family, with a special Christmas film, a tree for the children and the Joy Gift offering.

MARCH - District II Conference was held in Moultrie in the First Church, and representing the Adel church at the one-day meeting were Miss Mary Hicks, Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt and Mrs. John R. Smith. Mrs. Smith was a panelist on "The Presidents Report".

APRIL - The first wedding in the history of the Adel church took place, when Margaret Elizabeth Smith became the bride of Wiley Parrott of Rome, Georgia. "Beth", daughter of Mrs. John R. Smith and the late Rev. John R. Smith, was the first to marry in the little church, and her father who died October 7, 1961, was the first resident pastor of the Adel Church.

A lovely church wedding was performed at 2 p.m., and the Rev. Frank C. King, pastor of the Valdosta First Presbyterian Church officiated at the impressive double ring ceremony.

The Women of the Church "showered" the bride-elect at the April Circle meeting.

MAY - The W.O.C. Birthday Party was celebrated at the home of Mrs. J.H. Parrish on South Parrish Avenue, with a special program and birthday offering.

Program participants included Miss Delle Beamguard, Mrs. T.H. Chesnutt, Mrs. Ellis Wright, Mrs. Herman Gordon and Mrs. John R. Smith.

For the three summer months the church enjoyed having a resident pastor and his family - Mr. and Mrs. John Thompson, Robert and Rebecca. Mr. Thompson, a student, formerly at Columbia Seminary, Decatur, and presently enrolled at Erskine Seminary, Due West, S.C., spent his second summer in Adel as pastor of the church.

Arriving on June 10th, the Thompsons resided in the W.L. Dickson home on West 7th Street, within two blocks of the church, until August 25th, at which time they returned to Atlanta.

The Women of the Church showered the pastor's family with pantry goods, and during the summer months looked after their needs.

Mr. and Mrs. Thompson served as advisors to the summer Youth Fellowship, with the group of young people and advisors meeting each Sunday evening at 6:30 p.m. for supper in the respective church homes, then back to the church for a meeting, - discussions, singing.

Several picnic suppers were enjoyed on Wednesday evenings at the Union Road Park, located within sight of the church. The church families enjoyed fellowship and prayer meeting in the park.

The prayer meeting studies were based on the early chapters of the Book of Acts. The Sunday morning messages featured a

series of sermons based on Colossians.

Summertime means Vacation Bible School time, and during the last week of ~~July~~ and the women, under leadership of Mr. Thompson, conducted a very successful Bible School.

Though the "smallest school in the county", a full schedule was followed, and the children enjoyed classes in Bible Study, handicrafts, group singing.

On the teaching staff were Miss Jill Kelly -Beginners; Mrs. John R. Smith - Primaries; Mrs. John Thompson -Juniors-Intermediates; and Mr. John Thompson, director.

Sixteen young people, ages 5 - 13 years, were enrolled for five days, July 29-August 2nd; and received certificates at the closing exercises on Sunday evening, August 4th. Nine children received gold seal certificates for perfect attendance.

The children enrolled in the 1963 Bible School included: Lisa Holmes, Andy Parrish, John Parrish and Tina Wright- Beginner Dept; Julian Parrish, Joel Holmes, David Kelly and Phoebe Wright- Primary Dept; Debbie Smith, Becky Thompson, Steve Kelly, Robert Thompson, Faye Whitehurst, Hedy Ward and Billy Wilson - Junior-Intermediate Dept.

* * * * *

Dollarwise, the Women of the Church, through their budget, contributed to all causes of the church, and gave generously to special causes - Birthday, World Missions, Quitman Home, Thornwell and The Joy Gift.

Churchwise, the Women of the Church have assisted in local church improvements. Special projects undertaken by the women with assistance from the men of the church and the Presbytery included:

- The painting of the church interior
- New doors for church, both front and back
- Reupholstery of the three beautiful pulpit chairs
- Painting of exterior of the Manse
- Installation of air conditioning units in church sanctuary.

Communitywise, the Women of the Church have shared in community and county projects, health crusades, club work, and the majority of our members are active in the local PTA.

One special project, in behalf of Georgia Boys Estate at Brunswick, found Presbyterians participating in the planning and in the competition in a countywide Talent Show which then broadened into a four-county AREA TALENT SHOW.

On August 9th Rebecca Thompson, daughter of the summer pastor, won a top place in the Cook Talent Show and entered the Area Show. Rebecca won on the local level as a ballet dancer. The shows were sponsored by Adel Lions and Pilot Clubs. Mrs. John R. Smith, W.O.C. President, active in Pilot club work, was a member of the steering committee and in charge of publicity.

* * *

Good literature is a necessity in the church, ^{Program & work,} and the Women of the Church provided the following:

Day by Day - two dozen copies distributed,
Presbyterian Women - Six copies within the W.O.C.
Presbyterian Survey - Every Family a Subscriber.
Presbyterian Women's Workbook - One for every church woman.

* * *

Of course there has been a loss of members, through moving to distant cities at the close of the church year.

- Miss Delle Beamguard, for some twenty years principal of the local elementary school, accepted library duties at public schools of St. Petersburg, Fla., and is presently residing with her sister, Mrs. Andy Farmer, and Mr. Farmer.
- Mrs. Earl Kelly, who with her family moved to Albany, Ga.

There have been losses, moments of discouragement, but moments of joy and happiness, too, moments of inspiration which have helped us to keep on, and with a new church year now coming into view we look forward to a "second chance" to do better work, to reach out a little bit farther with helping hands, stretch a little taller in Christian maturity, and to shine a great deal brighter for the Master.

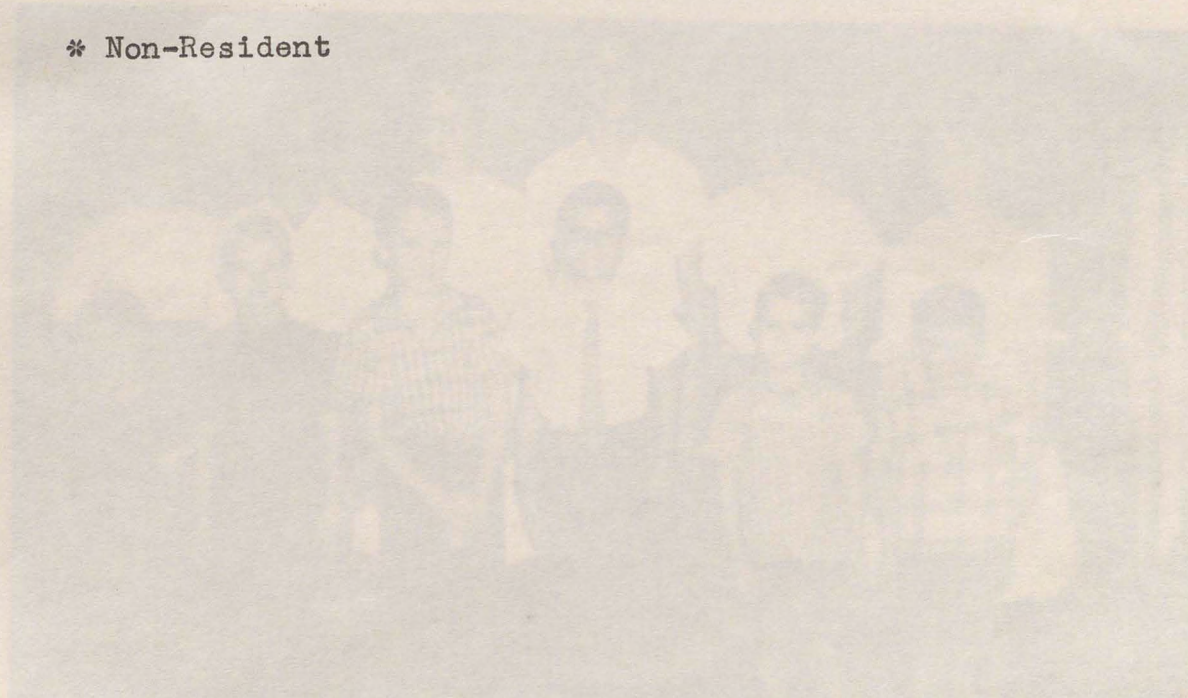
Sept. 1963. Mrs. John R. Smith

1962 - 1963

WOMEN ON CHURCH ROLL

- * 1. Mrs. Frank Baldree
- 2. Miss Delle Beamguard
- 3. Mrs. Tom H. Chesnutt
- 4. Mrs. John Dampier
- * 5. Mrs. Bertha Galbraith
- 6. Mrs. W.T. Giddens
- 7. Mrs. Herman Gordon
- * 8. Miss Mary Hicks
- * 9. Miss Valera Hicks
- 10. Mrs. Joe Holmes
- 11. Mrs. Ben Hutchinson
- 12. Mrs. Earl Kelly
- 13. Mrs. Allen Kent
- 14. Mrs. J.H. Parrish
- 15. Mrs. Flora Smith
- 16. Mrs. John R. Smith
- 17. Mrs. Ellis Wright
- 18. Mrs. Elwood Wright

* Non-Resident





MR. JOHN THOMPSON
Summer Pastor
1962 and 1963



THE "SMALLEST BIBLE SCHOOL IN COOK COUNTY " - Adel Presby-
terian Church Bible School was smallest but had enthusi-
astic bunch of pupils:
1st row- Lisa Holmes, Joel Holmes, Julian Parrish, David Kelly
Andy Parrish and John Parrish; 2nd row - Faye Whitehurst,
Hedy Ward, Debbie Smith, Robert Thompson, Steve Kelly, Becky
Thompson. Not in picture - Phoebe and Tina Wright.