

HISTORY
OF
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA

Cherokee Presbytery

History
of
Bethel Presbyterian Church

We, whose names are here unto subscribed, humbly, yet earnestly petition the Presbytery of Cherokee (to meet at Pleasant Green church on the 9th of September, 1846) to organize a church in that part of Chattooga County east of Taylor's Ridge to be known by the name of Bethel church.

Our reasons for this request are the following:

In the first place, we live at such a great distance from Pleasant Green church (of which we are now members) that we are not able to attend the means of grace instituted by Christ, without great labor at the place where our names are registered.

In the second place, Pleasant Green will not suffer any loss by a new church being organized, as we do not wish to employ another minister of the gospel, but to continue our support to that member of your presbytery, now the stated supply of Pleasant Green church.

In the third place, we live in a valley that is destined soon to contain a large population and we wish to erect the Standard of Presbyterianism, that other denominations of Christians in our midst may know and love us, as a branch of the Church of Christ; and that individuals now living among us, who have no Savior may find the Messiah, which being interpreted is the Christ; and that Presbyterians in other parts of our common country who are in quest of a home may be induced to cast in their lot among us.

In the fourth place, although we are few in number, we are as many in multitude as many of the churches under your care and we hope one day, by the blessings of the Lord on His word and ordinances to see Jacob.

With the above reasons, we cheerfully submit our cause to your deliberations, praying that God may preside over your body and direct you in all things, that may be for His glory and the good of the churches under your care.

Signed by:

Jackson O. Scott
Andrew Couey
James M. Scott
Henry L. Couey
Farby Couey
Elizabeth A. Couey
Susan E. Scott
Augustus Bryant
Neomi Bryant
Mary Patrick
Jane R. Buchanan

Thomas Kendrick
Martha D. Kendrick
Susan A. Kendrick
Land B. Meloney
Martha S. Burns
A. B. Meloney
Jane D. Meloney
Neomi Herndon
Martha S. McKinza
Margaret Wright

The above named petition was presented to the Presbytery at its meeting at Pleasant Green church at the time above written, and the prayer of the petitioners was granted.

The Rev. John M. M. Caldwell and Andrew Y. Lockridge were appointed a Committee of Presbytery to hold a meeting in that part of Chattooga County, east of Taylor's Ridge, to commence on the 24th of October, 1846, and, if the way be opened to organize a church.

The above named committee was held at the time appointed by Presbytery. A sermon was preached by the Rev. A. Y. Lockridge from Psalm 20:5, "We will rejoice in thy salvation and in the name of our God we will set up our banners."

A vote was taken, by ballot, for two individuals to be Elders in the church about to be organized and two individuals to be Deacons in said church. When the votes were all counted, it was found that Andrew Couey and James M. Scott were elected elders and Jackson O. Scott and Thomas Kendrick were

elected Deacons.

On the 27th day of December, 1846, after a suitable sermon on the office, the duties, and qualifications of ruling elders, by A. Y. Lockridge, the above named individuals were ordained officers in the Church of Bethel by prayer in accordance with the Confession of Faith of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Approved this far by order of Presbytery in session at Sardis,
April 21, 1846.

W. H. Johnston, Moderator

The foregoing account of the organization of Bethel church was taken from Bethel's first Session book, dating from 1846 to April, 1874.

(During this time, there were one hundred seventy (170) people united with this church.)

This book was kept with great care and very minutely recorded, all dates and details accurately.

The first pastor, A. Y. Lockridge, acted as Clerk of the Session until May, 1848. This office was then held by J. M. Scott from 1848 until 1851, and from June 8, 1851 until October, 1854, the record was kept by the pastor, Rev. T. C. Crawford. W. L. Groves was then appointed Clerk of the Session and took up that work December 24, 1854, and served until his death in the spring of 1873. J. O. Scott was appointed temporary Clerk of the Session while Major Groves was in the army during the Civil War.

W. S. Kendrick was then elected Clerk of the Session and served as such until he went away in the fall of 1873 to study medicine, at which time J. A. Jones was made temporary Clerk. J. A. Jones served until 1886 when the Clerk's duties were turned over to Mr. William J. Crawford, who kept the records faithfully and accurately for more than fifty years.

This first session book reveals a great many interesting things about how the work of the church was conducted. One very noticeable thing is that the church and church business was put first. The Session was often called to meet in the middle of the week to attend to some matter.

If a member did not attend church regularly or if one conducted himself in a manner not becoming a Christian, he was called up before the Session and tried. If he acknowledged his guilt and repented, he was continued as a member of the church; otherwise, he was dismissed.

At this time, there were new people moving in from other states and there was scarcely a meeting of the Session that there were not additions to the church.

The Rev. T. C. Crawford, who had lately moved to this valley from North Carolina, was elected pastor of Bethel Church in 1847.

"Four of the members of the church; viz., J. O. Scott, W. L. Groves, James Scott and Thomas Kendrick obligated themselves to see that Rev. T. C. Crawford receive one-hundred fifty dollars annually for his services."

At about this time, the Rev. Crawford was also called as pastor of Sardis Church in Floyd County and the two churches were very closely connected - one delegate to Presbytery representing both churches.

During the Civil War, when it was not safe for Mr. Crawford to go on horseback from his home near Bethel to Sardis, fifteen miles away, he would walk and go across the mountains.

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Bethel Church was organized in a small building that stood in the forks of the road on the "Dr. Wright place." Mr. Crawford preached his first sermon there.

We have no record of when the church was built. There was a log building with a fireplace in one end, that was used for both church and school, that stood just east of where the church now stands.

The church building was erected before the Civil War but was not ceiled until 1869. It was remodeled in 1878 and painted in 1879. This work was done by a Mr. Sherman and his daughter, Miss Katherine.

The Rev. T. C. Crawford cut a sweet gum tree, had it sawed, and gave the lumber for the pulpit.

The cloths for the communion table were made, by hand, by Mrs. Martha Kendrick, grandmother of the Rev. S. K. Dodson.

The table was made by Mr. Milas Bailey, grandfather of Crawford

Bailey.

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History Of

The Woman's Auxiliary

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Summerville Georgia

The Woman's Auxiliary (or Missionary Society as it was called) of Bethel church was organized by Rev. T.C. Crawford as near as can be ascertained, about 1860, with a membership of about sixteen members.

Tho' a rural church, the ladies have been active in their duties, caring for church property ect.

Two charter members are living, one in Texas, Mrs. Dodson is the mother of two missionaries to Korea, Rev. Sam Dodson, and Miss Mary Dodson. Her sister, Miss Clare Dodson still lives in the old community.

In July 1923, the Woman's Missionary Society became The Woman's Auxiliary, at the suggestin of Gen. Assembly, and The Woman's Council. Using the circle plan, program literature, Bible study classes, Home and Foreign Mission study books, with special contribution to all causes

At times we have been without a pastor and interest lagged, but we never gave up, and today under the leadership of Miss M. Weesner we are going forward with our work. Getting help and inspiration from contact with other Auxiliaries at Presbyterial meetings, when we always send a delegate, and the Group conference.

The ladies who have served as President are- Mrs. W.J. Crawford, Mrs. J.C. Crawford, Miss Lula Weesner, Miss Mary Omberg, and Miss M. Weesner. each one serving a period of several years.

Respectfully Submitted

Miss Lula Weesner-Historian

Woman's Auxiliary Bethel Church

Summerville Georgia.

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

1935

HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

It was in the fall of 1935 that the Rev. E. R. Leyburn D. D. Of Rome agreed to serve Bethel as stated supply. This was a Blessed day for the people at Bethel when this able man of God and his good wife adopted them into their church family. Always when he comes to preach, visit or teach in the auxiliary his faithful wife is at his side until the fall of 1937 the doctors forbade because she was overtaxing her strength.

Dr. Leyburn held a series of meetings himself in the early fall of 1936, preaching only at night. His messages were heart searching and heard by appreciative audiences.

The next year he was assisted by the Rev. J. G. Kirckhoff of Calhoun. Mr. Kirckhoff had been with us before and received a warm welcome. He taught the book of Philippians at the morning hour and preached evangelistical sermons at night. There were two additions to the church: Mary Nell Woods and Jack Sydnor Scott, a grandson of Jackson O. Scott who was one of the first deacons of this church. Another grandson John D. Scott was ordained a deacon December 27, 1937, just ninety one years from the time J. O. Scott was ordained a deacon.

The fourth Sunday in October 1936 Dr. Leyburn held a short anniversary service this being the ninetieth anniversary of the organization of the church.

At a congregational meeting in the fall of 1936 it was agreed to do some much needed repair work on the church and add S. S. rooms. This work was never pushed but in the spring of 1937 a much needed roof was put on.

At the regular service the fourth Sunday in December 1936 there were two collection plates presented to the church. One given by A. A. Jones, Mrs. Mattie Wright and Mrs. Agnes Kendrick Jarvis in memory of their aunt, Miss Clarissa A. Kendrick and the other in memory of Mrs. B. F. Weesner given by her children and grandchildren, 25 of whom were present. The presentation was made by Miss Lula Weesner and accepted by Mr. W. J. Crawford who was a personal friend of those honored.

Lula Weesner - Historian

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BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia R.F.D. 1
1941-1942

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

Ruling Elders:

Sam E. Jones--Summerville, Route 1
William J. Crawford--Summerville, Route 1
Thomas B. Cummings--Summerville, Route 1
Thomas H. Gore--Summerville, Route 4
Selman I. Story--Armuchee, Route 2

Active Deacons:

John S. Jones, Summerville, Georgia Route 1
John D. Scott, Summerville, Georgia Route 1

Pastor: Rev. Addison A. Talbot, Jr., Rome, Georgia R.F.D.

The elders, with exception of Mr. Story average more than 80 years of age and many years of faithful service.

The church had a revival meeting the last week in August and the preaching was done by the pastor. There were two additions to the church: Mrs. John D. Scott by letter from Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, and Virginia Woods by profession and baptism.

After serving faithfully for three and one half years Mr. Talbot gave up the work in January 1942. His resignation was accepted by the congregation the fourth Sunday afternoon in January at the close of a Communion service conducted by the Rev. W. W. Glass, pastor of the Summerville church. Mr. Glass agreed to take the work until other arrangements could be made--preaching each fourth Sunday afternoon.

Mr. Talbot's brother the Rev. George Bird Talbot, a returned missionary from China came to us for two services the fourth Sunday in February. His messages were very touching and inspirational.

The Church School or Sunday School began the year without a regular superintendent, but the work was carried on without interruption, sometimes by the women of the church until the first of August, when our hearts were made glad by the return of Prof. and Mrs. Jack Hyatt to our community.

Bethel Presbyterian Church History
Summerville, Ga. R.F.D.#1

Mr. Hyatt had been made superintendent of the Sunday School when he had lived in the community two years ago, and just took up the work again when he came back as principal of the Gore Consolidated School.

Members of the Bethel Sunday School work in an outpost Sunday School at Silver Hill.

HISTORY OF WOMAN'S WORK

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia, R.F.D. 1.
1941-1942

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the work of the Lord for this year with the following officers:

President--Miss Mary Sue Scott
Vice President- -Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Sec. and Treas.- -Miss Lula Weesner
Historian--Miss Lula Weesner

Secretaries of Causes:

Sec. Foreign Missions- - Mrs. J. C. Crawford
Sec. Assembly's Home Missions- - Mrs. George Christian
Sec. Christian Ed. and Min. Relief.--Miss Margaret Weesner
Sec. Religious Education--Miss Lula Weesner
Sec. S. and P. Home Missions- - Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Sec. Spiritual Life- - Mrs. E. P. Scott
Sec. Chris. Social Service- -Miss Margaret Weesner
All of Summerville, Georgia, R.F.D. 1

Bethel Auxiliary has only one circle of thirteen members known as the "Nancy Leyburn Circle" which meets once each month on Friday afternoon before the second Sunday in the homes of the members.

Occasionally we have all day meetings for a season of Prayer and Self Denial or to review a mission study book.

We had a very extensive study of the book of Peter conducted by Mrs. H. T. Agnew.

Bethel Presbyterian Church History
Summerville, Ga. R.F.D.#1

We used two mission study books: "Why Stand Ye Idle" and "Foundations of World Order". The former was reviewed by Mrs. Agnew at her home in November, and the later by Mrs. J. C. Crawford at her home in February. Special collections were taken each time for Home and Foreign Missions respectively.

The third Sunday in August 1941 we invited Dr. and Mrs. J. K. Levie to speak at the church. The fact that they had worked in Korea with Mary Dodson who is a daughter and granddaughter of Bethel Church added interest. Her grandmother, Mrs. Martha Kendrick, was a charter member of the first Womans Organization of our church. Her parents were also members of Bethel Church.

The president, Miss Mary Sue Scott attended Presbyterial at Menlo and Mrs. H. T. Agnew went to the Group Conference.

At the Birthday Party in May we welcomed Mrs. John D. Scott who had recently come to our community a bride. She was formerly Miss Ruby Blair of Druid Hills Presbyterian Church, Atlanta.

Another new member, Mrs. J. H. Hyatt came into the community as a public school teacher and joined the Auxiliary in November.

With the closing of the year we lost one of our oldest and most faithful members, Mrs. T. B. Cummings who fell asleep March 22, 1942 to awake in that Land Eternal.

We closed the year with an enrollment of thirteen which did not prove to be an unlucky number since we had increased our contributions to all benevolent causes and made progress along other lines.

Miss Mary Sue Scott has served as president four successive years. Not because she chose to but because there was no one else available and because "Where duty calls, 'tis honor to obey."

(In the meantime she cared for a home and an invalid mother, and taught a class in Sunday School. All of this was done faithfully and efficiently, without complaint.)

The auxiliary is deeply grateful to her for her long, faithful and efficient service.

At the close of the year we changed most of the officers and elected Mrs. J. H. Hyatt, president.

Miss Lula Weesner
Historian

BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY
 BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Summerville, Georgia R.F.D. 1
 1942-1943

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the year of work of our Lord this year with the following officers:

Ruling Elders:

Samuel E. Jones, Summerville, Ga. Rt.1
 Thomas B. Cummings, Summerville, Ga. Rt.1
 William J. Crawford, Summerville, Ga. Rt.1
 Thomas H. Gore, Summerville, Ga. Rt.4
 Selman I. Story, Armuchee, Ga. Rt.2

Active Deacons:

John S. Jones and John D. Scott, Summerville, Ga. Rt.1

The Rev. W. W. Glass of Summerville served the church as supply-preaching the fourth Sunday afternoon in each month until he moved to Decatur Alabama the last week in December.

The Rev. Elmer Enlow of Menlo then took up the work-preaching each third Sunday afternoon. Mr. Enlow is now serving six congregations.

Mr. Glass conducted a series of revival services at Bethel. Preaching each night during the last week in August. There were no additions to the church.

A quartet of young ladies from Shorter College, who were guests of the Storeys furnished beautiful music for the service the fourth Sunday in May. Ruling Elder Samuel E. Jones attended this service and seemed to enjoy it to the fullest. He was very feeble then and this was the last service he attended in the historic old church that was so dear to his heart and that he loved so much to talk about.

Mr. Jones passed to his eternal reward September 15, 1942. His wife Tecoa Crawford, daughter of the beloved Rev. T. C. Crawford having preceded him a little more than a year.

Another elder, Thomas B. Cummings passed away March 12 1943--less than a year after his wife's death.

We had as guest speaker in November the Rev. John Cunningham, a blind minister of Virginia.

This little church has felt the weight of the war as has every other church in the nation. Six very dear to us have answered the call of the colors: Tommy Christian, Henry Everett, J.D. Weesner Jr., Oliver W. Scott, Jack S. Scott and Harold Storey.

History
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Ga. R F D #1
1942-1943

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The church school has been unusually small, but has endeavored to carry on with the faithful leadership of Mr. J. H. Hyatt as superintendent.

The Women's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the year of 1942-1943 with the following officers:

President--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt (Miss) Lulu Weesner,

Vice-President--Miss Mary E. Hyatt
Historian

Secretary--Miss Lulu Weesner

Members of the Church:

Mrs. Foreign Missions--Mrs. John Scott

Mrs. A. B. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt was absent, sometimes not in the community, and she was carried at by the vice-president, Miss Mary E. Hyatt.

The work of the Book of John was conducted by Mrs. J. H. Hyatt.

The annual birthday party with an appropriate program was given at the church home in May.

The Missionary Report Book, "While it is Day" was reviewed by Mr. Hyatt of the church in December, and the church's work was raised.

The Foreign Missions Book "Latin America" was reviewed by the ladies at the home of Mrs. J. H. Hyatt in December and the offering taken then.

Mrs. J. H. Hyatt carried a quilt that had been given for the church's work.

The contributions for the year show a decided increase.

HISTORY of WOMAN'S WORK
 BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Summerville, Georgia R/F/D. 1

1942-1943

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the work of this year with the following officers:

President--Mrs. J. H. Hyatt
 Vice-President--Miss Mary Sue Scott
 Secretary--Miss Mary Sue Scott
 Treasurer--Miss Lula Weesner
 Historian--Miss Lula Weesner

Secretaries of Causes:

Sec. Foreign Missions--Mrs. John Scott
 Sec. A. Home Missions--Mrs W. J. Crawford
 Sec. C.E. and M.R.--Mrs. G. G. Christian
 Sec. Religious Ed.--Miss Lula Weesner
 Sec. S. and P. Home Missions--Mrs. H.T. Agnew
 Sec. Spir. Life--Mrs. E.P. Scott
 Sec. Literature--Mrs. L.L. Warren
 Sec. Christian Social Service--Miss Margaret Weesner
 all of Summerville, Georgia R.F.D. 1

When Mrs. Hyatt was absent, sometimes not in the community, the work was carried on by the vice-president, Miss Mary Sue Scott

The study of the book of John was conducted by Mrs. H.T. Agnew.

The annual birthday party with an appropriate program was given at the Weesner home in May.

The Mission study book, "While It Is Day" was reviewed by Mr. Glass at the church in November, and the church's quota was raised.

The Foreign Mission Book "Latin America" was reviewed by the ladies at the home of Mrs. E.P. Scott in February and the offering taken then.

Mrs. W. J. Crawford quilted a quilt that had been given for Thornwell Orphanage.

The contributions for the year show a decided increase.

(Miss) Lulu Weesner,

Historian

BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia - R. F. D. 1
1943 - 1944

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

RULING ELDERS:

William J. Crawford, Summerville, Ga. Route 1

Thomas H. Gore, Summerville, Ga. Route 4

Selman I. Storey, Armurchee, Ga. Route 2

ACTIVE DEACONS:

John S. Jones, Summerville, Ga. Route 1

John D. Scott, Summerville, Ga. Route 1

The Rev. Elmer Enlow of Menlo served the church as supply pastor until June of 1943 when he turned the work over to the Rev. Harry Foster who had just moved to Summerville and taken up the work there. Mr. Enlow had already applied for a chaplaincy in the Army and was accepted soon after. The people at Bethel were sorry to give him up, but were fortunate to have Mr. Foster take up the work in July and carry on without a break.

Mr. Foster is employed for his full time by the Summerville church but has unselfishly given up his rest each fourth Sunday afternoon to come to Bethel to preach and is always accompanied by his loyal wife.

There were no revival services held this year. A Mr. Crumpton joined the church, by letter, from Maryville, Tennessee, First Church.

Mr. Hyatt also left us in June to go into training in the U. S. Navy. The Sunday School was loathe to give him up but bade him God-speed and gave him a handbag as a mark of appreciation of his faithful service as superintendent.

The Sunday School was carried on without a superintendent until the session appointed E. P. Scott to take up the work in January, 1944.

HISTORY OF WOMANS WORK
Bethel Presbyterian Church
1943 - 1944

The Woman's Auxiliary began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

President	Miss Margaret Weesner
Vice-President	Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary	Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer	Miss Lula Weesner
Historian	Miss Lula Weesner

SECRETARIES OF CAUSES:

Sec. Foreign Missions	Mrs. John Scott
Sec. Home Missions	Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Sec. C. E. & M. R.	Mrs. G. G. Christian
Sec. Religious Education	Miss Lula Weesner
Sec. S. & P. Home Missions	Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Sec. Spiritual Life	Mrs. E. P. Scott
Sec. Literature	Mrs. L. L. Warren
Sec. Christian Social Service	Miss Margaret Weesner

The annual birthday party was given in the home of Mrs. E. P. Scott, a shut-in, and Mrs. J. C. Crawford, another shut-in, was guest of honor since it was her birthday also.

The birthday offering was taken and there was a shower for Mrs. Crawford.

The Bible study class was conducted by Mrs. H. T. Agnew, and a large portion of each meeting was given to the study of Acts.

There was a special program and collection for S. & P. Missions in June.

Bethel's quota for the Home Mission Emergency Fund was raised through and by the auxiliary.

The Foreign Mission Study book was read and reviewed, and the week of prayer and self-denial was observed.

A contribution was made to help send white cross material to China.

Lula Weesner, Historian

BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia - R.F.D. 1
1944-1945

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

Ruling Elders

William J. Crawford, Summerville, Georgia, Route 1
Thomas H. Gore, Summerville, Georgia, Route 4
Selman I. Storey, Armurchee, Georgia, Route 2

Active Deacons

John S. Jones, Summerville, Georgia, Route 1
John D. Scott, Summerville, Georgia, Route 1

Organist

Miss Margaret Weesner, Summerville, Georgia, Route 1

The Rev. Harry Foster, pastor of the Summerville church continues to serve Bethel as supply, holding one service each month on fourth Sunday afternoons.

There were no evangelistic services held this year, but two additions to the church: Mrs. John Jones by letter and Sybil Christian by public profession.

The oldest member of the church was Mr. James E. Crawford, who died November 3 at the age of 89 years and 8 months. His death came soon after the death of Mrs. J. C. Crawford and Mrs. Emma Crawford Vann, a former member who lived in another state. "Mr. Jim" and "Miss Emma" were children of The Rev. T. C. Crawford who was pastor of the church 38 years. The Rev. Crawford reared a large family who have lived long and useful lives.

On his 88th birthday, July 23, 1944, the children of Mr. Samuel E. Jones presented to the church an individual communion service in memorial of their father, replacing the service given to the church by Dr. and Mrs. W. S. Kendrick some 50 or 60 years ago.

Later the session sold the two silver goblets that were given to the church by Dr. Kendrick to David Jones for \$25.00.

We are still using the two silver plates that were given by Dr. Kendrick.

There are four members of Bethel church in the service of their country. They are Jack Scott, Tommy Christian, Julian Christian and W. C. Cummings.

Two other sons in service are Oliver Scott and J. D. Weesner, Jr.

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History of Woman's Work
Bethel Presbyterian Church

1944 - 1945

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

President - Miss Margaret Weesner
Vice-President - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer - Miss Lula Weesner
Historian - Miss Lula Weesner

Secretaries of Causes

Sec. Foreign Missions - Mrs. John Scott
Sec. Home Missions - Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Sec. C. E. & M. R. - Mrs. G. G. Christian
Sec. Religious Education - Miss Lula Weesner
Sec. S. & P. Home Missions - Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Sec. Spiritual Life - Mrs. E. P. Scott
Sec. Literature - Mrs. L. L. Warren
Sec. Christian Social Service - Miss Margaret Weesner

All of Summerville, Georgia, Route 1.

Other members not mentioned above are Miss Cordelia Weesner, Miss Eva Omberg, and Mrs. J. C. Crawford, who went to her reward September 14.

Mrs. Crawford moved to our community from the South Broad church of Rome in 1912. She later joined our church and auxiliary and was a faithful member until the time of her death - holding various offices and was often our Bible teacher.

Mrs. Agnes Kendrick Jarvis of Chattanooga joined our auxiliary in October, 1944, as an honorary member. Mrs. Jarvis did this as a memorial to her ancestors, especially her father, George F. Kendrick and her aunt, Miss Clarissa A. Kendrick, both of whom were loyal members of Bethel Church. Her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Kendrick were charter members.

The birthday party was held in the Weesner home in May with an appropriate program and offering.

Later, Mrs. Agnew, our S. and P. Mission Secretary had a special program for that cause and an offering was taken.

In the fall we read the book, "So Many People" by Dr. Fowle.

There was a canvass made for the Emergency Fund and our quota of \$40.00 was raised.

After Christmas, we read "West of the DateLine". This book was reviewed at the home of Mrs. John Scott, our Foreign Mission Secretary. We also observed the season of prayer and self-denial for this cause.

A large portion of each meeting was given to Bible study, conducted by Mrs. H. T. Agnew.

Some of the most faithful members of the church are unable to attend Sunday School but it is being carried on by the Weesner and Scott families, with E. P. Scott as superintendent.

"The harvest truly is great but the laborers are few."

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Summerville, Georgia
R. F. D. 1

Year of 1945-1946

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers: Ruling Elders: William J. Crawford, Summerville, Rt. 1; Thomas H. Gore, Summerville, Rt. 4; Selman I. Storey, Armuchee, Rt. 2.

Active Deacons: John S. Jones, Summerville, Rt. 1; John D. Scott, Summerville, Rt. 1. Organist, Miss Margaret Weesner.

The Rev. Harry Foster, pastor of the Summerville church continues to serve Bethel as supply - holding one service each month on the fourth Sunday afternoons.

Bethel is entering her centennial year, having been organized in October 1846. (We expect to give a full account of this in next year's history.)

We had a week of revival services the last week in July. The Rev. Leroy Obert of Trion did the preaching and was well received by the membership of our church.

We have much cause for rejoicing in that our young men have returned from war without the loss of one - even if some did come back wearing the Purple Heart.

With E. P. Scott as superintendent we had fairly regular attendance at Sunday School through the winter months, in spite of the unusually muddy roads.

Respectfully submitted,

Lula Weesner, Historian

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY
Bethel Presbyterian Church

1945-1946

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

President: Miss Margaret Weesner
Vice Pres: Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary: Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer: Miss Lula Weesner
Historian: Miss Lula Weesner

Secretaries of causes:

Sec. Foreign Missions: Mrs. John Scott
Sec. Assembly's Home Mis: Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Sec. C. E. and M. R.: Mrs. G. G. Christian
Sec. Religious Education: Mrs. Lula Weesner
Sec. S & P Home Missions: Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Sec. Spiritual Life: Mrs. E. P. Scott
Sec. Literature: Mrs. L. L. Warren
Sec. Christian Social Service: Mrs. Margaret Weesner

The Misses Weesner had the annual birthday party in their home in May with an appropriate program and offering.

Mrs. H. T. Agnew, secretary of S & P Home Missions, had the meeting in her home in June with a special program and offering for this cause.

In the fall we read the Home Mission study book and reviewed it at a meeting of the auxiliary. The Home Mission secretaries were responsible for the offering taken at the church for both the "Emergency Fund" and Thornwell Orphanage."

Later we read the Foreign Mission study book and reviewed it at the home of Mrs. E. P. Scott. The offering was then taken.

We were sorry to lose Mrs. G. G. Christian, our secretary of C. E. and M. R. Mrs. Christian moved to Rome in December and has since suffered a stroke which disabled her. Our meetings are not the same without her, because she could always see the "sunny side."

Our number is even less than last year, but our contributions have increased from \$75.00 last year to \$96.00 this year.

WOMAN'S AUXILIARY --- BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sometimes we are tempted to give up, but when we remember that we were organized (as a missionary society) by the Rev. T. C. Crawford, some seventy or seventy-five years ago, we cannot afford to let the light go out even though it may seem dim. We are inspired to "press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (Phil. 3:14.

Respectfully submitted,

Lula Weesner, Historian

BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia - R.F.D. 1
1946 - 1947

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

RULING ELDERS

William J. Crawford, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia
Thomas H. Gore, Route 4, Summerville, Georgia
Selman I. Storey, Route 2, Armurchee, Georgia

ACTIVE DEACONS

John S. Jones, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia
John D. Scott, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia

ORGANIST

Miss Margaret Weesner, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia

This year marked the one hundredth anniversary of the organization of Bethel church and was a very eventful year in its history.

The first church service of the year was Easter Sunday, April 21, 1946. At this service two babies were christened. Samuel Orr Jones, son of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Jones and Joseph Henry Sanders, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Sanders. The former was a grandson of Sammel E. Jones and Tecoa Crawford Jones, and a great grandson of the Rev. T. C. Crawford who was the beloved pastor of this church for thirty-eight years. The latter was a great-grandson and a great-great grandson of the same.

In May it was our time to secure the speakers for the commencement services of Gore High School. For this we called on two of Bethel's own sons. Professor Paul King of Darlington School, Rome, made the Sunday School address and the Rev. S. K. Dodson of Menlo preached the baccalaureate sermon.

We quote from the minutes of Cherokee Presbytery:

"The Presbytery of Cherokee met on October 15, 1946, at 10:00 A.M. in Bethel church and joined that church in the celebration of its one hundredth anniversary.

"Rev. S. K. Dodson, a son of Bethel church, was elected moderator.

"Elder W. J. Crawford, Clerk of the Session of Bethel for the past sixty years and representative to Presbytery was introduced. Mr. Crawford who is almost 90 years of age bears the unusual distinction of being the son of the first pastor of Bethel, Rev. T. C. Crawford, and out of a remarkable memory gave interesting reminiscences covering 80 years of the church's life.

"Elder T. H. Gore of Bethel welcomed the Presbytery in behalf of the congregation. Elder Walter Jones, of Dalton, whose forbears were members of Bethel, responded for Presbytery.

"Resolved that the Presbytery of Cherokee by rising vote express to the Stated Supply, Rev. H. K. Foster, the Session, the Deacons and members of Bethel Church, and to the women especially, its pleasure in the hospitality given to it at this fall meeting of 1946.

"And that Presbytery express its congratulations to the Bethel Church upon the event of the centennial of the church and its good wishes for the second century of witnessing for Christ."

The church had its Centennial Anniversary service the fourth Sunday, October 24, which was very near if not the exact date of its organization. All former members and friends of the church were invited to this service, and some drove a good distance to attend.

Prof. Paul King was again the speaker at the Sunday School hour and the Rev. S. K. Dodson preached the anniversary sermon.

The afternoon speakers were the Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Missions in Cherokee Presbytery, and Dr. Irvine S. Ingram, President of West Georgia College. Dr. Ingram is a grandson of Capt. Irvine who was also an educator, a member of Bethel church and a teacher in Bethel Academy and at his death he was laid to rest in Bethel cemetery.

We were blessed with "October's bright blue weather" for this occasion as well as that of Presbytery, and dinner was served each time on an outdoor table near the church.

There was an abundance of fall flowers and the church was decorated with gorgeous dahlias and chrysanthemums. One beautiful arrangement of white chrysanthemums was brought by Mrs. Agnes Kendrick Jarvis in memorial of her grandmother, Mrs. Martha Kendrick, and her aunt, Miss Clarissa Kendrick. Mrs. Kendrick was a charter member of the church and "Miss Clarissa" was a charter member of the Woman's Auxiliary.

The Sunday School had already contributed towards buying new hymn books that are not yet off the press, and a number of visitors left money to buy a hymn book or books that will be dedicated to the memory of deceased relatives who were former members of Bethel church.

E. P. Scott continues as superintendent and secretary of the Sunday School.

70085

History of Woman's Work
Bethel Presbyterian Church
1946 - 1947

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

President - Miss Margaret Weesner
Vice-President - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer - Miss Lula Weesner
Historian - Miss Lula Weesner

SECRETARIES OF CAUSES

Secretary of Foreign Missions - Mrs. John Scott
Secretary of Assembly's Home Missions - Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Secretary C. E. & M. R. - Miss Lula Weesner
Secretary of Religious Education - Miss Lula Weesner
Secretary S. & P. Home Missions - Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Secretary of Spiritual Life - Miss Eva Omberg
Secretary of Christian Social Service - Miss Margaret Weesner
All are of Summerville, Georgia, Route 1.

The annual birthday program and party was given in the Weesner home in May and the birthday offering was taken then.

In July a special program on S & P Missions was given by our secretary, Mrs. H. T. Agnew, and a collection was taken for that cause.

We also observed the season of prayer and self-denial for both Home and Foreign Mission and read both books.

Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Missions in Cherokee Presbytery, was visiting in our community and he and his wife met with us at our November meeting. He made a talk on Home Missions. The church's quota was met for the Emergency fund.

In February we read and reviewed Dr. Fulton's book, "Now is the Time" and took the offering for Foreign Missions.

The church, Sunday School, and Auxiliary each sent an offering to Thornwell.

We have used the "Guidebook for the Presbyterian Woman" and "I Want to Know" by Chaplain and Mrs. McQueen and also studied the book of Isaiah under the leadership of Mrs. H. T. Agnew.

The women of the Auxiliary are responsible for the up-keep of the church and grounds, and while we are few, only ten active members, we feel that we are a very necessary link between the home and the church.

BETHEL CHURCH HISTORY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia R.F.D. 1
1947 - 1948

- - - -

Bethel Presbyterian Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

Ruling Elders

William J. Crawford, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia
Thomas H. Gore, Route 4, Summerville, Georgia
Selman I. Storey, Route 2, Armurchee, Georgia

Active Deacons

John S. Jones, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia
John D. Scott, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia

Organist

Miss Margaret Weesner, Route 1, Summerville, Georgia

Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Missions, met with us the fourth Sunday in April and it was decided that in order to have a morning service and more pastoral calls, we would change to a student pastor for the summer months, but we were reluctant to give up the splendid messages of the Rev. Harry Foster, of the Summerville church.

Keith Hill, just graduated from Presbyterian College, came in the early summer and conducted two services each month, at Bethel and Walnut Grove, until September when he entered Columbia Seminary and gave up the work at Bethel.

In the fall, Mr. Charles W. Browning and his wife came to take up the work at Bethel. Mr. Browning is a student at the Seminary and comes only once each month for a morning service, but spends one night in the neighborhood and does some visiting.

In February, when he was sent to Euharlee, a Mr. Carty came in his place.

Mr. and Mrs. Browning will come to Bethel only once more before moving to Cartersville to work there and at Euharlee during the summer.

There were no revival services held during the year and no additions to the church.

The fourth Sunday morning in March, Easter Sunday, the Rev. Harry K. Foster, of Summerville, came early, at 10:15, for a baptismal service at which time Carter Scott Everett, infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Everett was christened. Scott is the fourth generation of this family to be connected with this church.

His great-grandfather, Jackson O. Scott, was a charter member, one of the first deacons, later an elder, and Clerk of the Session for a number of years.

The church was beautifully decorated for this service with the traditional Easter lilies and other potted plants loaned by the grandmother, Mrs. Susie Weesner Scott, who was unable to attend because of her affliction.

The church school is still being carried on by the Weesner and Scott families with what children they can pick up in the neighborhood.

E. P. Scott is superintendent of the Sunday School.

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History of Woman's Work
Bethel Presbyterian Church
1947 - 1948

The Woman's Auxiliary of Bethel Church began the work of the Lord this year with the following officers:

President - Miss Margaret Weesner
Vice-President - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer - Miss Lula Weesner
Historian - Miss Lula Weesner

Secretaries of Causes

Secretary of Foreign Missions - Mrs. John Scott
Secretary of Assembly's Home Missions - Mrs. W. J. Crawford
Secretary of C. E. & M. R. - Miss Mary Sue Scott
Secretary of Religious Education - Miss Lula Weesner
Secretary of S. & P. Home Missions - Mrs. H. T. Agnew
Secretary of Spiritual Life - Miss Eva Omberg
Secretary of Christian Social Service - Miss Margaret Weesner
(All of Route 1, Summerville, Georgia)

The Woman's Auxiliary continues to function as the connecting link between the homes of the congregation and the church.

There are only ten active members and each has some part in carrying on the work of the Kingdom.

The annual Birthday party, with a program, was given in May and a contribution for the three-fold objective was taken.

Another program was given in June concerning Synodical and Presbyterian Home Missions and a special collection was taken for this cause.

We met our quota for White Cross work in September and collected the Blessing Box money. The Secretary of Religious Education called attention to this work also.

We read and reviewed the Home Mission study book, "From the Past to the Present", and a collection was taken for Assembly's Home Missions.

In December, Miss Mary Sue Scott, our Secretary of Ministerial Relief, directed a most interesting Christmas program, "The Light of Life", which included a number of carols and a candle lighting service. The Joy Gift was taken at the close of this service.

The Foreign Mission Study was directed by Mrs. John Scott. We used the book, "New World Ahead", by David D. Baker and every member of the Auxiliary was present for the review of this book. An offering was taken for this cause also.

The intensive Bible study of the Book of Matthew was conducted by Mrs. H. T. Agnew at each monthly meeting. We also used the Guide Book and every member subscribes for and reads the "Survey".

BETHEL

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH
AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

1948 - 1949

Bethel church began the work of the Lord this year with the same officers as formally, but early in the church year John S. Jones was elected elder and E. P. Scott deacon.

These officers were ordained by the Rev. James F. Merrin on the fourth Sunday in May, May 23, 1948.

This gives us four elders:

<u>Retired</u>	<u>Active</u>
Thomas H. Gore	John S. Jones
William J. Crawford	S. I. Storey

Deacons

E. P. Scott
John D. Scott

Mr. Merrin served the church through the summer and conducted a revival in August. During and after the revival there were five additions to the church:

Edna Warren and Kathryn Manning by profession, and
Mrs. E. P. Scott, Jr., and Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Swords by letter.

Beginning in October, the church has been served by Warren Beale and his faithful wife of Columbia Seminary. He has also been holding services at Silver Hill.

Miss Mildred Snyder of Marietta helped Mr. Merrin make a survey of Silver Hill community in November and he later organized a Sunday School there.

The Sunday School at Bethel is small but carries on faithfully.

Lula Weesner

On the next page you will find a picture of the church and cemetery as they are today, March 1949. With the picture is a biography of ~~Mr.~~ William Crawford, son of Rev. T. C. Crawford, pastor of Bethel church from 1847 to 1885. For 63 years Mr. Wm. Crawford has been an Elder in Bethel Presbyterian church and has attended services regularly until just recently when his hearing became defective.

Lula Weesner- Historian
Bethel Presbyterian Church



Bethel Presbyterian Church
Chattooga County Georgia
Summerville, Route 1
Cherokee Presbytery
Organized October 24, 1846
Rev. T. C. Crawford pastor
for 38 years.
1847-1885

Thursday, March 10, 1949

THE SUMMERVILLE NEWS

Mr. Crawford, 91, Moves For First Time in Life

Ninety-one year old William Crawford moved this year for the first time in his life.

Mr. Crawford, who says he finds doing nothing "the hardest job" he ever had, left the old Crawford home place in Gore last January to reside in Summerville.

"He didn't want to move," confides winsome Mrs. Crawford "because he wanted to die on the place just as his father did. But we just had to get closer in and our nephews, John Jones and Crawford Bailey, have just been wonderful taking care of us here."

Mr. Crawford was a member of a family of seven boys and three girls. Four of the boys are still living and those deceased lived beyond 70. None of the sisters are living.

The Crawford place is located south of Tidings and Mr. Crawford says he believes the house was built in 1842 or 1843. His father brought his first wife there from North Carolina. The first Mrs. Crawford and their child never survived a typhoid epidemic, and the story is popular in the Crawford family of her father's return here from North Carolina three months after the death and taking the body back in a two-horse wagon.

Mr. Crawford, whose name was Thaddeous Constantine, then married a Gore girl and became a pastor of the Bethel Presbyterian Church.

The younger Mr. Crawford recalls his father telling of riding a horse and leading a horse to the home of his prospective bride where the ceremony was to take place. After the marriage, the new Mrs. Crawford rode the horse back to the Crawford place which was a distance of about four miles.

"They both lived right between mountains, but it was some distance apart," Mr. Crawford said.

There used to be a post office in that section, and it was called Dirttown, but since that name wasn't very appealing it was changed to Kartah, which has the same meaning.

Recalls War

Having been born in 1858, Mr. Crawford can recall the War between the States.

"I was just a chap then, but things like that are stamped into your memory so that even youngsters don't forget. It wasn't so much the Yankees that bothered us as it was our own boys. They killed our hogs, took our horses and killed every chicken but one."

He told of standing with an old darkey on a roadside and watching a portion of Sherman's army go down the road.

As for himself, Mr. Crawford has never been in combat, nor was his father, having been a minister.

For 63 years, Mr. Crawford has been an Elder in the Bethel Presbyterian Church, and attended services regularly until his hearing became defective.

Mrs. Crawford displayed a Bible, whose frayed edges and torn leaves told of its constant usage, and pointed out the fine print which Mr. Crawford is able to read.

A recent physical check-up indicated, Mrs. Crawford said, that he was in fine condition with the exception of one leg which has been lame since childhood.

The Crawfords have been married for 38 years and although they have no children they find their nephews are as attentive and considerate as any children could be. Before her marriage, Mrs. Crawford was Alice Henderson.

Many Changes

"A lot of things have changed in Summerville since I first came here 77 years ago," declares Mr. Crawford. "There was a hotel where Chattooga Mercantile is now and a Branner Store was located at the present site of the Jackson Drug Store."

Mr. Crawford has never been farther away from Chattooga County than when he attended Davidson College, Davidson, N. C.

"I got sight of Virginia," he said, "but just never did actually get into the state. I have been in Alabama and Tennessee though."

Mr. Crawford retired from farming several years ago, but at the age of 86 he was plowing.

"I really didn't quit until just a year or two ago, if you call milking, feeding hogs and chickens farming," he said.

During young manhood, Mr. Crawford pursued two occupations, that of farming and teaching school.

72782

BETHEL

HISTORY OF THE WORK
OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1948 - 1949

We continued the work with the same officers as last year except during the latter part of the year when Mrs. W. J. Crawford moved to Summerville she asked Mrs. Henry T. Agnew to take over the work of Secretary of Assembly's Home Missions.

We observed all special days and seasons and contributed to all causes, also sent clothes overseas.

The meetings were held part of the time with the various members, but more than half the time we met with Mrs. E. P. Scott, Sr., and her daughter, Miss Mary Sue Scott, because Mrs. Scott was unable to go other places and her daughter could not leave her. Now, as always, they put the work of the church first.

Mrs. H. T. Agnew taught the Book of Exodus.

Our president, Miss Margaret Weesner, represented us at presbyterial at Trion, at the group conference in Summerville, and the executive board meeting in Rome.

Lula Weesner
Summerville
Rt 1 - Ga.

BETHELHISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL1949 - 1950

Bethel began the work of the Lord this year with the same officers as formerly:

EldersRetired

W. J. Crawford
Thomas H. Gore

Active

John A. Jones
S. I. Storey

Deacons

John C. Crawford

E. P. Scott
John D. Scott

The Rev. Warren Beale was supply pastor until he went back to the Seminary in September. Since that time we have been supplied by the Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Missions, and students Beale, Healey and Frank Wilkinson.

Bethel sponsored a Daily Vacation Bible School at Silver Hill and Mr. and Mrs. Beale taught in the one sponsored by the Baptist Churches at Gore High School. They were assisted at Silver Hill by Misses Cinthia Merrin, Kate Brewer and Cordelia Weesner.

We had an all-day-meeting with dinner-on-the-ground at Bethel the fifth Sunday in July. The congregations at Sardis and Walnut Grove were invited. There was a meeting for the men of these Churches in the afternoon. There had been regular meetings for the men of this group all summer.

We had a weeks meeting the last of August with the Rev. Robert Smith of Cedartown doing the preaching. Mr. Smith was a forceful speaker and held his audience spellbound. A school bus operated each night greatly increased the size of the congregation.

The Sunday School has carried on faithfully throughout the year with E. P. Scott as Superintendent.

BETHELHISTORY OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH1949 - 1950

The Women of the Church started out with the same officers and secretaries as the year before.

Miss Margaret Weesner	President
Mrs. John D. Scott	Vice President
Miss Mary Sue Scott	Secretary
Miss Lula Weesner	Treasurer and Historian

We observed the birthday in May and all special seasons of study and prayer for the various causes.

We filled our quota for White Cross work, sent "Pieces for Peace" and bundles of clothes overseas.

Mrs. H. T. Agnew taught the Book of John but was stricken in February and was not able to teach the concluding chapters. Mrs. Agnew is a faithful teacher and spends much time in preparation.

We lost one of our most faithful members when Mrs. Susie Weesner Scott, wife of the late E. P. Scott, Sr., went to her reward Sunday morning, July 24, 1949, at the age of 70 years.

She had suffered long and patiently but had never lost interest in the work of the Kingdom. We were always assured of her prayers and financial support in any undertaking. She taught a class in Sunday School and attended the Women's Meetings as long as she was able and even served on committees after she was bedfast.

She is survived by four sons, four daughters and one grandson who rise up to call her blessed.

"I cannot say -- I will not say
That she is dead -- She is just away!
With a cheery smile, and a wave of the hand
She has wandered into an unknown land
And left us dreaming how very fair
It needs must be, since she lingers there."

76882

BETHEL

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

1950 - 1951

After the history was written for last church year, our oldest and most beloved elder, Mr. William J. Crawford, passed to his reward March 19, 1950, at the age of 92 years.

He was the son of the Rev. T. C. Crawford, first pastor of Bethel Church. He was a life-long member of this church and served as Clerk of the Session for more than fifty years. He also served as Superintendent of the Sunday School and was teacher of the Adult Bible Class for a number of years. His teaching was most valuable because he was an ardent Bible scholar and had a most unusual memory. He passed on to his class much valuable history and sound doctrine of the Christian faith and teachings of the Presbyterian Church. In his young manhood he studied at Davidson College and later was a public school teacher.

He lived in his father's old home in Dirttown Valley ninety-one (91) years, moving to Summerville just one year before his death. He and his hospitable wife, the former Miss Alice Henderson, kept this old home open to any minister who served Bethel Church.

This year marked the passing of two other sons of this family: Mr. Robert N. Crawford, Sr., of Lyerly who died *Feb. 16, 1950* and Mr. John C. Crawford, a retired deacon of Bethel Church, who died November 22, 1950. This leaves only one of this large and long-lived family, Mr. George Crawford of Summerville.

The remaining officers are:

Retired

Thomas H. Gore

Elders

Active

Selman I. Storey
John S. Jones

Deacons

John D. Scott
E. P. Scott

Mr. John S. Jones is Clerk of the Session, taking the place of his uncle, Mr. William J. Crawford.

The church is fortunate in securing the services of one of Bethel's own sons, the Rev. Samuel K. Dodson, as pastor. He took up his work in this field the first of June and was installed the second Sunday night in July, July 9, 1950.

This service was an unusually impressive one, conducted by the Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Mission. He was assisted by the Rev. Atkinson, Chaplain of Battey State Hospital, Dr. Wilcox of Darlington School, and the Rev. Harry Foster of the Summerville Church. Special music was furnished by Mrs. John D. Taylor of Summerville and Miss Anna Sue Gamble of Chattanooga, a granddaughter of Bethel.

In July Mr. Dodson and some members of Bethel Church sponsored a Daily Vacation Bible School at Silver Hill. Those helping Mr. Dodson were Misses Mildred Center and Mary Powell, furnished by the Home Mission Department, and Miss Cordelia Weesner and Kathryn Manning of Bethel.

Mr. Dodson conducted a revival meeting at Bethel the last week in August.

When the Thanksgiving Season came around, we were indeed thankful that we had at last been able to get a power line by the church and had the old lamps wired for electricity. This marked a new era in the history of this old church.

When Foreign Mission Season came and we reviewed the book, "A Story to Tell," we were able to show a sound picture depicting conditions in Japan since its occupation by the United States.

Late last year Mr. John S. Jones was elected Superintendent of the Sunday School. He is following in the footsteps of his uncle, John A. Jones, and his father, Samuel E. Jones, who served for many years in this capacity.

E. P. Scott was retained as Secretary and Treasurer of the Sunday School and was also responsible for getting the church and lamps wired for electricity at a cost of One Hundred Dollars.

BETHELHISTORY OF THE WORK OF THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH1950 - 1951

Our number has been diminished and weakened by illness, but we refuse to disband and have carried on with the same officers we had last year.

Because of illness in her home our president, Miss Margaret Weesner, was unable to attend Presbyterial or Group Conference.

Mrs. H. T. Agnew was not able to attend any of the meetings except in her own home but taught the lesson from the Book of Hebrews when we met with her. At other times it was taught by Miss Lula Weesner.

We had the Birthday Party in May and observed Self Denial Week for both Home and Foreign Missions. We read and reviewed two books, "The Changing South" and "A Story to Tell."

We filled our quota for White Cross Work and sent packages overseas, but our best work was with the underprivileged and unfortunate families in our midst. Many garments were collected and distributed. A number of children were outfitted that otherwise could not have gone to school.

79414

CtW.

BETHEL

HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1951 - 1952

The work of the Kingdom went forward in this Church during the spring and summer under the pastorate of the Rev. S. K. Dodson.

The last week in August Mr. Dodson was assisted in a revival meeting by the Rev. Leroy Obert of Trion. Mr. Obert's messages were sincere and timely. The congregations were the largest we have had in several years. One young lady, Shirley Holt, united with the Church.

We failed to mention in last year's history that Elizabeth Sanders, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Sanders, was baptized in this Church on Easter Sunday 1950 by Rev. Harry Foster of the Summerville Church. Elizabeth is the ^{great} granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Jones and the great ^{great} granddaughter of the Rev. and Mrs. T. C. Crawford, and bears the name of her ^{great} grandmother Crawford.

We had Miss Mary Dodson, sister of the pastor, as our guest speaker the second Sunday night in July. Miss Dodson joined Bethel Church when she was a child and before she moved with her family to Texas. After graduating from college she went to Korea and worked there as a missionary for almost forty years. She was detained for some time in a prison camp but was finally released and allowed to come home on the ship in June 1951. She was very much concerned about world affairs and especially about the Christians in Korea who were so faithful to her and to the God she served. She exhorted us to humble ourselves and pray without ceasing.

Mr. Dodson resigned in September to go to Hamburg, Arkansas. It was with regret that we accepted his resignation. He had done his work well. "A workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." He was highly esteemed by every member of the congregation from the oldest to the youngest.

We were without a pastor for two months until a call was extended to the Rev. William L. Merrin of Bristol, Virginia. He and his family moved to Iyerly in December and he took up the work at Bethel, preaching fourth Sunday morning's and second Sunday night's. So far as we know he is the first Presbyterian minister to live in this little town.

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

The Sunday School continues to function with Mr. John S. Jones as superintendent and Mr. E. P. Scott as secretary and treasurer. The attendance is small but has increased some in numbers during the past year. Besides contributing to other causes, the Sunday School had the organ rebuilt last summer which improved the music.

THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Women of the Church have managed to hold together and keep functioning in spite of many difficulties. Miss Margaret Weesner, president, has worked faithfully on and was able to attend Group Conference and Board Meeting.

We observed the seasons of prayer and self-denial for both home and foreign missions. The foreign mission books were reviewed at the Church on Sunday night with the young people taking part in "He Wore an Orchid", and Mr. and Mrs. Merrin gave "The Americas -- North and South."

We also contributed to the other special causes and met our quota of White Cross supplies.

Mrs. Merrin taught the Book of James.

There is no young people's organization, but the Women of the Church helped send Kathryn Manning to the Young Peoples Conference at Shorter College.

OUTPOST MISSIONS

The annual Daily Vacation Bible School at Silver Hill was sponsored by our Church again this year in July. Mr. Dodson was assisted by his sister, Miss Mary Dodson, Miss Ann Broom of Dalton, and Miss Cordelia Weesner and Kathryn Manning of Bethel. The attendance was good and parents came for the picnic supper and commencement exercises. Mr. J. F. Merrin was guest speaker.

8/0/5-

C+W

HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1952 - 1953

The work of the Lord was carried on this year under the guidance of the pastor, the Rev. Will L. Merrin, and his wife.

After the death of his wife, our senior elder, Mr. Thomas H. Gore, went to Texas to live with his sons. This leaves us with two resident elders: Mr. S. I. Storey and John S. Jones; two deacons: E. P. and John D. Scott.

Mr. Merrin was installed pastor at the beginning of the church year. His brother, Rev. James F. Merrin, Superintendent of Home Mission, was in charge of the service and was assisted by the Rev. Harry Foster and elder M. M. Allen of the Summerville Church and the Rev. Leroy Obert and elder W. B. Simmons of Trion.

The Session secured the Rev. Robert Smith of Cedartown to conduct a series of revival services the last week in August. This was the second meeting Mr. Smith had conducted at Bethel and he was welcomed by not only the members of this Church but neighboring Churches as well.

We continue to have services each fourth Sunday morning and second Sunday night. World Communion was observed the first Sunday night in October.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School continues to function with Mr. John S. Jones, superintendent; E. P. Scott, secretary; and Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner and Miss Mary Sue Scott, teachers. Mrs. John Scott and Mr. and Mrs. Merrin were substitute teachers.

The Merrins and Miss Margaret Weesner have worked in an outpost Sunday School at Silver Hill. Miss Margaret Weesner is the faithful organist at both places.

For the first time in history, we had the Daily Vacation Bible School at Bethel. This was brought about by a shift in population. We had been doing the same work at Silver Hill for a number of years. Mr. and Mrs. Merrin were at the head of the school with the support of several other workers who helped with teaching and transportation. The last night we served a picnic supper just before the closing exercise.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The Women of the Church are carrying on with the same officers as last year. Our Group Chairman, Mrs. John Bankson, met with us in April. Mrs. Merrin represented us at Presbyterial, and Mrs. Merrin and Miss Margaret Weesner attended Group Conference at Ringgold. Mrs. Merrin taught Colossians at each monthly meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. James F. Merrin, of Rockmart, came to the Church Easter Sunday night and showed slides of the work at Stillman College, also pictures of Sunday School extension. Our negro neighbors were invited to see the work at Stillman and filled one row of pews. They sang two selections by themselves, then all joined in singing "At the Cross." A prayer was led by Rev. Will Barber, pastor of the Negro Church.

At our regular Birthday Meeting in May, we took an offering for these causes.

We studied "Frontiers of Hope" by Charles Gibbon during the Home Mission season and "Led in Triumph" by Ethel Taylor Wharton was our Foreign Mission study. This book was reviewed at Church one Sunday night. An offering was taken for both causes. We also filled our quota for White Cross work.

YOUNG PEOPLE

The Young People were organized at the beginning of the church year and met each Sunday night at the Church. Kathryn Manning, whom the Women of the Church have been sending to Young Peoples Conference at Shorter, made an excellent president and leader. Their organization gave the Christmas pageant.

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HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1953

The work of the Lord was carried on at Bethel with the same pastor and officers as last year, but owing to the change in the church year to correspond with the calendar year we've had only nine months and many handicaps.

The pastor, Rev. W. L. Merrin, had a very serious throat condition that necessitated an operation and this hindered his work both before and after the operation.

Rev. Robert Smith of Cedartown conducted our revival services in the summer beginning the fourth Sunday in July. This was the third meeting that Mr. Smith had conducted at Bethel and in that time he has endeared himself to the people of this community of all denominations.

Our organist, Miss Margaret Weesner, was unable to play for these services but we were very fortunate to have Mrs. Arthur Cummings of the Unity Baptist Church to play for us.

World Communion Day was observed in October.

The Church School

The Sunday School continues to function with Mr. John S. Jones as superintendent. No large numbers but a few faithful ones refuse to give up. Every year we have one or more transient families whose children are taught and whose lives are brightened and blessed as they pass this way.

The Women of the Church

This organization had the same officers as last year.

The president, Miss Margaret Weesner, attended Presbyterial at Menlo in April and we started the year with high hopes.

Mrs. W. L. Merrin taught the first bible study from Mark at our circle meeting in April but was in an automobile wreck on her way to Presbyterial and was not able to resume her work for some time. About the time she was able to come back, our president was stricken and our meetings have been very irregular this year.

Mrs. Agnew was brought into the church in a wheel chair the fourth Sunday in October and gave a preview of the Home Mission study book, "Jacob's Ladder."

We have no young peoples' organization but "The Women of the Church" sent Kathryn Manning to Shorter College to her third "Young Peoples' Conference." Kathryn brings back a good report and is highly complimented by the faculty each year.

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HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1954

The work of the Lord was carried on this year under the leadership of the same pastor, Rev. Will L. Merrin, and with the same officers as last year.

During the year Bethel's senior elder, Mr. Thomas H. Gore, entered his final rest at the home of a son in Texas. Mr. Gore was the last of his line, and Bethel lost a devoted and faithful officer, a man strong in the faith and true to the cause of Christ and His Church.

Mr. Merrin preaches each second Sunday night and fourth Sunday morning. He secured his brother, Rev. James F. Merrin of Rockmart, to conduct revival services in August.

Two students from Columbia Seminary, Mr. Charles Stowe and B. C. Cole, came to Bethel the second Sunday night in February and conducted a service stressing the work of foreign missions.

Sunday School

The Sunday School has been carried on with the same superintendent, Mr. John S. Jones, and with the same teachers and organist.

The Vacation Bible School was held in the Gore School building with the four churches of the valley, Pleasant Grove and Unity Baptist, Methodist Bethel and Bethel Presbyterian, taking part. There were three or more teachers from each church. Our pastor, Mr. W. L. Merrin, was superintendent and Mrs. Bernard Storey of Unity was the assistant superintendent. The enrollment was 107.

Women of the Church

"The Women of the Church" have carried on under difficulty with sickness and other valid excuses.

We, too, have lost a loyal and faithful member with the passing of Mrs. Mary Omberg Agnew. She was loyal to her family, her church and her God.

Her last act the Sunday that she was stricken was to write a letter to the church assuring us of her interest and prayers, even though she was unable to attend. This letter was read at her funeral. "She being dead yet speaketh."

Mrs. Agnew was an ardent Bible student and taught the Bible at the circle meetings for the "Women of the Church."

HISTORY OF BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1955

The work of the Lord has been carried on this year with the same pastor and officers as last year.

The revival meeting was conducted in March by the Rev. James Mann of Winsboro, North Carolina. Mr. Mann was a forceful speaker and held his audience spellbound.

Rev. and Mrs. Frank McElroy, representatives of the Presbyterian Home at Quitman, were at Bethel the fourth Sunday in June and he preached at the eleven o'clock service. Saturday afternoon before, Mr. McElroy put up attractive signboards pointing to the Church.

Mr. James Marks and Dr. William Martin of the Summerville Church visited Bethel at a Sunday night service to stress stewardship and we promised to increase our gifts to benevolence.

There has been a great deal said about the "Larger Parish" but there has been nothing done about it.

Ben Weesner, a son of Bethel Church, died at York, Alabama, August 27, and was buried in the Shorts Churchyard near there. He joined Bethel while young and served as secretary of the Sunday School for a number of years.

There is no Young People's Organization in the Church now but two students, Richard Merrin and Kathryn Manning, gave reports the fourth Sunday in December of the work they are engaged in in their respective schools. The celebration of the Lord's Supper was observed at the close of this service.

The Church School

The Sunday School meets regularly if sometimes with small numbers. Mr. John Jones continues as superintendent and Miss Margaret Weesner as the faithful organist.

Miss Medlin, a field worker in the Synod of Georgia, did some work in this County during the summer. She held several meetings preparatory to the Vacation Bible School which was held in the Gore School building by the four churches of this valley.

Our pastor, Rev. W. L. Merrin, was superintendent and the helpers from Bethel were Mrs. John S. Jones, Misses Margaret Weesner, Shirley Holt and Kathryn Manning. There was an average daily attendance of 100.

The Women of the Church

The Women of the Church have survived another year with the exception of one: Miss Eva Omberg went to her eternal reward on the last day of the year 1955. She was indeed a virtuous woman -- strong in her faith and convictions and the last of three generations to belong to this Church. Her grandfather, Milas Bailey; her mother, Mrs. Maggie Bailey Omberg; and her Aunt Letitia Bailey, who reared and taught her, and her sister, Mrs. Mary Omberg Agnew, deceased.

Miss Omberg represented the Women of the Church at Presbyterial in Cedartown in the fall and attended the last meeting of her own Circle. She was very fitly Secretary of Spiritual Life and had also assumed the duties of her sister as Secretary of Church Extension.

In spite of many interruptions and handicaps, the Women of Bethel Church had a very successful year from a financial standpoint and look forward to the New Year with faith and courage, believing that "All things work together for good to them that love God, to them that are the called according to His purpose."

Lula Weesner -- Historian.

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HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1956

The Rev. W. L. Merrin continues as pastor of Bethel Church with the same officers and appointments, preaching each fourth Sunday morning and second Sunday night.

We had one visiting minister in the summer while Mr. Merrin and his family were vacationing in California. The Rev. Mr. Andrews, a son of the Cedartown Church, preached for us. This was Mr. Andrews' second visit to Bethel and "The people heard him gladly."

The year marked the passing of the two oldest members of the Church: Miss Cordelia Weesner 87 and Mrs. William J. Crawford 84 years old.

"Miss Delia" joined this Church during her adolescent years under the pastorate of the Rev. T. C. Crawford and cherished the memory of his visits as long as she lived. Her favorite work was in outpost Sunday Schools at Shackelton, a mining town, Silver Hill and various other places. Sometimes in the open. She loved little children, nature and nature's God.

Mrs. Alice Henderson Crawford came to Bethel the bride of Elder William J. Crawford and put her letter in the Church with her husband. They lived in the old home of the Rev. T. C. Crawford and, until they moved to Summerville shortly before the death of Mr. W. J. Crawford, there was always a prophet's chamber and a warm welcome for any minister who served or visited the Church.

Mrs. Crawford was instrumental in changing the women's organization from the "Missionary Society" to the "Woman's Auxiliary" which is now "The Women of the Church."

The Church School

The Church School continues to operate under the leadership of Mr. John S. Jones with only one change in teachers. Mrs. John S. Jones is now teaching the juniors.

The Bethel School joined with the Unity Baptist Church in their Daily Vacation Bible School. Mrs. Jones was one of the instructors and Mrs. Henry Everett helped with transportation and refreshments.

The Women of the Church

The Women of the Church, with the smallest number of active women, made the largest contribution to benevolence they have ever made. We observed as many special days and seasons as possible, but not all. We did contribute to all causes and filled our quota for White Cross work.

Our Bible Study was based on "Bible Homes and Family Life Today" by Carolyn and William Ward. Since each lesson was a separate unit, we took turns teaching the lessons and leading the discussion. This proved very satisfactory.

Lula Weesner, Historian.

HISTORY OF BETHEL CHURCH

1957

The work of the Lord was carried on in this place under the leadership of the Rev. William L. Merrin the first half of the year. He retired the last of June and went to live near his children in Heyward, California, later moving to a daughter at Tacoma, Washington.

As a token of appreciation for his faithful service to the Church, he received a substantial gift at the closing service.

He was appointed as a delegate to the General Assembly which met in Birmingham, Alabama, and was in session the fourth Sunday in May.

In his absence, we had a Mr. Watson from Columbia Seminary to preach for us. He was a forceful speaker and an excellent leader in the song service. This was enjoyed by everyone present -- both old and young.

During the months of July and August, we had a Mr. Wilkerson of Richmond, Virginia. He was a student from the Training School there and a pupil of Dr. James Sydnor, Minister of Music and son of our beloved Dr. G. G. Sydnor, former pastor of Rome's First Church and a frequent visitor and staunch friend of Bethel.

For the months of September and October, we had a young couple from Columbia Seminary, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Womack. Mr. Womack is a promising member of the Senior Class and she is truly his helpmeet.

Mr. Robert Pooley, Jr., Secretary of Cherokee Presbytery, came to us in November and December. The celebration of the Lord's Supper was observed in November and in December plans for calling a pastor were discussed.

The Church School is functioning under the leadership of descendants of the Jones, Crawford, Scott and Weesner families, who have been carrying on this work for more than a century.

The Women of the Church are truly the connecting link between the home and the Church. With one small circle, we had our Bible Study, observed the special days and seasons and contributed to all benevolent causes. The Women of the Church sponsored the drive for the Presbyterian Survey and made it one hundred per cent.

Lula Weesner - Historian

93207

HISTORY OF BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1958

The work of the Lord was carried on this year with the same officers as formerly.

Elders: John S. Jones
S. I. Storey

Deacons: E. P. Scott
John D. Scott

The pulpit was supplied the first three months by a different man each fourth Sunday.

The speaker in January was Mr. T. A. Geraldson, Bible teacher at Berry Schools, and he was indeed a Bible teacher.

The Rev. Robert Pooley, Jr., Secretary of Cherokee Presbytery, came in February and, after preaching a very forceful sermon, had a congregational meeting and made final arrangements for us to call Rev. Roy Gwaltney of Trion as a supply pastor.

Rev. Kirk Nesbit, a classmate of Bernard Storey, preached for us in March. Mr. Nesbit works in the Presbyterian Center at Georgia Tech.

The Rev. Roy Gwaltney began his work as pastor in April, preaching each second and fourth Sunday mornings at nine o'clock. This is a very unusual hour for a country church and has both advantages and disadvantages. It gives us preaching twice a month in the morning but at an hour that is very inconvenient for most country people. It works better in the summer than in the winter.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Everett were responsible for getting gas heaters installed in the early fall. This added to the comfort of the congregation and is a "far cry" from the heating systems of early days. (This was done at a cost of \$350.00 and this amount was raised in fifteen minutes or less time.)

The first church erected in 1847 was a log building that stood just east of the present building and had a rock chimney and an open fire. The present building, which was erected before the Civil War and remodeled after the War, had no heat at all until a Rome concern gave the congregation two box heaters in 1872. Until then they would build up a big bonfire outdoors and warm before going in for services. A few of the older ladies had charcoal heaters to warm their feet. The box heaters were fired with pine stove wood. We later got a circulating heater and burned coal.

Mr. Gwaltney and a group of young people from Trion and Rome's First Church spent several Saturdays in the fall painting the outside of the building. S. I. Storey furnished the paint and some of the Bethel women furnished lunches and drinks.

The custom of celebrating the Lord's Supper the first month in each quarter has been revived after being sadly neglected during recent years.

There were no revival services held during this year but two young men, James Thomas Holt, Jr., and John Daniel Weesner, Jr., joined the Church and were baptized the fourth Sunday in August.

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

The Church School continues to function with Mr. John S. Jones as superintendent; E. P. Scott, secretary and treasurer; and Miss Margaret Weesner, organist.

We have Sunday School each Sunday morning at ten o'clock. The Sundays that we have preaching this comes after the nine o'clock preaching service.

Our Church and the Unity Baptist Church worked together in the Daily Vacation Bible School held at Unity with our pastor as superintendent. Mrs. John Jones and Miss Margaret Weesner taught in the primary department.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Although there are thirteen women on the Church Roll, only five attend the regular meetings. Some help with contributions, White Cross work and other activities.

We observed the special seasons of prayer, birthday party, contributed to all benevolent causes and filled our quota for White Cross.

Miss Margaret Weesner, who had served faithfully and well as president for twelve (12) consecutive years, asked to be relieved of her duties since she is not able to represent us at Presbyterial and other meetings. She did this for many years because there was no one else that could. Mrs. John Scott, the vice-president, agreed to exchange places with her.

Lula Weesner, Historian

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HISTORY OF BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Synod of Ga. 1960 Cherokee Presbytery

The work of the Lord was carried forward in 1959 under the leadership of the Rev. Roy Gwaltney of Trion as supply pastor with elders: John S. Jones and S. I. Storey; deacons E. P. Scott and John D. Scott; and Miss Margaret Weesner, the faithful organist, carrying on in spite of her handicap, arthritis.

Mr. Gwaltney continues to preach each second and fourth Sunday mornings at nine o'clock. This year we had a revival the last week in August. He did the preaching each evening and the Rev. J. B. Cantrell, pastor of Unity Baptist Church, was in charge of the song service with Mrs. Clyde Packer at the piano. (Mr. S. I. Storey furnished the piano for these services.) The singing was both spirited and inspirational. The congregations were good with visitors from all sections of this County and some from Floyd. A beautiful floral arrangement occupied the communion table throughout the week, given by Bernard Murphy, Jr., honoring his mother, the late Mrs. Bernard Murphy of Trion, on her birthday.

The interior of the Church was painted in August just prior to these services by Mr. Joe Pursely. We kept the traditional white walls.

Wednesday night was Family Night with supper-on-the-ground. This proved to be a very pleasant and profitable hour.

There were three additions to the Church: Sam and David Jones and Scott Everett, each of them being the fourth generation in their families to belong to Bethel Church.

The Men of the Church do not have an organization in this Church but do attend meetings of "The Men of Cherokee Presbytery."

The Church School

The Church School continues to function with Mr. John S. Jones, superintendent; John D. Scott, acting secretary; and Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner and Mary Sue Scott, teachers. The attendance is small but constant.

Bethel had no Daily Vacation Bible School but took part in the one at Unity Church. Sam Jones attended Young Peoples Conference at Nacoochee.

Lula Weesner, Historian

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Synod of Georgia-Cherokee Presbytery

The Women of the Church

The Women of the Church continued with Mrs. John Scott as president and the other officers the same as the previous year. The programs for the monthly meetings were taken from the Woman's Work Book, the Presbyterian Survey, and the Christian Observer.

We observed the special days and seasons but, instead of giving one day's pay to Church Extension, we contributed more than one day's pay to redecorating our own little Church which was badly in need of repair. We met our quota for White Cross Work.

We do not have a Business Woman's Circle but a large majority of our women work in widely scattered areas which makes it impossible for us to have a full attendance at our meetings.

Lula Weesner, Historian

HISTORY OF BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

R. F. D. 1, SUMMERVILLE, GA.

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

1960

Pastor: Rev. Le Roy Gwaltney

Elders: John S. Jones, S. I. Storey

Deacons: E. P. Scott, John D. Scott

Clerk of Session: John S. Jones

Treasurer: John D. Scott

Organist: Miss Margaret Weesner

The work of the Lord has progressed another year under the efficient leadership of the Rev. Roy Gwaltney of Trion, with services each second and fourth Sunday morning.

This year we followed our plan for improving the interior of the building by painting the floor and getting a rich red rug and runners for the aisles. The purchase was made by John Scott, an employee of the Georgia Rug Mill, for \$230.00 after getting a 20% discount. Before laying the new carpet the seats were rearranged so as to have one broad central aisle. This was the arrangement used in former years when a communion table was placed in this aisle and the communicants sat around it.

Mr. S. I. Storey was instrumental in securing the services of an evangelist, the Rev. J. A. Boyd of Virginia, to conduct the revival services this year. Mr. Boyd was Mr. Storey's teacher and football coach at Donald Frazier School for Boys at Decatur, Georgia, 47 years ago.

Mr. J. B. Cantrell was again employed to lead the singing with Mrs. Clyde Packer and her daughter, Jan, alternating as pianists.

The services were forceful and inspirational and well attended by people of the neighboring churches of different denominations.

Lula M. Weesner, Historian

Bethel Presbyterian Church
The Church School
1960

THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Mr. John S. Jones continues to serve as superintendent of the Church School with John Scott acting as secretary and treasurer.

There are only three teachers, Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner and Mary Sue Scott. The attendance is small but constant. We try to follow the admonition of Paul the Apostle who said, "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."

II Timothy 2:15.

Lula M. Weesner, Historian

In the December issue of the Presbyterian Survey, Bethel Church was listed as one of the churches in the State of Georgia that gave more to benevolence last year than they spent on themselves. "Let us give honor to who honor is due."

Mrs. (W. J.) Alice Henderson Crawford, deceased, was one of our most faithful and loyal members and served in various capacities in the "Women's Auxiliary." Her home was always open and the "Tropicana Chamber" was always ready for any and every minister that came into our midst and she was there to administer to their bodily needs. Besides her sister, Miss Harriet Henderson, known of her concern for the ministry, especially the young students who come to serve in our Church, she passed on one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) that Mrs. Crawford had left her to Columbia Seminary at Columbia, Georgia, to help train other young men for the ministry.

"If you've had a kindness shown,
Pass it on!
You can't wait for you alone,
Pass it on!
Let it travel down the years,
Let it dry another's tears,
Till in heaven the deed appears,
Pass it on!"

Lula M. Weesner, Historian

- 3 -

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Women of the Church
1960

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

President: Mrs. John Scott

Vice President: Miss Margaret Weesner

Secretary: Miss Mary Sue Scott

Treasurer and Historian: Miss Lula Weesner

There are thirteen women in our Church (Bethel), but only five attend the Women's meetings and take an active part in the work. The others contribute to special causes when asked.

The contributions to benevolence amounted to ninety dollars (\$90.00) for the short year of nine months - January through September. We contributed to the various benevolent causes and observed the special days and seasons. We sent one large box of clothing to Overseas Relief. We also gave a box of useful articles valued at twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) to our pastor's wife for the baby expected soon.

In the November issue of the Presbyterian Survey, Bethel Church was listed as one of ten churches in the Synod of Georgia that gave more to benevolence last year than they spent on themselves. "Let us give honor to whom honor is due."

Mrs. (W. J.) Alice Henderson Crawford, deceased, was one of our most faithful and loyal members who served in various capacities in the "Woman's Auxiliary." Her home was always open and the "Prophet's Chamber" was always ready for any and every minister that came into our midst and she was there to administer to their bodily needs. Because her sister, Miss Harriet Henderson, knew of her concern for the ministry, especially the young students who came to serve in our Church, she passed on one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) that Mrs. Crawford had left her to Columbia Seminary at Decatur, Georgia, to help train other young men for the ministry.

"If you've had a kindness shown,
Pass it on!
'Twas not meant for you alone,
Pass it on!
Let it travel down the years,
Let it dry another's tears,
'Till in heaven the deed appears,
Pass it on!"

Lula M. Weesner, Historian

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CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA, ROUTE ONE

GORE COMMUNITY

1961

Pastor: Rev. LeRoy Gwaltney

Elders: John S. Jones, S. I. Storey

Deacons: E. P. Scott, John D. Scott, Thomas J. Holt, Jr., Arthur B. Cummings

Clerk of Session: John S. Jones

Treasurers: John D. Scott, E. P. Scott

Organist: Miss Margaret Weesner

The work of the Lord went forward under the leadership of the Rev. LeRoy Gwaltney for his fourth and last year with services each second and fourth Sunday morning at 9 o'clock. Mr. Gwaltney put his whole heart, soul and body into the work here and accomplished much. His most satisfying experience was receiving five members into the church upon profession of their faith. Three boys were baptized in infancy and two men made public confessions and were baptized then.

We had several visiting speakers during the year. The first were two men from the Gideon Band of Rome. They were Messrs. Earl Glover and A. B. Hammond. Mr. Glover spoke at length on the work of the Gideons and at the close of the service a free will offering of \$25.00 was given by those present.

On the first Sunday in May, Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner represented our church at a semi-annual communion service at Sardis Church where their grandfather, William John Smith, was an elder. He traveled from Coosa, near Rome, to Philadelphia in a horse drawn carriage with a Negro driver to attend a meeting of the General Assembly in 1860 or 1861. He came back greatly disturbed because there was talk of a division in the Church, North and South, and he was afraid that it would be years before it would be reunited -- which was only too true.

Lula Weesner Historian

Bethel Church 1961

The Rev. Robert Pooley preached for us the second Sunday in May while Mr. Gwaltney was conducting revival services in another state.

The Rev. Gerald H. Kirby, Associate Pastor of Rome's First Church, preached for us the fourth Sunday in June and the second Sunday in July while Mr. Gwaltney was working with the young people of Cherokee Presbytery and vacationing in Florida.

At the close of the Sunday School the fourth Sunday in June, our treasurer, John Scott, was giving a report when he was stricken with a tumor of the brain and he was buried just one month later, the fourth Sunday in July. This was a shock and a great loss to the church. He had lived a quiet, unpretentious life. His going left a vacancy in our church that is felt by the entire membership. His brother, E. P. Scott, took up his work as treasurer.

On the fourth Sunday in August, two men, Thomas J. Holt, Jr., and Arthur B. Cummings, were elected deacons. They were ordained September 10, 1961.

Our revival services were held the last week in September, beginning Sunday night, September 24. We were fortunate to have the Rev. Mr. Kirby with us again. His discourses were forceful and unusual. His theme for the week was, "Where a Man Found God." Mr. Gwaltney conducted the song services and Jan Packer of the Unity Baptist Church was pianist.

Mr. Gwaltney tendered his resignation the second Sunday in December and preached his last sermon the fourth Sunday, which was Christmas Eve. The Lord's Supper was observed at the close of this service.

After the service he was presented a silver coffee pot (or urn) and a sum of money as a gift to try to show the love and esteem we had for him and his family.

The Rev. Robert C. Pooley, Jr., Treasurer of Cherokee Presbytery, gave the following notice recently:

"The Bethel Church had a net loss of one member in 1961, and gave \$838.00 to all benevolences and \$994.00 to current expenses. This represents \$36.43 per capita to benevolences and \$79.65 per capita for total contributions. Congratulations!"

Lula Weesner, Historian

Bethel Presbyterian Church

The Church School

1961

Mr. John S. Jones continues to serve as superintendent of the Church School -- following in the footsteps of his ancestors who were the founders of the work at Bethel.

There are only three teachers: Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner and Mary Sue Scott. They have almost perfect attendance and give of their best to the Master.

E. P. Scott took up his work as secretary and treasurer of the Church School after being out for a while.

There are no men's or young peoples organizations but the men attend the meetings of the "Men of Cherokee Presbytery." Sam and David Jones attended the Young People's Conferences in the summer.

Bethel Presbyterian Church

Women of the Church

1961

President: Mrs. John D. Scott
Vice President: Miss Margaret Weesner
Secretary: Miss Mary Sue Scott
Treasurer: Miss Lula Weesner
Historian: Miss Lula Weesner
Spiritual Growth: Miss Mary Sue Scott
Christian Education: Miss Lula Weesner
Stewardship: Mrs. Henry Everett
World Missions: Mrs. John Scott
White Cross: Mrs. John D. Scott
Church Extension: Miss Lula Weesner
Annuities and Relief: Miss Mary Sue Scott
General Fund Agencies: Miss Margaret Weesner
Columbia Friendship: Mrs. Henry Everett
Homes: Mrs. Henry Everett

The Women of the Church are still functioning in a limited way, although we have not been represented at Presbyterial or Group Conference since Miss Margaret Weesner has not been physically able to attend. She

Bethel W.C.C. 1961

10/288
enjoyed the meetings and counted it a duty and privilege to attend.

We observed some of the special days and contributed to most of them, either through our organization or through the church. We met our quota for the White Cross. There are only five active members but the other women of the church help furnish this quota and contribute to other special appeals.

We are one hundred per cent subscribers to the "Presbyterian Survey."

Gula Weesner Historian

HISTORY

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

R.F.D. 1 - SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

1962

Elders: S. I. Storey
John S. Jones

Deacons: E. P. Scott, Jr.
Thomas J. Holt
Arthur B. Cummings

The deacons reported that we were the only church that met our quota for benevolence, regardless of the fact that we were without a pastor the first five months.

We were very fortunate to have the Rev. Robert C. Pooley, Jr., to preach for us two Sundays in each month, except two: The second Sunday in January we had Rev. David Lehman, Missionary to Brazil, and one other Sunday we had
preach for us.

104633 The Rev. Earl Hall graduated from Columbia Seminary and took up the work at Bethel the fourth Sunday in June, preaching each second and fourth Sunday mornings at nine o'clock before his regular appointment at Trion at eleven o'clock.

The death of Miss Margaret Weesner, March 21, 1962, was felt in every department of the church because she was active in every phase of the work. No task was too insignificant and no undertaking too great.

She served as janitor, sometimes by herself and sometimes with others. She was the faithful organist for fifty (50) years and played for Sunday School the last Sunday before she went to the hospital. When she could not carry on she asked that Lynda Storey of the Unity Church play for her, never anticipating that she would not come back.

In spite of the fact that she had been walking on crutches two or three years, in the meantime she was carrying on her work in the church and the community and driving the family car to take people to church and to the doctor. If there was a sick person, either white or black, who needed transportation to the doctor or hospital they knew they could call on "Miss Mag" because she never refused.

This took a teacher out of the Sunday School and the two remaining ones carried on until December when Miss Lula Weesner moved east of Taylor's Ridge. This not only took a teacher out of the Sunday School but a home out of the church. For eighty-one (81) years the B. F. Weesner home had been open to every preacher and Sunday School worker who came into the Bethel Community and the members of this family had been active participants in the church and civic affairs.

Miss Mary Sue Scott took the place in the Sunday School vacated by Miss Lula Weesner, and Tommy Holt took the boys' class that she had been teaching.

The church has purchased a piano during the year but has no one to play for Sunday School. There was no change in the superintendent's and secretary-treasurer's places.

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

"The Women of the Church," which was organized by the Rev. T. C. Crawford as a "Missionary Society," has held together until this day largely due to the women in the Scott family. We met once during the year with Mrs. John Scott, two or three times with Mrs. Henry Everett, and the balance of the time with the ever faithful Miss Mary Sue Scott.

Her door was always open and she welcomed us as did her mother before her. "Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it."

Mrs. John Scott continues as president and the vice-president's place held by Miss Margaret Weesner is left vacant. The other officers are the same as last year.

Lula Weesner, Historian

The following notice was omitted from the Bethel Church History for the year 1949:

William David Jones, second son of Mr. and Mrs. John S. Jones, was baptized in Bethel Church on Easter Sunday 1949 by the Rev. Harry K. Foster. He is the grandson of Mr. Samuel E. Jones and Tecoa Crawford Jones and the great grandson of the Rev. T. C. Crawford. That makes him the fourth generation of this family to be connected with this church.

Lula Weesner, Historian

104633

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia RFD 1.
History 1963

Pastor: Earl Hall
Elders: John S. Jones, Clerk
S. I. Storey
Deacons: E. P. Scott, Treasurer
Arthur B. Cummings, Thos. J. Holt

The work of the Lord was carried on this year with the Rev. Earl Hall as pastor and the above named officers. We continue having services twice each month, second and fourth Sunday Mornings at 9 o'clock.

The congregation is small but faithful. We have few visitors at this hour. Linda Storey is our efficient pianist.

Our pastor was called away in March and a Mr. Hall, representing the Gideons, spoke at the 9 o'clock service and accepted an offering for that cause.

A Mr. Horace Stewart, pastor of Unity Baptist Church came twice and brought two young ladies from Shorter College. Meredith Atkinson who sang, accompanied by Emily Roberts. This was appreciated.

There was no revival services during the year but three people were received by letter. They were Mrs. Sara Scoggins Chandler and children, Gregg and Pamela Chandler.

One of our young men, Samuel Orr Jones left in September to enter Emory at Oxford. Sam is a studious young man and we are expecting great things of him.

The Sunday school still functions under the leadership of Mr. John S. Jones. There are only two regular teachers, Miss Mary Sue Scott and Mr. Tommy Holt with Miss Lula Weesner as a supply. E. P. Scott is secretary and treasurer.

The numbers are small but "Where two or more are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them."

Lula M. Weesner, Historian
1963

Bethel Church

Women of the Church - 1963

The women of the Church have only four active members and they hold the following offices:

Mrs. John Scott, President
Secretary of World Missions
Secretary of White Cross

Miss Mary Sue Scott, Secretary
Secretary of Spiritual Growth
Secretary of Annuities and Relief

Miss Lula Weesner, Treasurer

Miss Lula Weesner, Historian
Secretary of Christian Education
Secretary Church Extension

Mrs. Henry Everett, Stewardship
Secretary of Columbus Friendship
Secretary of Homes

Since two of our number work and the other two do not drive we cannot meet as regularly as we would like, however we contribute to all causes through our central treasurer, observe some special days, and fill our quota of white cross materials.

For many years Misses Margaret and Lula Weesner collected the money and with what labor they could get from local people, had the cemetery cleaned. "Miss Mag" was the chauffeur for all this work. After her death in 1962 this work lagged until E. P. Scott accepted the challenge and took the work over. He collected some money, got some help and did much of the work himself on Saturday - the only day he was off his regular work. He and his wife also took the job of keeping the church, voluntarily, when others were disabled.

Lula M. Weesner, Historian
1963

108475

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA ROUTE ONE

GORE COMMUNITY 1964

Pastor: Rev. Earl H. Hall

Elders: John S. Jones, Clerk; S. I. Storey; E. P. Scott, Treasurer

Deacons: Arthur B. Cummings; Tommy Holt; J. D. Weesner Jr.

The work of the Lord was carried on during this year by the above named pastor and officers with Lynda Storey the faithful and efficient pianist.

At a congregational meeting the fourth Sunday in January (Jan. 26, 1964) we elected two officers for the church: John S. Jones nominated E. P. Scott for elder, and J. D. Weesner Jr. for deacon. They were elected by acclamation. The fourth Sunday in February (Feb. 23, 1964) they were ordained and installed.

Mr. Horace Stewart, a Shorter student and pastor of Unity Baptist church continued to come occasionally and bring young ladies from Shorter College who furnished special music. When Shorter closed and he was leaving to attend seminary the Bethel people attended his last service in a body as a gesture of appreciation.

After the purchase of the piano from Mr. J. H. Blair the organ was left there as a mute reminder of better days when we had a house full and excellent congregational singing with Mrs. Mattie Jones Wright or Miss Margaret Weesner at the organ. It was suggested that the organ be given to "Miss Mag" since it meant more to her than any one else, but after she had gone to join the heavenly choir it was sold to Miss Lona Mae Storey, a faithful member of Bethel church. We were glad for her to have it because she has had it overhauled and refinished and it has a certain sentimental value to her. One little boy remarked "It certainly is lonesome without the organ". This was understandable because this was the instrument that Miss Margaret Weesner had used the entire fifty years that she was organist and the only one the majority of the membership could remember. It was bought in 1911.

E. P. Scott looked after the church grounds and cemetery again this year and did a wonderful job. The cemetery was mowed three times and was in fair condition when fall came.

By some arrangement of the session the Presbyterian Survey is being sent to every family in the church.

Lula Weesner Historian

108475

To our shame the pastor announced the second Sunday in November that Bethel did not have a representative at presbytery or presbyterial.

We continue having preaching each second and fourth Sunday morning at 9 o'clock. There were no revival services during the year.

Happily we have not fallen down in finances. The collection for Thornwell Orphanage was taken Sunday before Thanksgiving and amounted to \$60.00.

The Sunday School goes faithfully on with Mr. John S. Jones supertendent. The other officers and teachers are the same as last year.

THE WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

1964

There are only four active members among the women of the church and we hold the same offices and secretaryship as last year. We read the Survey, studied the work books, and contributed to the various causes through the Central Treasurer, Mr. Pooley. We contributed to two special causes: the "Birthday Offering" and "Blessing Boxes."

Because we are scattered over such a wide area, and other handicaps, most of our meetings were by remote control, so to speak. It was either that or disband which we are loath to do.

Lula Weesner - Historian

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA, ROUTE 1

GORE COMMUNITY

HISTORY, 1965

Pastor: Rev. Earl Hall

Elders: John S. Jones, Clerk; S. I. Storey,
E. P. Scott, Treasurer

Deacons: Arthur B. Cummings, Tommy J. Holt, Jr.,
John D. Weesner, Jr.

11247
The work of the Lord was carried on this year by the above named pastor and officers with Lynda and Karen Storey the faithful and efficient pianists.

We continue having preaching each second and fourth Sunday mornings at 9 o'clock. The congregations are small but faithful and liberal. We reached the high-water mark by contributing \$98.00 (ninety-eight dollars) for one Sunday's offering.

When they called the Rev. T. C. Crawford, as the first pastor of the church, they promised to pay him \$150.00 (one hundred fifty dollars) per year. At that time, there were 21 charter members - about the same as we have today. However, during the 120 years that have intervened, there have been scores of faithful and influential men and women gone from this church. The membership was more than 100 at one time.

Recently, on September 25, 1965, Mrs. Emmie Echols Davidson of Miami, Florida, came to Bethel, made a public profession and was baptized; joining the church of her forbears, her mother, Maria Storey Echols and her grandfather, Pinkney Storey, Sr., of Crystal Springs, Georgia.

Lula Weesner
1965

Mrs. Sara Scoggins Chandler, who had not been with us very long, died very unexpectedly in February. Her three children, two of whom were members of our church, went to live with an uncle and aunt, who were Baptist. Naturally, they attend church with them.

The Storey family, in fact this whole section, was saddened in June when Mr. S. I. Storey was involved in an automobile accident that took the life of his grandson, Philip Storey.

11247 The Sunday School continues small but constant with Mr. John S. Jones as Superintendent, E. P. Scott, Secretary and Treasurer, Miss Mary Sue Scott, Miss Janie Scott and Tommy Holt, teachers.

E. P. Scott deserves much credit for the interest he has shown in the church building, the grounds, and the cemetery. He did much of this work himself. He furnished the mowing machine, collected the money, and hired Mr. Ernest Rampley to mow the cemetery four times during the year; the best it has ever been kept.

The women of the church were finally forced to disband. So few women were scattered over such a large area that it made it almost impossible for us to meet. The organization was started eighty-odd years ago by the Rev. T. C. Crawford and has done much good through the years.

I am resigning after writing the history for thirty consecutive years, gathering historical facts from old church books and by talking with older people. I sincerely hope that some one will take the work up here and carry on for future generations.

Lula Weesner
1965

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUMMERVILLE, GA. R. F. D. 1

HISTORY, 1966

Bethel Church began the work of year with the following officers:

ELDERS: John S. Jones, S. I. Storey, E. P. Scott

DEACONS: Arthur B. Cummings, J. T. Holt, J. D. Weesner

PIANIST: Karen Storey

Trion Church continued to share their pastor with us. Rev. Earl Hall preached at nine o'clock every second and fourth Sunday morning.

Miss Karen Storey, our faithful pianist, brought a friend with her on Mother's Day, May 8 and they played a duet "Faith of Our Mothers" on their clarinets.

We had as visitors May 22 Rev. and Mrs. Edwards of Unity Baptist Church, and four young ladies from Shorter College in Rome. Two of the ladies sang solos accompanied at the piano by another.

Through the Family Plan a copy of the Presbyterian Survey is in every home of the church.

On Sunday July 24 Rev. Earl Hall resigned to accept a call to the Blountsville, Tennessee Church. Trion and Bethel were his first churches and we at Bethel felt he was most faithful during the little more than four years he was with us so we regretted to see him go.

We continued to have regular services even though without a pastor. Mr. Howard Allen, a senior at Columbia Seminary, preached for us August 14.

Then Rev. Robert C. Pooley, Treasurer of Cherokee Presbytery, preached twice a month the rest of the year.

The three young men of our church are in college:

Sam Jones at University of Georgia, Athens

Scott Everett at Shorter College, Rome

David Jones at North Georgia College, Dahlonega

The Sunday School meets at ten o'clock each Sunday morning even though we are few in number. Mr. John S. Jones is Superintendent and Mr. E. P. Scott is Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. E. P. Scott saw that the church grounds and cemetery were well kept.

Even though the Women of the Church no longer meet two of the ladies did get up the White Cross Quota for the year.

Mary Sue Scott

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Ga. R.F.D. 1 30747
1967

Bethel Church began the year with the following officers:
Supply Pastor: Mr. R. C. Pooley

Elders: John S. Jones	Deacons: A. B. Cummings
S. I. Storey	J. T. Holt
E. P. Scott	J. D. Weesner
Pianist: Karen Storey	

We had no regular pastor all year but were indeed fortunate to have Mr. R. C. Pooley as Supply Pastor.

Mr. Howard Allen, of Columbia Seminary preached the second Sunday of January. Mr. Gerald Kirby, assistant pastor of Rome First Presbyterian Church, preached the fourth Sunday.

Mr. E. P. Scott attended Presbytery at Dalton on January 17.

On February 5 Mr. Lawrence E. Durr, an Evangelistic Missionary from Brazil since 1961, spoke to us of the work being done there.

On March 12 and April 23 we had young ladies from Shorter College with us. Miss Ann Handerson sang, another student accompanied her on the piano. We appreciated the special music, it adds much to our services.

Mr. and Mrs. John S. Jones and Mr. A. B. Cummings were elected to the Pulpit Committee and went to Beersheba to hear a young seminary student. At a congregational meeting on April 23 he was called but later rejected the call.

Mr. John S. Jones attended the Spring Meeting of Presbytery held at Cloudland April 25.

On June 25 Mr. Joe Berry, also a Senior at Columbia Seminary, visited our church and at a congregational meeting following the service he was called, but he did not accept.

In order to hear a trial sermon by Rev. S. Burt Wilkinson of Sharon, S. C. we changed preaching to third Sunday of August. A supper was served at the church Saturday night August 19. The members of the church enjoyed meeting Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson and were very sorry he did not accept our call.

September 10 Rev. Erdman, a missionary to Mexico, who was back in U. S. for a year was with us.

Miss Lula Weesner passed away on September 22 and her body was laid to rest in Bethel Cemetery. She was the oldest and one of the most faithful members of Bethel Church. She taught a Sunday School Class for many years. She moved from our community in December of 1962, after the death of her sister, to reside with a nephew J. D. Weesner near Lyerly. As long as her health would permit she came back to Bethel twice a month. She was always willing to help in civic affairs, in church work, was a teacher in Public Schools of the county for fifty-one years.

Mr. E. P. Scott attended the fall meeting of Presbytery which was held at John Knox Church, Marietta on October 17.

Rev. Donald Ragon, pastor of Trion Presbyterian Church was our guest October 22.

Special music was given by a group of Shorter girls November 12.

A congregational meeting was called following the morning worship service December 10 at which time Mr. A. B. Cummings was elected elder and Mr. Hugh Sword deacon.

An impressive service was held December 24 at which time the above named were ordained. Certificates of ordination were presented other officers of the church by Rev. R. C. Pooley. The members of Unity Baptist Church attended the service and we were thankful for such a large congregation on this day before Christmas.

We had as guest December 31 Rev. Lewis Metts of Dallas, N. C. another potential pastor for the Beersheba-Bethel field.

Our Sunday School is very small but we continue to meet each Sunday morning with the same officers.

Mr. E. P. Scott has seen that the cemetery and church grounds were well kept during the year.

Mary Sue Scott

11/6/05

118425

CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY
BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
SUMMERVILLE, GEORGIA
R. F. D. 1 30747
1968

Bethel Church began the year with the following officers:

Supply Pastor: Rev. Robert C. Pooley
Elders: S. I. Storey, John S. Jones, E. P. Scott,
Arthur B. Cummings.
Deacons: J. T. Holt, Jr., J. D. Weesner, Hugh Swords,
Pianist: Miss Karen Storey

We continued to have services at nine o'clock each second and Fourth Sundays. Mr. Pooley has surely been faithful as our Supply Pastor.

Mr. Arthur Cummings attended Presbytery on January 16, 1968

Mr. Ronald Ragan preached for us February 11th and again March 10th. We had special music at the March service by two Shorter College girls.

Our delegate to Presbytery, at Mars Hill on April 16th, was E. P. Scott.

We were told April 28th that a meeting to discuss plans for a larger parish was to be held soon. Rev. Ronald Ragan, pastor of Trion Church, was to serve Beersheba, Bethel and Trion Churches. But, Bethel was left out of this group.

The 25th Wedding Anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Robert C. Pooley was observed, in the Fellowship Hall of the beautiful new Beersheba Presbyterian Church, on Sunday P. M., May 10, 1968 from three to five p. m. Many members from Bethel attended.

Mr. John Jones attended Presbytery at Menlo July 13th.

A Homecoming was held at Bethel on Sunday, July 14th. Unity Baptist Church joined with us on this occasion. The eleven o'clock message was brought by Rev. Robert C. Pooley. He read letters from two former pastors (Rev. Roy Gwaltney and Rev. Earl Hall.) Each told how much they would like to have been with us for the day. Mr. Pooley read a brief history of the church which was organized October 24, 1846 with twenty-one members. We enjoyed special music by Mrs. Horace Stewart and Mr. Duke Gunning, a deacon of Calhoun Presbyterian Church. Lunch was spread at noon and we enjoyed the fellowship with former members and friends.

Evangelistic services were held at Bethel, August 18th through 21st, nightly at seven thirty. Our speaker was Rev. E. R. Arehart, pastor of Menlo Presbyterian Church, and for thirty-years a missionary to Brazil. Our song leader was Rev. Ronald Ragan of Trion Church. Special music was featured at each service. The services were most inspirational.

We enjoyed having Mr. Charles E. Bell preach for us on September 8th.

On October 27th Mr. Pooley used the record "Who Will Answer" by Ed Ames during the service.

Mr. Gerald Kirby, assistant pastor of Rome First Presbyterian Church, preached on December 8th.

On December 22nd Mr. Pooley's message was "Christmas, Withour Fear".

We continue to have Sunday School each Sunday. Mr. John Jones is Superintendent and E. P. Scott is Secretary and Treasurer.

Mr. E. P. Scott continued to see that the cemetery and church grounds were well kept.

Mary Sue Scott
1968

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CHEROKEE PRESBYTERY

History of Bethel Presbyterian Church
Summerville, Georgia R. F. D. 30747
1969

Bethel Church began the year with the following officers:

Elders

Mr. John S. Jones
Mr. S. I. Storey
Mr. E. P. Scott
Mr. Arthur B. Cummings
Pianist - Miss Karen Storey

Deacons

Mr. J. T. Holt, Jr.
Mr. J. D. Weesner
Mr. Hugh A. Swords

Services were held on the Second and Fourth Sundays at 9:00 A. M. with the Rev. R. C. Pooley, Jr., Executive Secretary of Cherokee Presbytery, as Supply Pastor.

Mr. John S. Jones represented Bethel at Presbytery, which met at Midway Church, Lost Mountain, Georgia, on January 21st.

The Annual Reports submitted to Presbytery showed Bethel's membership as 23. Gifts \$2,219.00 with \$1,133.00 going for Benevolence. Mr. E. P. Scott, Treasurer of Bethel Church, reported a balance of \$1,663.00 including Savings and Stocks.

Rev. Gerald Kirby preached for us on February 23rd. We had as guests the Pastor of Unity Baptist Church, Rev. Mike Holdridge, Mrs. Holdridge and four girls from Shorter College who gave special music.

We had no special service at our church on Easter Sunday but attended a 9:00 A. M. Service at Unity. Rev. Holdridge had charge of the service and Rev. Pooley brought the message.

On April 18, 1844 Cherokee Presbytery was organized at the Summerville Church which was an offshoot of Pleasant Green Church located about three miles west of Summerville. Pleasant Green was the first Presbyterian Church organized in Chattooga County, being organized in 1835. The first church was called "Enon". The four ^{members} present when the Cherokee Presbytery was organized were: James Gamble, Moderator, N. A. Pratt, A. B. McCordele and Isaac W. Waddell. Cherokee Presbytery celebrated it's 125th Anniversary when it held its Stated Spring Meeting at the Summerville Church.

Presbyterial met that morning at the Trion Church and then the ladies joined the men at 2:00 P. M. for the Anniversary Service which included Music, Drama, and Addresses. The Berry College Singers contributed their talents with several choral selections. A series of Tableaus depicting scenes from the early days were presented. Dr. S. Wilkes Dendy, who for over thirty years was pastor of the First Presbyterian Church at Dalton, before retiring in 1966 brought out many interesting thoughts as he gave "A Backward Glance". Greetings from Synod were brought by the moderator, Dr. Harry A. Fifield, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta and Dr. John J. Diefell, Stated Clerk of Synod. The main address was given by Dr. J. M. McDowell Richards, President of Columbia Theological Seminary at Decatur.

Mr. Arthur B. Cummings represented Bethel at Presbytery and Miss Mary Sue Scott attended the Anniversary Celebration.

We had an unusual service at Bethel on April 27th which was enjoyed by members of our church. We do not have a Boy Scout Troup in our community so we welcomed the scouts and leader of Troup 25 from Floyd County. At this time "The God and Country Award" was presented to Billy Houston, who lived in our county when he first became a Scout, and at that time Rev. Pooley was a Scout Leader.

Because of the illness of Mr. E. P. Scott for several months, Mr. J. T. Holt, Jr. assumed the responsibility of Church Treasurer.

A supper was held at the church on June 8th, after which a special series of Revival Services were held beginning at 7:30 P. M. and going through June 11th. Rev. Ronald Ragan of Trion and Beersheba Churches brought the messages and also favored us with special music in song. We had special music at each service which included singing by: Mrs. Ann Elmann, Mrs. Doris Land, Mrs. Meredith Stewart and Mr. Eddie Roland.

Rev. Gerald Kirby preached for us July 13th which was the last time we were privileged to hear him as he left Rome soon afterwards to become pastor of a church in Alexandria, Virginia.

Presbytery met on July 19th at Morton Memorial Church in Chickamauga, Georgia but no one from our church could attend this meeting.

Bethel held Home Coming Service Sunday July 27th at 11:00 A. M. Mr. Worth McDougald of Athens Georgia, Moderator of Synod, brought the message. It was unusual as a minister usually serves as Moderator. Mr. McDougald is married to the former Charlotte Ballenger of our community and is Head of the Henry W. Grady School of Journalism at the University of Georgia. So, we welcomed Mr. and Mrs. McDougald and young daughter to our Home Coming. Rev. Mike Holdridge, Pastor of Unity Baptist Church, and members cancelled their services and brought their choir to add special music for the service. A basket lunch and fellowship hour followed.

Mr. Charles E. Bell preached for us on August 10th.

Rev. Pooley's message September 14th on "The Pursuit Of Happiness" was very inspiring. We had as our special music a group of girls from Shorter.

Rockmart Church was host to Presbytery on October 21st. Mr. E. P. Scott was a delegate and Mr. Arthur B. Cummings also attended this meeting.

On November 22nd we had a group of Shorter Girls again as visitors and we appreciate the music they bring.

We were invited to attend a Christmas Eve Service at 7:00 P. M. at Unity Baptist Church.

Even though our membership is very small, we meet every Sunday for Sunday School. Mr. John Jones is Superintendent and Mr. J. T. Holt, Jr. is Secretary and Treasurer.

121452
Mary Sue Scott
1969.