

OE

CLAYTON GEORGIA

Athens Presbytery
 Presbyterian Church (Hemphill Mem'l)
 Clayton, Georgia
 1952-1953

HISTORY OF CHURCH
 Rev L B Gibbs, Stated Supply
 (until Spring Meeting of Presbytery)

The commission appointed to organize the Clayton Presbyterian Church met in the Clayton Community House, with the congregation and visitors, on February 22 (1953) at 11:00 a.m. Present: Dr E L Hill, Rev Cook W Freeman, Rev L B Gibbs, Ruling Elders C C Neal and W R Ussery. Rev Cook W Freeman, who had previously been designated as Chairman, called the Commission to order. Rev L B Gibbs was elected Clerk of the Commission. The following order of service was carried out.

Doxology

Invocation, Mr C C Neal

Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"

Introduction of Members of Commission, Rev L B Gibbs

Statement of Purpose of the Meeting, Rev Cook Freeman

Presentation of Charter Members, Mr Ted H Beasley

By letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church:

W A Patterson, Mrs W A Patterson, Miss Opal Patterson,
 Mrs Kelly Hopper, Mrs Frank Coleman, G B Prime, Mrs G B
 Prime, Mrs L B Gibbs, David Gibbs, Daniel Gibbs, Mrs
 Tyrus Thompson.

By letter from King Memorial Presbyterian Church:

Mrs Della Nichols.

By letter from Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church:

Mrs J Edwin Hemphill.

By letter from Cornelia, Georgia, Presbyterian Church:

Mrs J A Earl.

By letter from Rogersville, Tennessee, Presbyterian
 Church: Mrs Robert Hawks.

On profession of faith: Miss Oma Jean Patterson,
 George Lambert.

Reception of Members by the Commission

Baptismal Service, Mr Gibbs

Church Covenant and Declaration, Mr Freeman

Offering

Offertory Prayer, Mr Beasley

Solo, Mrs R H Philp

Scripture: Matthew 16:13-28, Dr E L Hill

Sermon on Text Matthew 16:18, Dr Hill

Prayer, Dr Hill

Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation"

Closing Prayer, Mr W R Ussery

The Commission approved the record of its proceedings and adjourned with
 prayer.

L B Gibbs, Clerk

NOTE: This account of the organization of the Clayton Presbyterian Church is
 copied from Minutes Athens Presbytery, Stated Spring Meeting, April 14, 1953.

Filed Sept. 2 1953

Heene R. Howell

Historian, Women of the Church
 Athens Presbytery

STANDARD B & P "NOISEAR"

STANDARD B & P "NOISEAR"

Athens Presbytery
Clayton Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
April 1, 1952-March 31, 1953

Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Evangelist

At some time during the winter of 1951-52, Dr. S. Wilkes Dendy, Chairman of the Executive Committee of Church Extension, Synod of Georgia, proposed to Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Pastor of the Presbyterian Churches of Rabun County, that Miss Lillian Medlin, Sunday School Extension Worker for the Synod, might work somewhere in the area of Rabun County for some time during the spring. The matter of beginning to work toward the establishment of a church in Clayton had been in the minds of the leaders in the Church Extension work in the Presbytery for some time, specifically in the mind of Rev. C.P. Phillips, Superintendent of Home Missions. Mr. Phillips and Mr. Gibbs felt that Clayton was the place to use Miss Medlin, but Mr. Gibbs, with a full schedule of services in the churches and outposts of the county, believed that it would not be wise to try to begin work in Clayton until the Presbytery's Committee could give him a student to assist him, so that services could be held in Clayton every Sunday during the summer months, the tourist season. The Committee approved the plan and agreed to furnish a student for the summer. Miss Medlin was invited to come and work, and she was sent by the Synod's Committee to work in Clayton during the months of April and May. Her time was subsequently extended through the month of June.

Working in co-operation with Mr. Gibbs, Miss Medlin did a great deal of visiting during the three months which she spent in Clayton, discovering prospects for church membership, stimulating their interest and the interest of those Presbyterians already known to be living in the community. The use of the Clayton Community House was secured for the group, and a preliminary meeting was held in the Community House on the evening of May 9, a week-day, with an attendance of thirteen. The Sunday School opened on June 1, with the following teachers: Kindergarten and Primary, Miss Opal Patterson; Junior and Young People, Miss Medlin; Adult, Mr. Ted H. Beasley.

In June, a Daily Vacation Bible School was held, with a gratifying attendance. At the end of June, after three months of most effective and devoted service, Miss Medlin left Clayton for work elsewhere in the Synod. To her, humanly speaking, is due the credit for laying the foundation of the work in Clayton.

Mr. Ted H. Beasley, who had just finished his Junior year at Columbia Theological Seminary, was engaged for work in Rabun County during the summer months, and began his work the first of June, the Presbytery's Committee paying his salary and the cost of his room and board. He assisted Mr. Gibbs in Daily Vacation Bible Schools, in pastoral visiting, and in preaching, in the other churches of the county as well as in Clayton. It was thus possible for Mr. Gibbs to preach in Clayton a good many Sunday mornings during these months, and, between the two preachers, services were held in Clayton each Sunday morning. There was a gratifying interest and attendance on the part of the local people, and a growing interest among the summer people of the community.

Because either Mr. Gibbs or Mr. Beasley was in Clayton each Sunday

morning, the preacher for each Sunday also served as superintendent of the new Sunday School. In the fall, when the preaching schedule had to be reduced to two Sundays each month, with Mr. Beasley coming up from the Seminary on those week-ends, there was no one to take the responsibility for the Sunday School. Mrs. Gibbs, the wife of the pastor, and their two sons, David and Danny, had continued to attend the Tiger Church, to which Mrs. Gibbs and David belonged, and which Danny joined in October of that year. Now Mrs. Gibbs was so much needed in Clayton, since there was stronger leadership at Tiger, that she and the boys began attending the Clayton Sunday School and church services early in the fall. During the fall, Mr. William A. Patterson began to attend the Sunday School and services. Mr. Patterson had been a member of the Tiger Church since his boyhood, but had, for the most part, been out of touch with the church for several years. His children had been among those whose interest was first enlisted by Miss Medlin. Now that Mr. Patterson had begun to come, his services were soon secured as Superintendent of the Sunday School, a post in which he showed his devotion and fidelity to an outstanding degree.

During the latter part of the fall, it seemed that the time had come to consider the organization of a church. A petition, bearing the names of persons who desired to become members, was presented to the Presbytery at its Adjourned Winter Meeting, January 13, 1953. The report of the Standing Committee on Bills and Overtures, which was adopted by the Presbytery, contains the following recommendation:

"That the overture concerning the organization of the Clayton Presbyterian Church be accepted, and that this matter be handed to a commission composed of: Rev. Cook W. Freeman, Rev. E.L.Hill, Rev. Burns Gibbs, Mr. C.C.Neal, Mr. W.R.Ussery. The quorum of the above commission shall be one elder and one minister."

The account of the organization of the church is given in following minutes of the above-mentioned commission, quoted from the Minutes of the Presbytery:

"The Commission appointed to organize the Clayton Presbyterian Church met in the Clayton Community House, with the congregation and visitors, on Sunday, February 22, at 11:00 a.m. Present: Dr. E.L.Hill, Rev. Cook W. Freeman, Rev. L.B.Gibbs, Ruling Elders C.C.Neal and W.R.Ussery. Rev. Cook W. Freeman, who had previously been designated as Chairman, called the Commission to order. Rev. L.B.Gibbs was elected Clerk of the Commission. The following order of service was carried out:

Doxology

Invocation, Mr. C.C.Neal

Hymn: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Introduction of Members of the Commission, Rev. L.B.Gibbs

Statement of Purpose of the Meeting, Rev. Cook W. Freeman

Presentation of Charter Members, Mr. Ted H. Beasley;

By letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church: Mr. W.A.Patterson, Mrs. W.A.Patterson, Miss Opal Patterson, Mrs. Kelly Hopper, Mrs. Frank Coleman, Mr. G.B.Prime, Mrs. G.B.Prime, Mrs. L.B.Gibbs, David Gibbs, Daniel Gibbs, Mrs. Tyrus Thompson.

By letter from the King Memorial Presbyterian Church: Mrs. Della Nichols.

By letter from the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church: Mrs. J.E.Hemphill.

By letter from the Cornelia, Georgia, Presbyterian Church, Mrs. J.A.Earl.

Clayton 52-53, continued

By letter from the Rogersville, Tennessee, Presbyterian Church;
Mrs. Robert S. Hawks.

On Profession of Faith: Miss Oma Jean Patterson, Mr. George Lambert.
Reception of Members by the Commission

Baptismal Service, Mr. Gibbs

Church Covenant and Declaration, Mr. Freeman

Offering

Offertory Prayer, Mr. Beasley

Solo, Mrs. R.H. Philp

Scripture: Matthew 16:13-28, Dr. E.L. Hill

Sermon on the Text, Matthew 16:19, Dr. Hill

Prayer, Dr. Hill

Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation"

Closing Prayer, Mr. W.R. Ussery

The Commission approved the record of its proceedings, and adjourned
with prayer.

L.B. Gibbs, Clerk"

It will be noted that no officers were elected at the time of the organization of the church. For the time being, Mr. Gibbs, using the powers of an evangelist which the Presbytery had conferred upon him, to be exercised where needed in the Rabun County field, performed the functions of a Session.

At some time during the fall of the year, Mrs. J.E. Hemphill gave the first donation for the Building Fund, in the amount of \$100.00, and this was deposited in the Atlanta Federal Savings and Loan Association. In December, a gift of \$500.00 came, through the Presbytery's Committee of Church Extension, from the Synod's Executive Committee of Church Extension. This, along with smaller gifts which were being received, was deposited in the same bank, to draw interest until needed for building.

There was in the hands of the Trustees of the Presbytery at this time about \$4,500.00 for the Clayton project. The Assembly's Board of Church Extension had made a grant of \$2,500.00 to the Presbytery in April, 1948, for the building of a church in Clayton. The balance of the \$4,500.00 had come from the sale of the Tiger Manse, and had been allocated for the Clayton work by the Presbytery or its representatives. In addition to this, the Trustees were also holding the title to a small lot which they had purchased some years before, situated behind the Clayton Tribune Building, on a side street, and altogether unsuitable for use as a church building site, as all interested parties now agreed.

A suitable lot was found on the corner of Church and Hamby Streets, belonging to the estate of the late Thomas J. Hamby, and it was found that it could be purchased for the church. The family offered to sell it to the church for \$4,000.00. Although the donation from the Assembly's Board had been made specifically for a building, the Board, upon the request of Mr. Gibbs, with the concurrence of the Presbytery's Committee of Church Extension, agreed to let this go toward the purchase of the lot. The lot was purchased, during the summer of 1952, for the above price, by the Trustees of the Presbytery, Messrs. George T. Rice, Chairman and Treasurer; J.N. Hartford, and Fred W. Auld.

Statistical Report:

Number on roll at beginning of year	0
Added on profession of faith	2
Added on certificate	15
On roll at end of year	17

Clayton 52-53, continued

Adult baptisms	2
Sunday School enrollment	19
Contributions:	
Current Expenses	\$145
Benevolences	\$ 13

Signed: R. B. Gibbs

Athens Presbytery
 Clayton Presbyterian Church *Hemphill Men's*
 Clayton, Georgia
 April 1, 1953-December 31, 1953

Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Stated Supply

Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. William A. Patterson

Additions: James T. Burden, by letter from the Carnesville Presbyterian Church;

Mrs. James T. Burden, by letter from the Carnesville Presbyterian Church;

(Linda Ann Burden, the baptized, non-communicant daughter of the above couple was received with them)

Dismissal: Mrs. J.A. Earl, at her own request, was dismissed, to unite with any evangelical church.

At a congregational meeting held at the close of the morning service, April 12, the congregation adopted a motion requesting Athens Presbytery to allow Rev. L.B. Gibbs to serve the church as Stated Supply. At its Stated Spring Meeting, on April 14, the Presbytery granted the request.

At a congregational meeting held at the close of the morning service, August 2, the congregation elected the following Building Committee: Mrs. J.E. Hemphill, Mrs. George B. Prime, William A. Patterson, J.T. Burden, Mrs. L.B. Gibbs; and Rev. L.B. Gibbs to serve as Chairman. Mrs. Gibbs was elected to serve as Treasurer of the Building Committee.

During this year, with the church still using the Clayton Community House, there was a growing interest on the part of the local people and the summer tourists.

Mr. Robert Gray Barron, who had just finished his Junior year at Columbia Seminary, was employed by the Presbytery's Committee of Church Extension to assist Mr. Gibbs in the work during the summer months. The preaching services were divided between the two so that Mr. Gibbs could be in Clayton for a good many of the services, and still not neglect the other churches in the county. Mr. Barron was a young preacher of unusual ability for one who had just completed one year in the Seminary. The schedule of services each Sunday morning in Clayton was maintained from June through September.

A Vacation Church School, with encouraging enrollment and attendance, was conducted in the early part of the summer.

At the end of the summer, the Clayton Church entered into a plan with the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School for the use of a married Seminary student and his wife. Mr. and Mrs. James Grubb were secured for this work, and they served with eminent satisfaction to the church and to the School, with responsibility to the School for work with the students on Saturday evening, and for the Sunday evening vespers, and both of them being in the Clayton Church and Sunday School, with Mr. Grubb preaching there on Sunday morning; all of this being done twice each month.

Mr. George B. Prime, a charter member of the church, died on September 5. Mrs. J.A. Earl had expected, when the church was being organized, to live in Clayton, but her plans had changed, because of business reasons,

Clayton April-December, '53, continued

and she requested her church letter. Thus, the church early in its life experienced the loss of two of its charter members.

Late in the fall, Rev. Cook W. Freeman, Executive Secretary of the Presbytery, and Rev. James D. Matthews, Chairman of the Presbytery's Executive Committee of Church Extension, became interested in a plan by which Mr. Gibbs' salary could be increased. They proposed that he take over the preaching services then being conducted by Mr. Grubb, by his holding two services on each of two Sunday mornings a month. This would make it possible for the money being paid to Mr. Grubb to be added to Mr. Gibbs' salary. After considerable discussion, and after it had been ascertained that the change would be satisfactory to Mr. and Mrs. Grubb, and to the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, it was agreed that the plan would be tried at the first of the next year.

Statistical Report:

Members on roll at beginning of year	17
Added on certificate	2
Total on roll during year	<u>19</u>
Losses: Death	1
Transferred to another church	1
Total on roll at end of year	<u>17</u>
Sunday School enrollment	21
Contributions:	
Current Expenses	\$184.00
Benevolences	\$ 60.00

Signed: L. B. Gibbs

Athens Presbytery
 Hemphill Memorial (Clayton) Presbyterian Church
 Clayton, Georgia
 1954

Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Stated Supply

Session: Elder William A. Patterson
 Elder James Thomas Burden, Clerk of Session

Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. William A. Patterson

Additions: Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox, by letter from the Rabun Gap
 Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. W.H. Kennedy, Sr., from the Toccoa Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. Clifford Shook, from the Tiger Presbyterian Church;
 James Shook, on profession of faith.

Wedding: At the Manse, Clayton, Georgia, March 27,
 James Shook and Dolores Phillips, of Canton, Ohio.

The revised schedule of services, which made it possible for one preacher to hold all the services, without the help of a student, during the winter months, was put into effect the first of January, as follows:

First Sunday: 10:00 A.M., Clayton
 11:00 A.M., Tiger
 Second Sunday: 11:30 A.M., Wiley
 Third Sunday: 10:00 A.M., Clayton
 11:10 A.M., Rabun Gap
 Fourth Sunday: 10:00 A.M., Tiger
 11:30 A.M., Wiley
 Fifth Sunday: 11:10 A.M., Rabun Gap

As this change of schedule did not affect the other churches in the county, with their afternoon and evening services, they are not listed here. This was, however, a decided change for Tiger, Wiley, and Clayton, with some services being held at 10:00 A.M. instead of the generally accepted hour of 11:00 A.M., and with the afternoon service at Wiley changed to the morning hour. The people of these congregations responded to the proposed changes with a fine spirit of co-operation. With the coming of a student for the summer months, it was necessary to have only the fourth Sunday service at Tiger at the early hour.

There had been some discussion of a plan proposed by Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs to change the name of the church from the Clayton Presbyterian to the Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church, in honor of the late Rev. Dr. James Edwin Hemphill. Dr. Hemphill was for many years a summer resident of Rabun County, had been deeply interested in the work of the Presbyterian churches of the county, and had been especially concerned that a church should be started in Clayton. After the death of Dr. Hemphill in 1942, Mrs. Hemphill had worked for some years as a house-mother at the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, had continued to spend the summers at her home in the Chechero community, and was a charter member of this church. She had made the first contribution to the Building Fund, in the amount of \$100.00. The proposed change of name, which was already being discussed, was presented to the Presbytery at its Adjourned Fall Meeting, January 12, 1954. The Minutes of the Presbytery in regard to this read as follows:

"At the request of the pastor, the Clayton Church was given permissions, if the congregation so voted, to change the name of the church to

Hemphill Memorial (Clayton), 1954, continued

Hemphill Memorial, in honor of the late Rev. J.E. Hemphill."

At a congregational meeting, February 7, 1954, the congregation voted to make this change in name.

At the same congregational meeting, February 7, 1954, Messrs. William A. Patterson and James Thomas Burden were elected Elders. They both accepted the office, and time was given Mr. Patterson for preparation for ordination, Mr. Burden having been ordained as an Elder in the Carnesville, Georgia, Church before he moved to Clayton in 1953. Using the evangelistic powers conferred upon him by the Presbytery, Mr. Gibbs ordained Mr. Patterson on September 12, and installed both Mr. Patterson and Mr. Burden as the first officers of this church.

The Minutes of Athens Presbytery, January 12, 1954, record the fact that "The Presbytery adopted a motion instructing the Trustees of the Presbytery to approve the church building project at Clayton." This instruction of the Presbytery was carried out by the Trustees. This was necessary because the lot for the church, and some of the funds designated for the building, were in the hands of the Trustees of the Presbytery.

The Building Committee secured the valuable assistance of Rev. O.V. Caudill, of the Department of Church Architecture, Board of Church Extension. Mr. Caudill made a visit to Clayton, looked over the lot, met with the Building Committee, and made most helpful recommendations concerning the type of building to be erected.

On January 24, 1954, the Building Committee met with Mr. W.P. Dickson, who had been chosen by the Committee to be the builder, Rev. Cook W. Freeman also meeting with the Committee. Mr. Dickson preferred to work for his regular hourly wage as a carpenter, rather than working by contract. He was so engaged by the Committee, and accepted the responsibility for employing other needed help, keeping the pay roll, assisting and advising in the purchase of materials, and giving his supervision to the work, in addition to his own work as carpenter. At this meeting of the Committee, an adaptation of the plan recommended by Mr. Caudill was adopted. This called for the construction of the educational unit of the church, a two-story unit, concrete blocks on the lower story and frame construction on the second story, the whole to be veneered with brick at a later time. Mr. Burden was elected by the Committee to serve as Purchasing Agent, a post which he filled with great faithfulness and outstanding ability. The pastor was authorized to use the needed amount of the funds in hand to send out letters asking for gifts of one dollar or more for the church. The Presbytery's Church Extension Committee had granted permission for this to be done, only within the bounds of Athens Presbytery.

At the aforementioned congregational meeting on February 7, the plans for the building were presented to the congregation. The congregation approved the plans, and authorized the Committee to proceed with the building when the Committee judged it wise to do so. The Church Extension Committee of the Presbytery gave its approval, and these actions opened the way for the Committee to proceed.

The churches of Athens Presbytery responded very graciously in furnishing mailing lists of their membership. The first letter asking for donations was sent out on February 26, and the response was generous. In March, the funds which had accumulated in the Atlanta Federal Savings and Loan Association, amounting now to \$749.22, were transferred to the active account in the Bank of Clayton, leaving only \$5.00 in Atlanta to keep the account

Hemphill Memorial (Clayton), 1954, continued

open. IN April, Mrs. J.E.Hemphill gave \$1,000.00, and the Trustees of the Presbytery sent the balance which they had for the project, now amounting to \$1,004.27. There were many smaller gifts, too numerous to be listed here, from the people of the church, and from friends of the work, from far and wide. In January, the Sunday School began giving the offering on the first Sunday of each month to the Building Fund, and the plate offerings during the greater part of the summer months also went into the Fund.

On March 15, Mr. Dickson and Mr. Gibbs drove up the first stakes on the church lot, to mark the location of the building. The first check for work, other than the payment of \$12.00 to Mr. Dickson for work on the plans, was a check to Mr. Dick Hunnicutt, March 24, in the amount of \$28.00, for making an excavation, with a bulldozer, for the building. On April 2, the pastor's two young sons, David and Danny, helped their father to begin cleaning off the lot in preparation for the building, the first of much unselfish service which these two boys were to give to this project. Mr. Dickson began his work late in April, and during the months of May, June, and July, the work went forward apace. The beginning of the actual construction of the building stimulated new interest on the part of the congregation and their friends, resulting in many gifts for the Building Fund.

At a congregational meeting on May 2, the following were elected to serve as Trustees of the church: James Thomas Burden, William A. Patterson, Mrs. Kate B. Prime (Mrs. George B.), Mrs. Nellie Jackson Hemphill (Mrs. James Edwin), Mrs. Ruth Perry Gibbs (Mrs. Leonard Burns); and Messrs. Patterson and Burden were authorized by the congregation to sign all papers for the Trustees, after due process. On June 16, the Trustees of the Presbytery gave the church lot to the church, and, at the same time, the small lot behind the Tribune Office. At a congregational meeting on September 12, the congregation authorized its Trustees to sell the small lot for the price of \$1,000.00.

The work on the church progressed so that the first service in the new building was held on Sunday morning, July 25, with a congregation of about ninety packed into the three rooms of the ground floor, with the middle room being used as a temporary sanctuary, and the overflow going into the rooms on either end. At this time, the building was very much unfinished, but in usable condition on the ground floor. The storm sheeting on the second story had been covered with felt, to make the building weather-proof. Only the sub-flooring was laid on the second floor. There were lights in the building, but no permanent light fixtures. The seats which had been given by the Toccoa Church were in use. Mr. and Mrs. Roy Mize, Baptist friends and close neighbors of the church, had offered the use of a reed organ which belonged to one of their sons, and it had been placed in the church. Life and Service Hymns, which had been borrowed from the Tiger Church when the Clayton work was begun in 1952, were the hymn books. At this first service, Mr. Gibbs preached on "The Secret of the Church's Strength", Matthew 16:18, the same text on which Dr. E.L.Hill had preached on the occasion of the organization of the church, February 22, 1953. The secrets of the Church's strength, as presented in this sermon, are: A Divine Founder, A Divine Message to Be Proclaimed, Divine Gifts to Enable Her to Perform Her Ministry, and the Devotion of Her Members.

At a meeting of the Session, at the church, September 26, before the morning service, Mr. James Shook was examined and received into the membership of the church on profession of faith. At the service that morning, he made his public profession and was baptized.

Hemphill Memorial (Clayton), 1954, continued

The funds in hand were not sufficient to bring the building to that stage at which it would be usable and would not be damaged by the weather. It was necessary, therefore, for the church to borrow money for this purpose. The amount of \$1500.00 was borrowed from the Bank of Clayton, and a note for \$200.00 was given to C.M. Dickerson for materials.

In the fall of this year, small gas heaters were installed in three of the rooms on the ground floor, one of the rooms having been subdivided after the building was put in use. Mr. Willis M. Everett, of Atlanta and Lakemont, very graciously lent the church an oil heater which was used for the remaining room.

At a meeting of the Session on September 29, Mrs. Myrtle Smith Shook (Mrs. Clifford) was received by letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church. Elder James T. Burden was elected Clerk of Session. The Session authorized the pastor to request \$1,000.00 from the Board of Church Extension, to pay for the laying of brick to veneer the building.

During the summer, Mr. and Mrs. Gibbs had gone to Highlands, N.C., to see Mr. and Mrs. Henry K. Burns, Sr., of Macon, Georgia, at their summer home, to lay before Mr. Burns a request for help toward veneering the building with brick. Shortly after this, Mr. Gibbs received a letter from Mr. Burns, dated August 16, 1954, from which we quote:
"Since my return from Highlands, we have discussed the matter of brick for your church at Clayton, and we decided to donate 21,000 brick, which are worth between \$700.00 and \$800.00, toward the building fund for the Clayton Presbyterian Church. Before any brick are to be delivered, we want to be sure you have funds available to meet the expenses of laying the brick and that your bills have been paid in order that all liens outstanding have been paid. We do not want to make a donation the size of this to a church that may become involved with liens from other parties."

Statistical Report:

Communicants on roll at beginning of year	17
Added on profession of faith	1
Added on certificate	3
Total on roll during year	<u>21</u>
Losses	0
Total on roll at end of year	<u>21</u>

Officers: Elders, 2

Adult baptisms, 1

Contributions:

Current Expenses	\$443.00
Benevolences	<u>\$102.00</u>
Total, other than Building Fund	\$545.00

Building Fund Expenditures \$6962.23

Signed: L. B. Gibbs

Mr. Tyson Hope, who had finished his Junior year at Columbia Seminary, was student assistant to Mr. Gibbs for the summer. His name was inadvertently omitted in the above account.

Athens Presbytery
Women of the Church
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1954

The women of the Clayton Presbyterian Church met in the home of Mrs. James Burden on the evening of January 13, 1954, for the purpose of organizing themselves into a Women of the Church group. Only five women were present. Mrs. L.B. Gibbs presided, and Mrs. W.R. Ussery gave the devotional from the first chapter of Acts. After the group had discussed the organization of a women's group, they elected the following officers: President, Mrs. James T. Burden; Vice-president, Mrs. J.E. Hemphill; Secretary and Treasurer, Mrs. George B. Prime; Historian, Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox; Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Mrs. L.B. Gibbs.

The group decided to invite themselves to join the Tiger women in their covered dish supper and to review the foreign mission study book. This meeting was held during the foreign mission season, when the pastor, Rev. L.B. Gibbs, was to lead the study. Plans were made for purchasing the necessary literature for programs and Bible study for the year. It was decided that since the work of the Women of the Church was new to many of the women, we would spend the year without assigning chairmen for the various causes. Each cause was to be presented in its season.

Mrs. Knox presented an interesting article on "The World Church", this being the program for this meeting. In closing the meeting, Mrs. Gibbs led the group in the study of the first chapter of Acts. The five women present at this meeting were: Mrs. James T. Burden, Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox, Mrs. L.B. Gibbs, Mrs. W.R. Ussery, and Miss May McDowell.

Twelve meetings were held during the year. Bible study from Acts and the circle conversation period were a part of each meeting. The group was not assigned a White Cross quota, but made ten little dresses just the same. The group was encouraged by letters of congratulations and encouragement from the Synodical President, Mrs. A.M. Bowen; the President of the Women of the Church, Athens Presbytery, Mrs. P.L. Hutchins; and the Chairman of Group Three, Mrs. A.J. Walter. We were the 219th local organization in Georgia.

On February 7, 1954, the name of our church was changed to the Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church, honoring the late Dr. J.E. Hemphill, who had longed to see a Presbyterian church in Clayton.

The group sent gifts to two Thornwell girls from time to time during the year. We joined all the Presbyterian women of Rabun County at Rabun Gap for the Birthday Party. This county-wide meeting had become an annual affair. The women of the Presbyterian churches in the county take turns acting as hostesses for the Birthday Party. We contributed to all the causes of our Church, but our greatest interest, perhaps, was in our own Building Fund. We co-operated with our Daily Vacation Bible School by furnishing refreshments for the children each day.

During the year our membership has grown, and our attendance during the tourist season has been especially good. Our first year in the work of the church has been a joyous one, filled with satisfaction and spiritual blessings. We feel that our women have grown in the knowledge of the Bible and of our Church.

Signed:

Elizabeth O. Knox
Ruth P. Gibbs

Historians

96069

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1955

Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Pastor

Session: Elder William A. Patterson, Clerk of Session after October 1
Elder James Thomas Burden, Clerk of Session until October 1
Elder William R. Ussery

Diaconate: Deacon Randolph C. Ussery

Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. William A. Patterson

Additions: Mrs. Frank Abrams, by letter from the Clayton Methodist Church;
Berry Lee Bray, by letter from the King Memorial Presbyterian Church;
Mrs. Edith York Bray (wife of Berry Lee), on profession of faith;
Mrs. Mary Bagwell, by letter from the Third Presbyterian Church, Greenville, South Carolina;
Mrs. Annie Carpenter Dodgins, by letter from the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church;
Roy A. Hodgson, by letter, from the First Presbyterian Church, Athens, Georgia;
Mrs. A.M. Oxner, on re-affirmation of her faith, formerly a member of the Methodist Church, Jesup, Georgia;
Mrs. Beulah Trusty Smith (widow of Andrew), by letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church;
Mrs. Elise Smith Speed, on her own statement of her membership in the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Clayton, Ga., RFD;
William R. Ussery, by letter, from the Tiger Presbyterian Church;
Mrs. Annie Cannon Ussery (wife of William R.) by letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church;
Randolph Cannon Ussery, by letter from the Tiger Presbyterian Church;
George Weatherly, by letter, from the Park Avenue Methodist Church, Valdosta, Georgia;
Mrs. Carolyn Ussery Weatherly (wife of George), by letter, from the Park Avenue Methodist Church, Valdosta, Georgia.

Baptisms:

Infant: Deborah Ann Weatherly, daughter of George and Carolyn Weatherly, at the York House, December 27, 1955.
Adult: Mrs. Edith York Bray, October 2, 1955.

Dismissals: Mrs. Mary Elizabeth Gibbs Hawks (wife of Robert S.) to the Bealeton Presbyterian Church, Bealeton, Virginia;
James Thomas Burden, to the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church;
Mrs. Margaret Ferqueron Burden (wife of James Thomas) to the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church;
(Linda Ann Burden, the baptized, non-communicant daughter of the above couple, to the Rabun Gap Presbyterian Church)

The Session made plans for the participation of the church in the Assembly-wide Evangelistic Campaign, but, through no fault of the church, the plans were not carried out. In March, when the meetings were to be held, the church did not have a meeting-place large enough to have evangelistic services and to invite the general public. Therefore, it was

Hemphill Memorial, 1955, continued

thought best to undertake a campaign of visitation evangelism in this church, at the same time that meetings were to be held in some of the other churches of the county, and generally throughout the Synod of Georgia. The minister who was assigned to this church, from the Synod of South Carolina, was not willing to undertake such a program under the circumstances, and the matter was dropped, special evangelistic services being postponed until the facilities were more adequate.

The Session called a meeting of the congregation, to be held on March 20. The meeting was held on that date, was moderated by Dr. James H. Gailey, Jr., of Columbia Seminary, and the following actions, all of which had been included in the call for the meeting, were taken:

1. A Donation Contract with the Board of Church Extension, to secure a grant of \$500.00 to be used on the church building, was adopted, and Elders Burden and Patterson were authorized to sign this instrument.
2. Mr. William R. Ussery, who had been an Elder in the Tiger Church from October, 1922, until he became a member of this church on January 3, 1955, was elected Elder.
3. Mr. Randolph C. Ussery, who had been a member of the Tiger Church for a number of years before becoming a member of this church on January 3, 1955, was elected Deacon.
4. Rev. L.B. Gibbs, who had served this church from the date of its organization, first as Evangelist and then as Stated Supply, was called to become its Pastor, with the church paying \$192.00 per year as its share of his salary, with participation in the Ministers' Annuity Fund. Elders Patterson and Burden were authorized to sign the call.

On May 10, Rev. L.B. Gibbs was installed as Pastor, by a Commission of the Presbytery, consisting of Rev. Messrs. Cook W. Freeman, Fred Clark, and Jerry D. Otwell; and Elders Karl Anderson and William T. O'Neal. Mr. William R. Ussery was installed as an Elder, and Mrs. Randolph C. Ussery was ordained and installed as the church's first Deacon, on June 26.

Mr. Robert Teed, who was finishing his Junior year at Columbia Seminary, was secured to assist the Pastor during the summer months. He preached at this church and at the other churches in the county, assisted in Daily Vacation Bible Schools, and in pastoral visitation. His assistance made it possible for this church to have service each Sunday morning during the summer, and, with the help of other supply preachers, this schedule was kept up through September. Mr. Teed was given the responsibility for organizing a Youth Fellowship, to be centered in Clayton, but to be open to the young people from all the Presbyterian churches in the county. There was a good response from the young people of the Timpson outpost, and this group became a joint undertaking of the Hemphill Memorial Church and the Timpson outpost. The young people from the Tiger Church attended several times, but this was not maintained for very long. Mrs. Frank Abrams was Mr. Teed's assistant in this work with the young people, and became Adult Advisor when his work ended on August 31.

In the spring of this year, oak flooring was laid in the auditorium and the room on the second floor, and the outside entrance to the auditorium was made usable. Much labor was given on this work by Mr. Burden, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Randolph Ussery, Mr. Willis Everett, and David and Danny Gibbs. The room on the second floor was ceiled, and it became the home of the Intermediate-Senior Class, with Mrs. Abrams as teacher. In the fall, a small gas heater was installed in this room, so that it could be used during the winter.

Hemphill Memorial, 1955, continued

Pews were moved into the auditorium on the second floor, and services were held there during the summer months. When cold weather arrived in the fall, it was necessary to move back to the ground floor for services, as there was no heat in the auditorium, and it was not ceiled. The congregation did this, however, with the definite goal and purpose of going forward with the finishing of the auditorium during the next year to such an extent that it would not be necessary to move downstairs again.

The Sunday School had continued to give its offering on the first Sunday in each month to the Building Fund. Numerous gifts had continued to come in for the work. The note of approximately \$200.00 which had been given to C.M. Dickerson for materials in August, 1954, was paid on January 26, the amount being \$210.66. The Board of Church Extension made a grant of \$500.00 in May of this year. Mr. John E. Clarke, a summer resident of Clayton, a Methodist, had attended this church and had been greatly interested in its development. He had made a gift of \$100.00, and had included the church in his will for \$500.00. Mr. Clarke died on April 9, and Mr. Gibbs was called to Atlanta to conduct his funeral on Monday, April 11. The bequest was paid to the Building Fund in August by Mr. Clarke's neice, Mrs. Gilbert Stokes, of Atlanta. In September, the Presbytery's Committee of Church Extension gave the Fund \$100.00 which had come to it from the Synod's Committee for this purpose. The \$1500.00 note was paid off, the final installment on July 2.

In September, the church was given a car, a 1949 Oldsmobile "88", by Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Floyd, of Athens, Georgia. As the pastor and his family, with occasional help from others, had for some time been transporting two families to and from Sunday School and church services, it was decided that the car should be kept and used, rather than being sold. The Session agreed to Mr. Gibbs' using it personally, as well as for the church, with him paying the operating expense for his own use of it. The Session put \$10.00 into the operating expenses, and soon \$10.00 per month was secured from the committee which administered the money coming each month from the Men's Class of the Druid Hills Church, Atlanta.

IN September, Rev. John M. Ash came to the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School to teach Bible. Even before he was definitely engaged by the School, the Session of the Rabun Gap Church had talked about the possibility of his working also with the church, as an assistant to, or associate with, Mr. Gibbs. This developed so that he was called by the church there as Associate Pastor, and was to do as much preaching as called for by the schedule of the Rabun Gap Church and the Betty's Creek Outpost. Mr. Gibbs, still being Pastor, was still to preach at these places occasionally, at which times Mr. Ash would preach at one of the other churches in the county. This made it possible for the Rabun Gap Church to have a morning service on the first, as well as the third Sunday in the month; and also enabled Mr. Gibbs to have a full-time schedule in the other churches of the county. At a congregational meeting held on December 10, the Hemphill Memorial Church approved a schedule of services for every Sunday morning, at 10:00 o'clock during the winter months, and at 11:00 o'clock during the summer, June through September.

At the Congregational Meeting on December 10, Mr. and Mrs. William R. Ussery were elected as additional members of the Building Committee. Mrs. Prime had become infirm and was spending the winter in Florida; Mrs. Hemphill was in North Carolina in the winter months; Mr. Burden had moved to Rabun Gap, and consequently the Committee had been reduced to a number which was considered inadequate.

Hemphill Memorial, 1955, continued

In the early fall, Mr. Gibbs wrote to Mr. Burns about the gift of bricks for the church, which Mr. Burns had promised for use, when the church was out of debt and able to use them. The company was behind with its orders, and could not send the bricks immediately, but they were shipped later, and arrived in Clayton just after Christmas. This carload of very good bricks came as the gift of Mr. Henry K. Burns, Sr., a life-long Presbyterian who had grown up in Maysville, Georgia, and had been in the brick-making business at Macon for a number of years. The Building Fund paid the freight and drayage costs, amounting to \$142.06. The bricks were stacked in the church yard, and covered to protect them from the weather until weather conditions would permit their use.

In December, through the kind offices of Mr. Willis M. Everett, who had already befriended the church, a number of pews were given to the church by the First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia. These pews had first been used in the old First Church building on Marietta Street, and subsequently used in Sunday School departments at the church on Peachtree Street.

Statistical Report:

Communicants on roll at beginning of year	21
Added on profession	1
Added on certificate and re-affirmation	13
Total on roll during the year	<u>35</u>
Dismissed to other churches	3
Total on roll at end of year	<u>32</u>

Baptisms: Adult, 1; Infant, 1

Contributions:

Current Expenses	\$631.00
Benevolences	<u>\$162.00</u>
Total, except for Building Fund	<u>\$793.00</u>

Building Fund Expenditures \$1225.91

Sunday School:	Enrollment	Teacher
Kindergarten	7	Mrs. Elise Speed
Primary	11	Miss Opal Patterson
Junior	9	Mrs. Gibbs, Mrs. Oxner
Intermediate-Senior	7	Mrs. Abrams
Mixed Adult Class	14	Mr. Patterson
Officers and Teachers	6	Secretary: Randolph C. Ussery
Total	<u>54</u>	

Signed L.B. Gibbs

Athens Presbytery
Women of the Church
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1955

The Women of the Church of the Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church began its second year with the following officers: President, Mrs. James T. Burden; Vice-President, Mrs. J.E.Hemphill; Secretary, Mrs. L.B.Gibbs; Treasurer, Mrs. George B. Prime; Historian, Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox; Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Miss May McDowell; Chairman of World Missions, Mrs. Frank Coleman; Chairman of Church Extension, Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox; Chairman of Christian Education, Mrs. A.M.Oxner; Chairman of Annuities and Relief, Mrs. W.R.Ussery; Chairman of Stewardship, Mrs. Frank Abrams; Chairman of General Fund Agencies, Mrs. James Coleman.

Our pastor, Rev. L.B.Gibbs, led us in the study of Romans for the year.

We joined with the Wiley and Tiger women in our World Mission study, "Face to Face with India", in February. We sent dresses through the White Cross to Africa.

We were hostesses to the Birthday Party in May, when the women of the Rabun Gap Church had charge of the program. Mrs. Philip Greear, of Helen, recently home from Japan, where her husband served in the armed forces, brought the Birthday Objective to our attention most effectively.

Mrs. Elizabeth O. Knox moved to Hartwell before the year was out, and Mrs. Mary Bagwell was made Historian.

The Presbyterian men and women of Rabun County met together for the study, "You Can Witness", during the Church Extension Season. This meeting was held in the Tiger Church, with more than a hundred in attendance.

We sent gifts again to the same children at Thornwell. Our women have taken pride in placing flowers in the church. We were represented at Toccoa on October 20 at the meeting of the Women of the Church of Athens Presbytery.

Our interest in working toward the completion of our church building has been active, and, again, the most of our money has been used at home. However, we have contributed to all the causes of our church.

Signed: Mary Bagwell
Historian

Athens Presbytery
 Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
 Clayton, Georgia
 1956

Rev. L.B. Gibbs, Pastor

Session: Elder William A. Patterson, Clerk of Session
 Elder William R. Ussery
 Elder Roy A. Hodgson

Diaconate: Deacon Randolph Cannon Ussery
 Deacon Edgebert G. Watts
 Deacon George Weatherly

Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. William A. Patterson

Additions: Edgebert G. Watts, by letter from Tiger Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. Della Crawford Watts (wife of Edgebert G.), by letter
 from Tiger Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. Beulah Thornton, by letter, from Glenn Springs, South
 Carolina, Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. Florence Sanders, by letter, from Clayton Methodist
 Church;
 Mrs. Ruth Burrell Thompson (wife of Grover), by letter, from
 King Memorial Presbyterian Church;
 Mrs. Lorraine Smith Carpenter, on her own statement, from
 Carver's Chapel Baptist Church, Clayton, Georgia.

Dismissals: George Lambert, to a Presbyterian Church in Atlantic City, N.J.;
 Mrs. Ruth Perry Gibbs (wife of Leonard B.), to Cold Spring
 Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Tennessee;
 David Mitchell Gibbs, to Cold Spring Presbyterian Church,
 Bristol, Tennessee;
 Daniel Perry Gibbs, to Cold Spring Presbyterian Church,
 Bristol, Tennessee.

At the beginning of this year, the church asked, and secured, the permission of the Presbytery to amend its call to the pastor by raising its share of his salary from \$192.00 to \$300.00 per year. At the end of the year, it accepted, as its share of the pastor's salary for 1957, \$360.00; and accepted the Presbytery's asking of \$200.00 for benevolences for 1957, twice the amount which had been asked, and more than paid, in 1956. Up to this time, this church has always given more for benevolences than was asked by the Presbytery.

In January, a gift of \$500.00, unsolicited and unexpected, was received from Mr. and Mrs. Floyd K. Zeigler, friends of the church, of Sarasota, Florida. During the year, as has constantly been true since before the building was begun, there were numerous smaller gifts coming from numerous friends.

IN April the work of bricklaying, veneering the church, was begun. Mr. Wilbur Garrison, of Dillard, Georgia, was employed as the head mason, and as his associates, Messrs. Tom Hopkins and Russell Cabe, of Otto, N.C.; Mr. Elbert McClure, Jr., of Dillard, Georgia; Mr. T.J. Hamby, of Clayton, Georgia. Mr. William Dickson and Mr. Julian Wheeler, as carpenters, with Mr. Dickson in charge of all the work, were also employed at this time.

Hemphill Memorial, 1956, continued

These men were more than hired hands, and their names deserve to go down in the permanent history of the church. They gave to the church well over a hundred dollars worth of labor, and each of them took a keen personal interest in the work. The excellence of the brick work on the church, and of the carpentry, is a tribute, not only to their skill and efficiency, but to their desire to help to make this a beautiful place of worship.

To help in the brick-laying project, the Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, and the contractors who were working on the shop building there, were most co-operative in releasing scaffolding material as soon as possible. The Ritter Lumber Company donated some of the lumber for the scaffolding, and Mr. Berry A. Floyd, County Superintendent of Schools, very graciously lent a goodly amount of lumber which belonged to the County School Board. Mr. William Duncan, a builder, the next-door neighbor of the church, very generously lent lumber for scaffolding. All of this resulted in a substantial reduction in the cost of the undertaking. Mr. Robert Vickers, Ordinary of the County, assisted materially in shaping up the church yard by having dirt hauled in from a grading project which was under way.

The bricklaying was completed in the latter part of May. It was necessary, in order to pay for materials used in connection with the bricklaying (mortar mix and sand) and some other work which was done on the church at this time, to borrow \$325.00 from the Bank of Clayton. Through the generosity of friends, and the gifts of the congregation, it was possible to pay this note off by August 6. The pews which had come from Atlanta were set up in the second-floor auditorium, and the congregation moved upstairs early in the summer.

Gifts of shrubbery by the late Mr. and Mrs. A.L. Yarn, of the Clayton Methodist Church; and later gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Homer Cook, of Clarkesville, provided for the future beautification of the church grounds.

The family of the late Dr. and Mrs. Gillespie Enloe, summer residents of the county for many years, had pledged \$400.00 as a memorial to their parents, payable \$100.00 annually, 1954-57. All that had been paid up to this time had been used in the general fund, with the pledge to the family that a suitable memorial would be provided. Early in 1956, the Newton Bible Class, of the Central Presbyterian Church, Athens, Georgia, sent a memorial gift of \$25.00 in honor of the late Charles H. Newton; and later in the year Mrs. Newton sent a memorial gift of \$100.00. With her knowledge, this was also used, at the time, in the general fund. In August of this year, Mrs. L.B. Gibbs received some special gifts which made it possible to designate these memorials and go ahead with the work on them. Accordingly, a plan was put before the Building Committee by Mrs. Gibbs, and having been approved there, was put before the congregation in a meeting on August 26. The plans were approved by the congregation, as shown by this extract from the minutes of the meeting:

"It was proposed that different groups of the Women of the Church should be responsible for the completion of different rooms downstairs. This plan had been approved by the Building Committee. One woman would be chairman in charge of each room, and would be responsible for her room. Mrs. Gibbs requested that she be allowed to use \$400.00 which had come to her in special gifts and had been set apart in a special fund, to complete two downstairs rooms as memorials to Dr. and Mrs. Enloe, and Mr. C.H. Newton. The following were to be in charge of various rooms: Mrs. Gibbs and Mrs. Watts, co-chairmen; Mrs. Hemphill; Mrs. Bagwell and Mrs. Thornton, co-chairmen; Mrs. Oxner and Mrs. Kennedy, co-chairman; Mrs. Weatherly (upstairs classroom). A motion to accept the above plan was made by Mrs. Weatherly,

Hemphill Memorial, 1956, continued

seconded by Mr. Patterson, and passed unanimously. Mr. Ussery made a motion that the auditorium ceiling of sheetrock should be put up. The motion was seconded by Mr. Patterson and passed unanimously."

In carrying out the above plan, the overhead ceiling and sheetrock sidewalls were completed, the walls of all the downstairs rooms and the upstairs classroom were painted, recessed ceiling light fixtures were installed, and folding doors were put in between the Kindergarten and Primary rooms. The sheetrock ceiling was put in the auditorium and was painted. Mr. W.T. Palmour, a house finisher, of Greenville, South Carolina, a friend of Mrs. Bagwell, was most generous in giving work for the large room downstairs, in purchasing materials at a special price, and in giving the church a special rate on the work of putting up sheetrock and painting, both upstairs and downstairs.

Mr. Willis M. Everett, Jr., of Atlanta and Lakemont, secured valuable gifts for the church this year, in addition to what he had already done. From a bank which was being remodelled in Atlanta, he secured the six beautiful light fixtures for the auditorium. He brought, from the First Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, thirty chairs and two tables, for the Kindergarten and Primary rooms; and approximately two hundred copies of the Hymnal which had been used in that church, all in good condition. He raised, among his friends in Atlanta, \$225.00 for the purchase of a gas heating unit for the auditorium, which Mr. Bob Holcomb, President of the Blue Flame Heating Co., sold to him for \$200.00, at a reduction of \$150.00, leaving \$25.00 to help with the installation. All this was done in addition to his having secured donations for the Building Fund in 1954, and it is not known how much he has given, himself, in money as well as in service. Mr. Earl King, representative of the Tugalo Gas Co., gave his services in the installation of the heating unit, and Mrs. Hemphill had the light fixtures installed in the auditorium.

As this account is being written, in December, 1956, the auditorium still lacks the wainscoting and the finishing of the floor.

In August, the Session approved a proposal for an evangelistic meeting, the first for this church, and the date was set for the week beginning September 23. Rev. Robert Dobbins, Pastor of the Thomson, Georgia, Presbyterian Church, was secured to hold the services. The response in interest and attendance was encouraging. As a result of the services, Mrs. Beulah Thornton, Mrs. Florence Sanders, and Mrs. Grover Thompson united with the church. There was one boy who made a profession of faith, but he did not unite with this church.

At a congregational meeting, held on October 28, Mr. Roy Hodgson was elected Elder, and Messrs. Edgebert G. Watts and George Weatherly were elected Deacons. The church voted to enter the proposed Rabun County Larger Parish of Presbyterian Churches, and elected Mr. Roy Hodgson, Mrs. George Weatherly, and Mrs. Mary Bagwell as representatives on the Parish Council. At a congregational meeting held on November 25, the following were elected as additional Trustees: Mrs. George Weatherly, Mr. E.G. Watts, Mr. Randolph Ussery; and the following were elected as additional members of the Building Committee: Messrs. Roy Hodgson, E.G. Watts, and Randolph Ussery. At this same meeting, the congregation voted to concur with the pastor in his request to the Presbytery for the dissolution of the pastoral relationship, in order that he might accept a call to the Cold Spring Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Tennessee.

Hemphill Memorial, 1956, continued

On November 11, the Session elected Mr. George Weatherly to serve as Treasurer of the Building Fund.

On December 18, the Women of the Church, with the assistance of the Young People, presented the Christmas pageant, "Until the Day Dawn". Mrs. E.G. Watts was the Director, and Mrs. Mary Bagwell and Mrs. Gibbs had leading parts in the pageant. The drama was presented after a family night supper at the church, and both features of the evening were greatly enjoyed by all of those present. There were gifts for the children, and the people of the church presented the pastor and his family with a gift of more than \$74.00.

On Sunday, December 23, Mr. Roy Hodgson was ordained and installed as as Elder, and Mr. E.G. Watts was ordained and installed as a Deacon. Mr. George Weatherly was ordained and installed as a Deacon on Sunday, December 30.

Statistical Report:

Communicants on roll at beginning of year	32
Added on certificate	6
Total on roll during year	<u>38</u>
Dismissed to other churches	4
Total on roll at end of year	<u>34</u>

Building Fund expenditures \$3130.78

Signed L.R. Gibbs

Filed Jan. 11, 1958
Barbara J. Webster
Historian, Athens Pres.

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1957

Our church, having lost our beloved Gibbs, when Reverend L. B. Gibbs accepted a call to the Cold Spring Church in Bristol, Tennessee, January 1, 1957, had the services of Reverend Cook Freeman for the month of January. During the succeeding months of February, March, April, and most of May, students from Columbia Seminary, alternating Sundays with Reverend John Ash of Rabun Gap, Georgia, filled our pulpit. We can sincerely say that we were very much impressed with the fine messages we received from the men from Columbia.

In late May, Mr. Marion Anderson, a teacher in the Decatur High School, Decatur, Georgia, came to serve the Presbyterian churches of Rabun County for the summer months. He and his family lived in the manse. Mr. Anderson resumed his school duties in September but continues to serve the churches on week-ends.

Our building fund grew steadily, and we were able to finish the interior of our sanctuary, the entry, and a hall leading to the downstairs.

The Men-of-the-Church, a county wide organization, met monthly during the year.

Our budget, having been increased over last year's, was met in full. The church's contribution to Church Extension was very good.

A supper for the Presbyterian Men and Women of Rabun County was served at the church in March when Dr. Karl Anderson of Rabun Gap presented an appeal for contributions for the new Presbyterian Student Center at the University of Georgia.

The church was represented at Presbytery during the year.

Athens Pres.
Hemphill Memorial Church
1957

Members of Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
as of December 31, 1957

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Mary Bagwell | 19. Mrs. Ray Siewert |
| 2. Mr. Barry L. Bray | 20. Mrs. Myrtle Shook |
| 3. Mrs. Barry L. Bray | 21. Mr. James Shook |
| 4. Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter | 22. Mrs. Andrew Smith |
| 5. Mrs. Mary Coleman | 23. Mrs. Elese Speed |
| 6. Mrs. Annie Dodgins | 24. Mrs. Nannie Sue Thompson |
| 7. Mrs. J. E. Hemphill | 25. Mrs. Grover Thompson |
| 8. Mr. Roy Hodgson | 26. Mrs. Beulah Thornton |
| 9. Mrs. Kelly Hopper | 27. Mr. W. R. Ussery |
| 10. Mrs. Mary Kennedy | 28. Mrs. W. R. Ussery |
| 11. Mrs. O. M. Oxner | 29. Mr. Randolph Ussery |
| 12. Mr. William Patterson | 30. Mr. Egbert Watts |
| 13. Mrs. William Patterson | 31. Mrs. Egbert Watts |
| 14. Miss Opal Patterson | 32. Mr. George Weatherly |
| 15. Miss Oma Jean Patterson | 33. Mrs. George Weatherly |
| 16. Mrs. George Prime | 34. Mr. Frank Wilson |
| 17. Mrs. Florence Sanders | 35. Mrs. Frank Wilson |
| 18. Mr. Ray Siewert | |

Filed at Montreat
Feb. 20, 1958
Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Pres.

Athens Presbytery
 Women of the Church
 Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
 Clayton, Georgia
 1957

The officers for the year were: President, Mrs. A. M. Oxner; Vice President, Mrs. W. R. Ussery; Secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Bagwell; Historian, Mrs. George Weatherly; Chairman of Annuities and Relief, Mrs. Egbert Watts; Chairman of General Fund Causes, Mrs. W. R. Ussery; Chairman of Church Extension, Mrs. Egbert Watts; Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Miss May McDowell; Chairman of Christian Education, Mrs. George Weatherly; Chairman of World Missions, Mrs. Beulah Thornton; Chairman of Stewardship, Mrs. Mary Coleman.

Twelve regular meetings were held during the year. Our Bible Study was Christian Citizenship led by different members of our group.

We were joint-hostesses with the Women-of-the-Church at Rabun Gap in May for the Birthday Party when Mrs. J. Swanton Ivy, Synodical President, very interestedly presented, by slides and discussion, her trip to Mexico as a representative of the Synod to see our missions and hostals.

Our White Cross quota, although greatly increased over past years, was met in full, and one of our women personally contributed \$60.00 worth of clothing for Home Missions. Our contribution for Church Extension was unusually good. We remembered a boy from our town at Thornwell at Christmas with a nice box of gifts. We continue to place flowers in the church each Sunday. Again, we furnished refreshments for the children at our Daily Vacation Bible School.

Our associate minister, Mr. Marian Anderson, arrived in late May to find an empty manse. Our women contributed necessary articles of furniture for his use. We are proud of the fact that the work on our Sunday School rooms, which was begun last year, was finished.

We sponsored two suppers during the year. One in June honoring our new associate minister and his wife, and the other in December, which was a Christmas Party for the children of our Sunday School.

Our membership grew during the year, and we had good attendance at our meetings.

All in all, we feel that we have been blessed in our work.

Filed at Montreat
 Feb. 20, 1958
Barbara J. Webster
 Historian, WOC
 Athens Presbytery

Signed: *Mrs. George Weatherly*
 Historian

The church continued to be served by Mr. Marion Anderson who came on week-ends. Mr. Anderson, a very dedicated man, has endeared himself to all of our churches and our town. In June the Andersons came to take up permanent residence in the manse, and he is to be ordained at the first meeting of Presbytery in 1959. Members of our church met and did needed repairs and cleaning on the manse before the Andersons came.

We were indeed saddened to lose the first member of our church by death in February. He was Mr. William R. Ussery, a Ruling Elder in our church, and he had served as an elder for thirty-five years. We miss his fine leadership greatly.

We were also sorry to lose Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wilson when they moved to Virginia. However, our membership increased when nine new members were added.

Our building program went ahead at a fast pace. We were able to finish the floors, paint the pews, add carpeting, new hymnals, install a new pulpit furniture and organ, and build a concrete walk from the street to the entrance of the church.

Our minister began publishing a semi-monthly newsletter giving news of all our churches, and they are received by about two hundred people.

Mrs. Edwin J. Hemphill, who made a trip to Europe, gave an excellent talk concerning the Holy Land at our semi-monthly Prayer meeting.

The Prayer Meetings are held every other Wednesday night and a Visitation Program was begun in September which is carried on on alternating Wednesdays.

We had a most inspiring Revival in November. The visiting minister, Presbytery's Executive Secretary, Rev. Samuel Inman, was greatly admired by our people and impressed us with his fine messages. We feel he is truly a fine man for his job in the Presbytery.

Our budget was increased and met, and we were able to increase somewhat the amount we pay our minister. The Every Member canvass was successful. The church was represented at all Presbytery meetings and at Synod.

We indeed feel God has blessed us by sending us a fine man to guide our work, and we are grateful. We have been able to make our church into a beautiful sanctuary.

Mrs. George Weatherly
Historian

Filed at Montreat
Jan. 30, 1959

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Pres.

Athens Presbytery
Women of the Church
 Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
 Clayton, Georgia
 1958

The officers for the year were: President, Mrs. Egbert Watts; Vice-President, Mrs. William R. Ussery; Secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter; Treasurer, Mrs. Mary Bagwell; Historian, Mrs. George M. Weatherly; Chairman of Annuities and Relief, Mrs. Peggy Hunter; Chairman of General Fund Agencies, Mrs. William R. Ussery; Chairman of Church Extension, Mrs. Peggy Hunter; Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Mrs. Mae McDowell; Chairman of Christian Education, Mrs. George M. Weatherly; Chairman of World Missions, Mrs. Beulah Thornton; Chairman of Stewardship, Mrs. Mary Coleman.

Under our capable President, Mrs. Watts, our twelve regular meetings combined the work of the Circle and the General Meeting. Our Bible Study, The Nature and Mission of the Church, was presented monthly by members of our group.

In May we were again joint-hostesses with the Women of the Church of Rabun Gap in our church for the Birthday Party at which time Mrs. W. R. Jordon of Atlanta gave an interesting talk of her visit to the missions in New Orleans and Oklahoma.

Our budget was met in full and our specials were emphasized. We bought a girl from our county at Thornwell a graduation ring. The flowers for our church services were our responsibility as were the refreshments for our children at Daily Vacation Bible School.

Two of our women, Mrs. Mary Bagwell and Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter, helped our pianist, Mrs. George Weatherly, and Mrs. Beulah Thornton to organize a Junior Choir by being responsible for bringing the children in for practice and the church service.

In June, Mr. and Mrs. Marion Anderson, came to take up permanent residence in the manse. We were very happy to have a full time minister at last. We helped with a lot of cleaning and repair of the manse and gave the Andersons a surprise old fashioned pounding soon after they arrived.

Our group was represented at Presbyterial and Mrs. George Weatherly was elected as Presbyterial Chairman for General Fund Agencies for the next two years.

The women sponsored a covered dish supper and party for the Sunday School at Christmas.

All in all, we feel that our organization has helped each of our women to learn more of the Bible and the work of our Church.

Filed at Montreat
 Jan. 30, 1959
Barbara J. Webster
 Historian, WOC
 Athens Pres.

Signed by:
Mrs. George Weatherly,
Historian

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1959

Women of the Church

Even though we haven't grown so much in numbers this past year, we feel that God has blessed our church in many ways.

Through the able leadership of Mrs. Edgebert Watts as president of our women, we have made progress.

The new officers of our women's work were installed in an impressive ceremony on December the twentieth by our pastor, Rev. Marion Anderson.

The new officers for the year 1960 are: President- Mrs. George Weatherly; Vice President- Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter; Secretary- Mrs. Beulah Thornton; Treasurer- Mrs. Edgebert Watts; Historian- Mrs. Marion Anderson; Chairman of Spiritual Growth- Mrs. Marion Anderson - Mrs. Edwin Hemphill; World Missions- Mrs. Dover Henson; General Fund and White Cross- Mrs. Annie Ussery; Annuities and Relief- Mrs. Ethel Hopper; Church Extension- Mrs. Carol Reeves; Columbia Circle- Mrs. Mary Coleman; Christian Education- Mrs. Harold Mincemoyer; Homes- Mrs. Zella Ramey; Stewardship- Mrs. Mary Kennedy.

We are happy to report that Miss Patsy Murray and Miss Mimi Anderson organized a young peoples' league and at present Miss Carol Smith has taken over the leadership, ably assisted by Mrs. Marjorie Lunsford and Mrs. Elise Speed.

With the backing of our pastor and hard work from our ladies, a lovely kitchen was added, with all modern conveniences. There were many who made donations and helped to make our dream come true. Especially do we want to acknowledge the great assistance of General and Mrs. Remi Hueper, of Macon, Georgia, in this project.

We are enjoying our monthly covered dish suppers and are happy to report that they have been well attended. Before long we hope to have new folding tables and chairs.

Athens Presbytery met at our church on September the fifteenth, with around seventy men in attendance, even though we did have a rainy day. This was the first time to use our kitchen. A delicious meal was served and all the ladies worked hard to help make the meeting a success. We appreciate the help of other churches in this field- King Memorial- Tiger - Timpson and Wiley.

0 On March the twenty ninth Easter Sunday at 2pm our Pastor Mr. Marion Anderson was ordained into the Presbyterian ministry. The ladies served punch and cake in the basement to members and out of town guest.

Those invited to assist in ordination were. Rev. Sam Inman executive secretary of Athens Presbytery, Dr. E. C. Scott Stated clerk of the general Assembly, Rev. Sefton Strickland Jr Rev. Fred Clark, Mr. J. K. Muse, Elder from First Presbyterian Church, Decatur, GA. Rev. Bill Bodiford and Rev. John Ash. Also Elders, Mr. Bill O'Neal of Tiger church, Mr. Hugh White of Rabun Gap church, Mr. Clarence Phillips of Timpson, Mr. Roy Hodgerson of Hemphill church and Mr. Charles Petite of Wiley.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson assisted by their daughter Mimi invited friends and relatives to the Manse after the ordination Cake and coffee was served. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Jarret friends of the Andersons took colored movies of friends and guests assembled in the home.

A revival was held in Nov. Rev. A. N. Moffett of Toccoa

brought the messages. Miss Carole Smith joined by transfer of letter from the Baptist Church.

Our other New members for the past year are- Mr. and Mrs B. L. Stevenson from Alexander Memorial Presbyterian Church in Decatur, Ga. Mr. Hoyt Dixon on Profession of faith, Louise Dodgins transfer of letter from Baptist Church and Miss Patsy Murry on reaffirmation of faith, Mrs. Zella Ramey transfer of letter from Tiger Presbyterian Church, Mes. Marjorie Lunsford and daughter Judy on profession of faith.

WE are enjoying the new paved walk in back of church.

A good Bible School was led by Miss Janie Mc/Clunie and the Pastor. Mrs. George Weatherly assisted and is always so helpful in the activies of the church.

In Oct. Mrs. Mary Bagwell and Mr. Hoyt Dixon were united in marriage at an impressive ceremony. This was the first marriage to take place in the Hemphill Church and the first ever performed by the Pastor.

The first baby to be baptized in Hemphill church was little Jenifer Laurie Little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Little.

Mrs. W.H. Kennedy and Mrs. Marion Anderson attended the fall Presbyterial meeting at Cornelia, Ga.

We always enjoy having our tourist friends worship with us and feel that they have meant a lot to our church.

Especially do we want General and Mrs. Remi Hueper, of Macon, Ga. to know how much the members of Hemphill Church appreciate all they have done for our church.

Mrs. Edwin Hemphill gave a most interesting talk at prayer meeting - on her trip to the Holy Land.

As I come to the close of our history for the year 1959, may each one of us say in his own heart:

" I am but one; but I am one.

I cannot do every thing to

extend God's Kingdom.

But I can do something.

What I can do I ought to do

And by the help of his spirit,

I promise that I will do"

Respectfully submitted,
Mrs. Marion Anderson
Historian

Filed at Montreat
Mar. 30, 1960

Barbara J. Webster

Historian, Athens Pres.
Women of the Church

29332
BOORUM &
Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1960 January - September

Held training school for Sunday School Teachers. Supper was served. David B. Walthall, Director of Christian Education, Synod of Georgia, was the leader.

Continued to have church suppers. Six fine, new tables and 25 new chairs were purchased for the basement. The first donation on the tables was made by Mr. and Mrs. B.L. Stephenson.

Kitchen was painted and plans are in the making to lay tile on the concrete floor. Also all over the floors of the Sunday School department, which comprises most of the basement.

Miss Carol Smith has done a very good job in leading our young people. They meet on Sunday nights at 6:30. They also enjoy hikes through the beautiful mountains and have ball games at the Clayton field.

Our Women of the Church have had a good year under the leadership of the President, Mrs. Carolyn Weatherly. The financial report for the past year was encouraging.

The new officers for the year 1960 -1961 are: President, Mrs. Beulah Thornton; Vice President, Mrs. Pat Whisnant; Secretary, Mrs. Lorraine Carpenter; Treasurer, Mrs. Della Watts; Historian and Chairman of Spiritual Growth, Mrs. Miriam Anderson; Chairman- Christian Education, Mrs. Carolyn Weatherly; Chairman - Stewardship, Mrs. Mary Kennedy; Ch.- Church Extension, Mrs. Della Watts; Ch.- World Missions, Mrs. Marjorie Lunsford; Ch.- Annuities and Relief, Mrs. Carolyn Weatherly; Ch.- General Fund Agencies and White Cross, Mrs. Annie Ussery; Columbia Circle, Mrs. Mary Y. Coleman; Homes, Mrs. Zella Ramey.

We are happy to welcome a new family into our church - Mr. and Mrs. John B. Whisnant and sons John B. III and Bill. They came into our fellowship from the Summerville Presbyterian Church, Summerville, Ga.

Our church services were well attended this past summer for part of the time. We are always happy to have our summer guests come and worship with us and their unselfish gifts are always deeply appreciated.

The pastor and his family were invited to hold a revival at the Oldenburg Presbyterian Church, near Meadville, Mississippi, in July. The warm fellowship there will always be remembered.

293368
BOORUM

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
1960 January - September

(Continued from 1st page)

A good Bible School was held, with the pastor, Mr. Anderson in charge. Mr. Dick Carter, Columbia Seminary Student, helped.

Twelve Bible Study classes were held (during the entire year of 1960). The subject was the main emphasis of our denomination for the year- Let There Be Light. This is a great study of the Book of Genesis, and was in line with our church's general theme - " Understanding the Bible". Although the attendance was small, the fruit, we believe, will be much.

Signed-

Wm. Myriam Anderson

Historian

*Filed Aug. 1961
Louise Tucker*

BOORUM & PEASE "NOTEAR"®

"AR"®

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
Women of the Church
1961

Feeling that the Lord has blessed us in many ways, our church is still striving to move steadily forward.

100743
There is always an increase in the size of our congregation during the summer and fall months. We enjoy having our friends from other cities and states worship with us. We always miss them when they leave.

The Women of the Church had as their project for the year that of having tile laid on the entire basement floor. We appreciate the help of Mrs. Annie R. Ussery in seeing that it was done, and also the interest and help of Mrs. Edwin Hemphill.

We wish to express our appreciation to our President of the Women of The Church, Mrs. Beulah Thornton. May the Lord continue to bless her in her work.

Our young people are still headed by Miss Carol Smith, who has meant so much to our church. Carol is always willing, and eager to serve the Lord. Miss Judy Lunsford is President of the P.Y.F. The young people have as one of their projects the raising of twenty-five dollars to buy hymnals for a mission station in Japan. They are willing to cut grass, wash windows, baby-sit, and do other odd jobs for this worthy cause.

We welcome into our church Mr. and Mrs. Bill Meacham and their family, who come to us from Virginia. Mr. Meacham is our new Sunday School Superintendant, and is doing a fine job.

It was a sad day when our church had to say Good-bye to Mr. and Mrs. John B. Whisnant and their sons Bill and Jock. The Whisnants moved to Andover, Massachusetts. Words could never express all of the wonderful things that these people did for our church. They are so unselfish, and are always thinking of others. Mr. Whisnant is truly a dedicated man, and he and his wife are certainly on fire for the Lord. It is our prayer that God will continue to bless them.

A lovely nursery has been added to the church due to the long hours of work on the part of Mrs. John B. Whisnant. A new rest room has just been completed. The money for this project was donated by a fine lady who wishes to remain anonymous.

Those coming into our church by letter were Mr. And Mrs. Bill Meacham, Mrs. Marion Anderson, and Mimi Anderson.

Those who came on profession of faith were Virginia Justice, Brenda Hopper, and Phyllis Hopper.

Our pastor Rev. Marion Anderson has been serving here for over four years now. Both he and his wife and daughter are thankful that God sent them here to work with the people we love so much.

100743
Mimi Anderson directed the Hemphill Bible School and those in the four other churches that her father serves. We appreciate the hours she gave in helping to mold the lives of our young people.

One week in June our church held a joint revival with the other churches at the Tiger Church. Rev. Bill Hill of Virginia was the evangelist. Rev. Hill gave us some deep messages, both in the mornings and in the evening.

Our women are having the Presbyterian Survey sent to each home in the membership of our church for the coming year.

The pastor has begun a plan for reading the Bible through for the members of all the churches. The plan is to read a book a week beginning with Genesis followed by Matthew, thus alternating the Old and New Testaments until completion. We feel that by reading God's Word regularly will certainly make us more aware of God and His truths. As we read in the fifth chapter of John: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life; and they are they which testify of me."

Signed:

Marion V. Anderson
Historian

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

123381

1962 - L 7 02

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers

President --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Vice-president --- Mrs. Walter Mason
Secretary --- Mrs. George Weatherly
Historian ---
Treasurer and Church Extension --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Spiritual Growth --- Mrs. Marion Anderson
World Missions ---
Stewardship ---
General Fund --- Mrs. Annie Ussery

These officers were installed on September 23 at the regular Sunday Church Service by Rev. Marion Anderson.

Our Bible lesson from the Book of James was often taught by our pastor, at other times by members of the W. O. C.

We contributed to a Film Projector to be used in all the Presbyterian churches throughout the county.

During this year we enjoyed fellowship with one another, by having several church suppers and other get-togethers.

The W. O. C. furnished refreshments for the children of the vacation church school and again furnished flowers for the church on Sunday and other services at the church.

We attended a World Day of Prayer at the Methodist Church in Clayton.

Mrs. Shirley Meachom, Mrs. E. G. Watts, and Mrs. Marion Anderson attended Presbyterial at Commerce October 18.

Our May Birthday meeting was at Hemphill Church with Rabun Gap women as our guests. A social hour followed. Our offering was \$17.00.

The W.O.C. along with the Session voted on tinted windows to be placed in the Sanctuary.

Our number this year hasn't been too large but we feel that many blessings have come from these meetings. And that our year has been rewarding.

Let us close with:

Filed at Montreat

July 30, 1971
Nancy Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

"To look up and not down,
To look forward and not back;
To look out and not in;
And to lend a hand."

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Historian (Acting) hb

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

123381

1963

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Our Bible lessons for this year were taught by our pastor and W.O.C. From these lessons we received many inspirational messages.

Our attendance in the church continued to grow especially during the summer months, when the tourists worshiped with us.

Since February is World Mission month, Mr. and Mrs. Moon, missionaries, spoke at Hemphill on February 10 about our work in Asia. Our contributions were sent to this cause.

We started a collection of good used clothing for children and men, this to be sent overseas when completed.

We had the same officers as the previous year.

Seven ladies from Hemphill attended the May Birthday meeting at Rabun Gap on May 13. This year's objective was stressed and a film was shown on the work in Brazil. Following this a talk was given on Mexico. Refreshments carrying out the Birthday theme were enjoyed by the group. Our offering was \$12.00.

One of our members, Miss Carol Smith, became the bride of Ralph Pickens. We honored her with a shower in the social room at the church.

Mrs. E. G. Watts gave the following financial report at the end of the year. Total collections \$97.00. Total disbursements \$65.75. We met our budget in full.

All in all we feel that this has been a rewarding year.

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian *nb*

Filed at Montreat

July 30, 1971
Nancy Beaver
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers

President --- Mrs. Nell Donald
Vice-president --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Secretary --- Mrs. George Weatherly
Treasurer --- Mrs. Jackson Payne
Historian --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Personal Faith and Family Life --- Mrs. Marion Anderson
Christian Community Action --- Mrs. Beulah Thornton
Ecumenical Missions and Relations --- Mrs. Annie Ussery
Leadership and Resources --- Mrs. E. G. Watts

Our Bible study book for this year was from the Book of Psalms. This was a great study and blessing to us. At times we had our meetings in the church, but more often in the homes. The social hour was always enjoyable.

The Rabun Gap W.O.C. met with us for the May Birthday meeting. Miss Mary Crawford, missionary from the Congo in Africa, spoke to us on the Women's work there. Our contribution of \$15.00 went to that cause. Several visitors from the other churches came. A social hour followed.

The World Mission book, Christian Missions in Southern Asia, was passed around and read.

Mrs. E. G. Watts, Mrs. Shirley Meacham, and Mrs. William Donald attended the Presbyterian meeting in Jefferson October 21.

Mrs. Annie Ussery, Ecumenical Missions and Relations, announced that our quota of White Cross work was met. This being 10 baby blankets.

Mrs. Shirley Meachom, Mrs. E. G. Watts, Mrs. Jackson Payne were appointed as a committee to get curtains for the Sunday School rooms and ladies lounge. Mrs. Everett from Lake Rabun contributed \$50.00 toward this fund. The balance to come from the treasury.

We had 10 meetings this year. And as in years past we still consider it a great privilege to put floral offerings in our church.

Several church suppers were held this year. In December we had our last supper of the year, this to stress the cause of the Joy Gift.

A fine fellowship and meal were enjoyed by a large group. Following the meal Christmas carols were sung. Mr. William Meachom gave an inspiring talk on the season. After which a record the good of the Joy Gift was played. An offering of \$61.00 was taken.

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

1964

We met our budget this year, by contributing to all causes. And by the Grace of God our contributions have continued to increase. We have had a good year.

123381

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian *nb*

Filed at Montreat

July 30, 1971

Nancy Beaver

Historian, WOC

Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The same officers of the previous year kept their officers, with one exception, the chairmanship of Personal Faith and Family Life left vacant.

At this time the Bible lessons were taught entirely by W.O.C. members as we are without a pastor.

Our Blessing Box contributions were doing well with \$16.50 collected.

Mr. Sam Inman spoke to us in February on World Missions. A supper meal which was well attended followed his talk.

The curtains for our Ladies Lounge and Sunday School rooms became a reality. Much credit was given to Mrs. Shirley Meachom, Mrs. E. G. Watts, and Mrs. Jackson Payne for their work in making the downstairs so attractive.

The chairman of Ecumenical Missions and Relations, Mrs. Annie Ussery, reported that our White Cross work was completed.

Ten meetings were held this year. Same officers as in previous year.

We discussed a visitation program this year. Names were drawn for certain of the volunteer members to visit. We feel this helped with attendance in the church.

Our birthday meeting in May was with the Rabun Gap Ladies. This was enjoyed. Our offering was \$20.00.

Our attendance at the meetings was more ladies than in previous years.

Our by-laws were read, our budget met, and we contributed to all causes.

Our November Supper was for Church Extension. The offering at that meeting was \$100.00.

In December we had a Church Supper to stress the Joy Gift. The offering was \$41.00.

Our contributions and special offerings have grown much larger this year. We feel even though we are small that we certainly are going forward.

As I come to the close of the History of 1965, let us remember:

"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen nor heard but are felt in the heart."

Filed at Montreat

Tuesday 30, 1976
Nancy Beaman
Historian, WOC

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers

President --- Mrs. George Weatherly
Vice-president --- Mrs. Carol Pickens
Secretary --- Mrs. Nell Donalds
Treasurer --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Historian --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Personal Faith and Family Life --- Mrs. Carol Pickens
Christian Community Action --- Mrs. Beulah Thornton
Leadership and Resources --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Ecumenical Missions and Relations --- Mrs. Annie Ussery

Our Bible Study book, "The Early Church in Action," was written by Bell Miller McMaster and her ^{father} Dr. P. D. Miller. This book was of special interest to many of us as Dr. Miller served one year as pastor of the group of Presbyterian Churches in Rabun County. We received a great blessing by having this as our study book. This was taught by our members.

Our Ecumenical Chirman reported on the White Cross work. We furnished 10 dresses for babies, 10 dresses for little girls. Five ladies bought material, needles and thread, the latter was sent to Viet Nam. Our White Cross Offering was \$13.00.

Our May Birthday meeting was at Hemphill. Miss Patsy Murry had charge of the program and in a very able manner gave a talk on where and how our offering of \$40.00 was to be used. We enjoyed having the Rabun Gap Ladies meet with us. A social hour followed carrying out the Birthday Theme in refreshments.

In June one of our young church members, Nancy Donaldson, became the bride of Fred Kilby. Her beautiful wedding was in Hemphill Church. Our W.O.C. honored Nancy with a miscellaneous shower previous to her wedding.

We agreed to follow the same budget of 1965. We continue to place flowers in the sanctuary for our services.

We are still without a pastor, but our pulpit is never empty. Many thanks to Seminary students, Laymen from Rabun Gap, and Mr. William Meachom.

Our November church supper was well attended. Mr. and Mrs. Bill Stover taught the Bible lesson after a delicious meal.

Our December covered-dish supper was for the Joy Gift cause. This was well attended and a \$20.00 offering was taken.

Filed at Montreat

Nancy Beaver
July 30, 1971

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian 26

113859
Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia
Women of the Church History
1966

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The ladies of this church had a very good year in our work during 1965-66 under the able leadership of Mrs. William Donald.

Our Bible lessons were very interesting since Dr. P. D. Miller, who was a young pastor in the work of the Presbyterian Church in Rabun County when the work was new, together with his daughter wrote the book.

Members of our group attended Presbyterial and Districts Meetings. Mrs. William Donald was chairman in the Presbyterial for Personal Faith and Family Resources.

Flowers for the church were put in our church by ladies of our circle.

Our group had as our guests the ladies of the Rabun Gap Church at our annual joint-birthday meeting where Mrs. Murray was speaker.

Church suppers for the following causes were held where special offerings were taken:

Church Extention
World Mission
Joy Gift

Our members were in charge of these suppers for members of the Church.

The budget was met and special offerings were very good.

We feel that God helped us to have a very successful year in our Work.

Filed at Montreat

May 28, 1967

Nancy Beaver
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Mrs. William Meachem
Historian
Hemphill Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

The officers were to be the same as in 1966. Our budget of \$120.00 was also to be the same as the previous year.

Our monthly Bible study was led by one member each month with group participation.

The White Cross quota of 5 baby dresses was filled. These were donated by our members. We decided to participate in the "Least Coin Fellowship." Our Blessing Box offering in February was \$10.00.

The self-denial week was observed February 19-26. A special offering was taken.

We took the project of taking magazines to the hospital.

Our May Birthday meeting was at Rabun Gap. After the program a social hour was enjoyed. Our offering was \$25.00.

Although we still have no minister, our pulpit is filled each Sunday. Our Sunday School is growing. We feel God has blessed us.

Several church suppers and meals were held with good attendance.

May I close 1967 with:

"Prayer is not a substitute for work. It is a desperate effort to work further and to be effective beyond the range of one's power."

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian *nb*

Filed at Montreat

July 30, 1971
Nancy Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers

President --- Mrs. George Weatherly
Vice-president --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Secretary --- Mrs. Nell Donald
Treasurer --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Historian --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Personal Faith and Family Life --- Mrs. Bob Matthews (Oct.)
Christian Community Action --- Mrs. Beulah Thornton
Ecumenical Missions and Relations --- Mrs. Annie Ussery
Leadership and Resources --- Mrs. E. G. Watts

We agreed to have a supper meeting every quarter and transact business at that time if necessary.

Our White Cross quota this year was 100 rolled bandages to be sent to Brazil. The material was furnished by the members and Mrs. Beulah Thornton saw that the bandages were hemmed. Our offering for this was \$5.00.

In May we had the Birthday meeting and carried out the program suggested by Mrs. Bruce. The Rabun Gap Ladies came to this. A social hour was enjoyed downstairs carrying out the birthday theme. Our offering was \$25.00.

We presented to Fred Kilby a book, "The Praying Hands."

Miss Newton asked that our group send a letter of appreciation for Rev. Inman to be placed in a gift folder.

In June another of our young church members, Miss Karen Meachom, became the bride of Thomas Hodges. This wedding was in Hemphill and was performed by Rev. Sam Inman.

In October a great blessing came to our church in the form of Rev. Bob Matthews, his wife Bonnie, children: Jennifer, Mary Helen, and Edward. Rev. Matthews came to serve as pastor to the group of Presbyterian churches. We are so grateful to this young man and his family. Later he was ordained into this Presbytery. This meeting was in our church. Many visitors from outside as well as all the churches in Rabun County came. Afterwards a meal was served.

Our Sunday School continued to grow, as well as our attendance at the Sunday services.

Our Bible lesson was taught each month by our members until Oct. At that time Mrs. Bob Matthews agreed to serve as "Personal Faith and Family Life" and began the lessons.

The date for the Christmas Party was on the 16th of December. This was a covered dish meal. Afterwards a short Christmas program

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Presbyterian Church
Clayton, Georgia

1968

was presented. Our Joy Gift, the amount of \$22.00, was taken at that time.

It has been a good year for us.

Ms. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian *nb*

Filed at Montreat

August 22 1971
W Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

BOOKS & PLEAS "MONTREAT" ⑤

123486

BOOKS & PLEAS "MONTREAT" ⑤

WOMEN OF THE CHURCH

Officers to assume duties in October:

President --- Mrs. E. G. Watts
Vice-president --- Mrs. Shirley Meachom
Secretary & Treasurer --- Mrs. George Weatherly
Historian --- Mrs. Nell Donald
Personal Faith and Family Life --- Mrs. Bob Matthews
Leadership and Resources --- Mrs. Zella E. Ramey
Ecumenical Missions and Relations --- Mrs. Annie Ussery
Christian Community Action ---

Mrs. Bob Matthews taught our Bible studies in a very efficient and instructional manner, "Upside Down" from Corinthians.

The W.O.C. decided to take turns preparing for Communion Service.

Our church received eight new members this year coming from different churches in the county as well as out of state.

Mrs. Bob Matthews asked that we have a fellowship hour for all the Presbyterian Women of Rabun County. The first was at her home on March 15.

The May Birthday meeting was at the home of Mrs. Margaret Burden. Mrs. Susan Mendenhall had charge of the program. She had a very interesting collection from Africa on display. Slides were shown from the Congo, as that was our cause for the year. A large number of women attended and a lovely social hour was enjoyed. Our offering was \$22.00.

From time to time we have sent toilet gifts to girls at Thornwell in South Carolina. Cards were sent to college students, boys in service, and to the sick in our churches. At one time we made tray cards for the hospital.

Our Joy Gift Supper and program in December was well attended. The offering was \$23.40.

Our offering for World Missions was \$20.00.

As we close this year's work we feel that our greatest blessing has been the growth of our church.

"Prayer is not a substitute for work. It is a desperate effort to work further and be effective beyond the range of one's power."

Filed at Montreat

August 22, 1971
N. Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Mrs. Zella Ramey
Acting Historian h6

Athens Presbytery
Hemphill Memorial Presby. Church
W.O.C.
1970

OFFICERS

Pres. Mrs. E. G. Watts
V. Pres. Mrs. Shirley Meacham
Sect. & Tres. Mrs. George Weatherly
Historian. Mrs. Nell Donalds
Personal Faith and Family Life Mrs. Bob Matthews
Christian Community Action Mrs. Alice Wells
Ecumenical Mission and Relations Mrs. Annie Ussery
Leadership and Resources Zella Ramey

Mrs. Bonnie Matthews taught our Bible studies for the year, we are indeed fortunate to have her teach these lessons in a capable manner.

The President attended didtrict #3 meeting at Wiley, taught by Rev. Sam Inman.

Our Birthday Program in May was in Hemphill Church, with the Rabun Gap W.O.C. meeting with us. The Program on "Villa International", was given by Dr. Maude Pye Hood of Athens-Dr. Hood gave a lecture on this work with the aid of filmstrips. She also had a very interesting collection of articles from foreign countries-at the conclusion of the program, the 29 ladies enjoyed a social hour. The color theme of green and yellow was carried out in both decorations and refreshments.

In September the William Meacham family was transferred from Rabun Mills To. Virginia they were members of Hemphill Church for eight years, and had worked in the church in many capacities. As a small token of gratitude, a dinner was given for them.

Later at a W.O.C. meeting Mrs. Meacham was presented an engraved pin from that group.

Mrs. I.B. Gibbs was elected to fill the vacant office of Vice Pres.

The Joy Gift Program was celebrated in Dec. with a dinner in the social area. The room was decorated in triditional Christmas colors, by some of the W.O.C. members, a collection was taken at this time, following this we gathered in the Sanctuary for the annual Christmas Program and tree.

Frank Matthews youngest son of Rev. and Mrs. Matthews was baptised at a Sunday Service by Mr. W. Burney Overton.

We met our budget by contributing to all causes. Our total disbursements for the year was \$159.00.

Some needed repairs have been done by the men, both on the building and grounds. The W.O.C. continue to place flowers in the church. And take turns preparing the Communion Table.

All in all this has been a good and rewarding year.

Filed at Montreat

March, 1972
Jane Updegraff
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

HISTORIAN

Nell S. Donald