

HISTORY
OF
DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA

Athens Presbytery

1839-Hopewell Minutes
 1847-Cherokee Minutes
 1880-Athens Pres. Minutes
 1869- Augusta Presbytery

HISTORY OF THE DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA

When this church was organized it was within the bounds of the present Cherokee Presbytery, Synod of Georgia. It is first mentioned as having contributed \$2.00 to the Contingent Fund, in the minutes of Hopewell Presbytery, April 1839. In July of that same year Presbytery met in the Dahlonega Church to install the Rev. Templeton as Pastor. The church was represented by Elder Joseph Marshall.

This church is mentioned in the minutes of Cherokee Presbytery in 1847 as being represented by Elder Joseph Stearns. It is found on the roll of the churches of Athens Presbytery when it was set up in 1880.

From a statistical report of the General Assembly the church had 50 communicants; in 1866; 17 in 1851 and 17 in 1841.

From the minutes of Augusta Presbytery this notation appears in 1869: "A Committee appointed to investigate the trouble at Dahlonega, to visit the church, to act as Session if necessary to remove irregularities existing in this church."

In the minutes of Athens Presbytery, page 54, 1902: "Since Brother Blackwell went to Dahlonega, a debt of \$200.00 has been lifted from the beautiful church building, and a much needed bell has been bought at a cost of \$60.00 or more."

The following Elders are known to have served this church: E. Robert Mayes (son of John Mayes, chorister of Hebron Church) Joseph Marshall, 1841; F.T. Boatfield, 1850.

The church is a very weak struggling church to-day in 1948. It is being supplied by a student from Columbia Seminary.

Filed: *Emma P. Ivy*
 Mrs. J. Swanton Ivy, Historian
 Athens Presbyterial

Filed April 1948

66436
Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia

HISTORY OF THE DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The following facts have been taken from the minutes of Athens Presbytery. I have been unable to get first hand information from this church during the past year.

A rather unique situation exists in this church as there is not a man on the church roll. It is a very weak struggling Home Mission Church.

As I do not have a complete file of Presbytery's minutes this statement is far from complete. I do not have the organization date etc.,

1918 3 elders reported; 5 communicants; S.S. enrollment 20; \$27.00 contributed towards pastors salary. Church supplied by Rev. A.G. Ferguson, Superintendent of Home Missions in Athens Presbytery.

1920 3 elders, 1 deacon; 5 resident communicants, 3 non-resident; no pastor

1922 This statement is made by Rev. B.W. Baker, Evangelist in the Minutes of Presbytery, Spring Meeting, page 12: "At Dahlonaga wh have a good opportunity Your evangelist held a short meeting there a few months ago. The congregations were good, and as a result six were added to this good work. Rev. B.W. Baker is giving one Sunday in this church. A Sunday School was organized which is doing good work. We need to place a man at Dahlonaga to work the town and the surrounding country".

1923 "Rev. A.G. Ferguson is supplying the Dahlonaga Church. The work there is at a standstill and has been for several years. There are no prospects for growth in the church. Brother Ferguson is preaching once a month also at Helen."

1926 3 resident members, 2 non-resident

1928 "Dahlonaga is still without services. There are only two resident members there and we know of no way by which it can be supplied."

1929 Statement by Rev. J.A. Simpson, Superintendent of Home Missions: "In January I was in Dahlonaga and preached to a good congregation in the Baptist Church. As the result of this visit a Presbyterian Sunday School was organized under the leadership of Alton Glasure, a student of the North Georgia Agricultural College and a candidate for the ministry under Athens Presbytery."

Fall Meeting 1929: "I made two visits to Dahlonaga during the summer and preached to good congregations in our church there. The Sunday School which was organized this year, is doing splendid work under the leadership of Alton Glasure. The average attendance has been over forty, and the interest is good."

1930 Services being supplied by the Superintendent, Rev. J.A. Simpson

Spring 1933: "In March I went to Dahlonaga and arranged to preach there on the fourth Sunday, but was unable to fill my appointment because of illness. Miss Emily Gaillard has raised some money and had the church building repaired and painted. I hope we can have evangelistic meetings there this summer."

Rev. J.A. Simpson, Superintendent

Dahlonega Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia

History continued

1935 Added on certificate, 6; Total communicants, 10; 2 elders

1936 Church being served by Rev. M.C. Dendy. Results are encouraging.

1937 1 elder; 10 members; S.S. enrollment, 35.

1940 No elders; 5 communicants; S.S. enrollment, 75; paid to current expenses, \$28
Preaching services held occasionally by Rev. Jack Hand, of Gainesville

1944 Church being served by Rev. W.H. Benchoff, a Senior Student at Columbia
Seminary.

Signed: Emma P. Ivy
Mrs. J. Swanton Ivy
Historian Woman's Auxiliary
Athens Presbytery

Filed April 1945

ANNUAL HISTORY OF THE DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Dahlonaga congregation is primarily students and serves only three local families, having a membership of only 8.

During the past year a Westminster Fellowship was organized on the college campus and Paul West, a member of the Dahlonaga Church was elected delegate at large at a recent Synod's Conference in Athens and is now on Synod's Council.

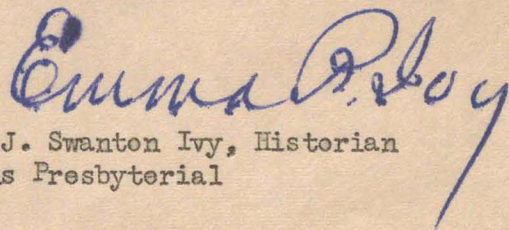
In the fall of 1948 the Sunday School was organized (first time in 10 years). Dr. Stephen Huntley is the Superintendent. There are two classes, the Adult and the children; Mrs. Stephen Huntley is the Adult teacher, and Miss Emily Gaillard teaches the children.

In December 1948, the AR Presbyterian Church of Due West S.C. presented the church with a Bible for the Pulpit.

Plans for the future include the purchase or construction of a pulpit, work on the sanctuary, and a more adequate heating system. Other plans and also prayers include the reception of new members into the Church, prospects from a lengthy list.

The work has encouraging and discouraging features but the faith of the few faithful workers is strong and progress will be made with God's help.

Signed:



Mrs. J. Swanton Ivy, Historian
Athens Presbyterial

(Information furnished by A.A. Gardner, Supply Student from Columbia Seminary Decatur, Georgia who works under the Presbytery Rural Training Program.)

76435
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Athens Presbytery

Dahlonega Church has a small membership but it has great possibilities for good. Situated in the beautiful Blue Ridge mountains of north Georgia, there are only six members on the church rolls, but with the aid of two very efficient supply pastors from Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia, the church is able to minister to the three local Presbyterian families and to one or two Lutheran families, together with a large number of students from North Georgia Military College, a part of the University System of Georgia. The church holds three services each Sabbath. There is an average attendance of some twelve or fourteen for church school. The average attendance for morning worship is perhaps seventy-five. There is a very wide-awake Westminster Fellowship of some fifteen to twenty members which meets each Sunday evening. The church has recently installed Butane gas. The Ben Gaillard Bible class of the Gainesville church has been gracious in helping with the heating system. There have also been numbers of generous contributions from individuals interested in the progress of the church. Recently the Westminster Fellowship entertained at a banquet in honor of the young people of the church. Nearly fifty were present. Dr. Manford G. Gutzke, professor of English Bible at Columbia Seminary was the speaker.

This information copied from February 15, 1950 issue of the Christian Observer.

G. L. Moore
Presbyterial Historian

Filed at Montreat
April 1951

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1951-1952

CHURCH HISTORY

Pastor, Mr Neely McCarter, Student Supply

Session

Dr S M Huntley Sr, Clerk
Prof Ben Sanders
Mr Myron Youngberg

Church Roll

Freeman, Mr	Huntley, S M Sr Mrs
Freeman, Mrs	Sanders, Ben Prof
Galliard, Miss Emily	Sanders, Ben Mrs
Galliard, Miss Sallie	Youngberg, Myron
Huntley, S M Sr	Youngberg, Myron Mrs
	Huntley, Stephen M. Jr.,

Sunday School

Dr S M Huntley Sr, Superintendent

Student Class - 40 members from North Georgia College
taught by Prof Ben Sanders

Primary Class - 10 members

Intermediate Class - 4 members

Class of Eight-year-olds - 4 members

Westminster Fellowship

This group is made up of forty wide awake students from North Georgia College who meet in the church each Sunday evening with an average attendance of twenty-six. The student pastor, Neely McCarter, is the leader.

Signed Mary Peck Hay Huntley
(Mrs S M Huntley Sr)
Church Historian

Filed Sept. 1 1953

James H. Howell

AthensPresbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1952 - 1953

CHURCH HISTORY

Chilton Thorington, Student Pastor

Session Prof Ben Sanders, Clerk
 Dr S M Huntley Sr

Additions on profession of faith: Carol Lynn Jung and Mike Jung
Additions on profession of faith and baptism: Ben Allen Sanders and Pete Henderson, the latter a student at North Georgia College.
Dismissals: Mr Reeves Barnett to a church in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

This is a church for students. They are our reason for existing. In addition we do have a few younger children, some of them quite faithful. For these children living out in the country transportation is provided. Some among their number plan to recite the Child's Catechism before summer.

We gave a banquet at the Smith House for the college group and the few church families. Sixty-one attended.

As our student pastor for two years, Mr Neely McCarter, was leaving us on being graduated from Columbia Seminary, we entertained for him at the Community Building. A Saturday picnic has been planned for the month of May.

We have recently had all windows repaired, some having to be replaced, at a cost of \$260. Butane gas has been installed and with additional minor repairs we now worship in comfort.

The college students like young preachers, and we have had such splendid ones that sixty to one hundred fifty attend the morning service. Neely McCarter worked wonders with the students and Chilton (Chic) Thorington is following in his footsteps.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent----Dr S M Huntley Sr
Sect & Treas-----S M Huntley Jr
Pianist-----Miss Emily Gaillard

Classes

College Students

Teen-age Boys

Small Children

Teachers

Mr Chilton Thorington
Mrs S M Huntley

Mr Bobby Kempson

Miss Emily Gaillard

We borrow the Community Building for the College Students Sunday School Class.
Number enrolled in the Sunday School 31 not including the College Student Class.

There were 15 children enrolled in the Daily Vacation Bible School taught by Mr and Mrs Ernie Tufft. In addition to this school Mr and Mrs Tufft held a weekly Saturday morning session of Bible study and recreation for the children.

With only twelve members on the church roll, six of them minors, we find it difficult to contribute to benevolences. Through the Sunday School we contribute to World Missions, Thornwell Orphanage, American Bible Society, local charities and to other church causes whenever possible.

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

The Westminster Fellowship meets in the church every Sunday at 6:15 p.m. The student pastor with the leader plan and rehearse the programs that are well attended. After the meeting the students go to the home of one of the elders for hymn-singing, coffee and cookies. A popular series of programs on doctrine attracted seventy-two young people. In the group there are a candidate for the Baptist ministry, one for the Methodist ministry and two for the Presbyterian ministry.

We work terribly hard in our church because we are so few. Results are many compared with our assets. May God continue to bless us.

Signed Mary Peck Hay Huntley
(Mrs S M Huntley Sr)
Church Historian

Filed September 5 1953

Ernie H. Tufft

Historian, Women of the Church
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia

83350

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Dahlonega, Lumpkin County, Georgia was the scene of a sizable gold rush in 1830. Eight years later a United States mint was established there. The Cherokee Indians had named the place Talonega, meaning yellow metal. Today the mint is closed but coins of every series minted between 1837 and 1861 may be seen in the library of the North Georgia College.

The Presbyterian Church of Dalonega was first organized in 1838 with the Rev David Hastings Mason D D serving as pastor. He came to Dahlonega from Philadelphia as an official of the mint and erected a building, the upper part being used as a Masonic Lodge and the lower part as a church. (History of Lumpkin County, page 225)

The present church building is located on the corner of Park and Singleton Streets. In 1838 the congregation used the old Academy Building to hold a Sunday School known as the Union Sunday School, which was the first organized Sunday School in Dahlonega. The original structure mentioned above, built by Dr Mason, was occupied by a garrison of Federal soldiers and greatly damaged. This building was later sold.

In 1878 the Rev R W Milner undertook to build a house of worship. Due to the failure of subscriptions being paid the brick edifice was sold and used as the office of the Dahlonega Signal. It is now used as a residence. The present church building was erected largely through the efforts of Dr B P Gaillard a saintly and scholarly man who served the church as elder for many years.

The church being primarily a church for students it is well to know something of the college they attend. The following is from the 1952 catalogue of North Georgia College:

North Georgia College, founded in 1873, owes its origin to the Act of Congress of July 2, 1862, entitled "An Act donating public lands to the several states and territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and mechanic arts." The act contemplated the "endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college in each state where the leading object will be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and mechanic arts in such manner as the legislatures of the states may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes."

While North Georgia no longer offers agricultural courses it has otherwise remained true to the general vision of its founders. A small annual income from the sale of public lands is still received by the college.

Sunday morning church attendance is required by the college authorities, therefore, although we have only eleven members, we may have as many as fifty to seventy-five students at morning service. The Youth Work of our church takes the form of a Westminster Fellowship for the college students. They elect their own officers but work closely with the elders of the church. Regular meetings are held at six-thirty Sunday evening.

As it has been stated the Presbyterians held the first organized Sunday School in Dahlonega in 1838. Today the Sunday School is made up of the Primary Department, Junior Department and the Adult Class which is taught by Dr S M Huntley Sr.

In recent years the Women of the Church have carried on nobly in spite of the fact that there have seldom been more than two or three members. At present Mrs M J Youngberg serves as president.

The person having attained the most note of any member of the church seems to have been Dr Benjamin Palmer Gaillard Sr, a distinguished and beloved educator. He was associated with North Georgia College for sixty-five years. During that time he taught science in the college and served as acting president on three different occasions. With the help of outstanding Presbyterian clergy he was essentially the founder of the present Presbyterian Church in Dahlonega. He began collecting funds for the building of the church years before the work on the building was begun in 1900. For years he served as an elder and Sunday School superintendent. As an educator he was known throughout the state and beyond. Dr Gaillard was the son of the distinguished Presbyterian minister Rev Savage Smith Gaillard.

Judge B P Gaillard Jr, son of Dr Benjamin Palmer Gaillard, was a lawyer of renown and served as Judge of the Superior Court, Northern District of Georgia, for many years. Judge Gaillard joined the Presbyterian Church early in life. For a number of years he taught the B P Gaillard Men's Bible Class in the First Presbyterian Church of Gainesville, Georgia. Because of trouble in his life he was drawn near to the Savior. This with a thorough knowledge of the Bible and his great gift of oratory brought throngs of people to hear him give an exposition on the Sunday School lesson.

Miss Emily Gaillard, a daughter of Dr B P Gaillard Sr, kept the church active almost single-handedly for years by soliciting funds for repairs and a stipend for the current minister. She now works for the Government at the Ordnance Depot in Atlanta but comes home for the week-ends. She taught music for years both private classes and at Chicora College. It can be said that the church today owes its existence to her faithful and untiring efforts.

Rev Nathan Alpheus Pratt D D believed to have organized the church, was born in Centre Brook, Conn. Jan 29, 1796. He was a son of Ezra P and Temperance Southworth Pratt. On March 11, 1830 he married Catherine Barrington King of Darien, Georgia. He attended Yale University in 1820 and Princeton Theological Seminary 1820-1823. Licensed to preach on April 23, 1823 and ordained by the New Brunswick Presbytery on Feb 25, 1824 he served as stated supply Shrewsbury N J 1824-1826. Pastor Darien Georgia 1827-1840. Pastor Roswell, Ga 1842-1879 and died there on August 30, 1879. Received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from Oglethorpe University in 1854.

Rev Isaac Watts Waddell^{Dr.} D D was perhaps the most illustrious minister the church ever had. He served as pastor while President of North Georgia College 1893-1899 and was a man of outstanding scholarly attainments and deep spirituality. He always conducted chapel exercises and was said often to quote, "We are as prone to sin as the sparks are to fly upward." He was President of the college at the time General Robert Lee Bullard USA, then a Captain, was Commandant of Cadets. (For a full biography of Dr Waddell see binder of Hebron Presbyterian Church filed under Athens Presbytery in the Historical Foundation.)

Dr Jonathan C Rogers, former President of North Georgia College and later President of the University of Georgia, was for a while a member of the Dahlonega Presbyterian Church. He moved his membership when the church became inactive. Presidents Hood and W D Young also were for a time members of the Presbyterian Church.

NOTE:

This historical sketch is based on the history written by Mr Neely McCarter while student supply of the church for Rev C C Shafe's Committee on History of Athens Presbytery.

MINISTERS

1838-1953

1838	Rev David Hastings Mason D D
1839	Rev Groves H Cartledge D D
1839(July)	Rev Temp leton
1840	Rev Nathan Alpheus Pratt D D
1841-44	Henry Safford, stated supply
1845	Samuel K Talmadge
1846	Church not listed
1865	Vacant
1867	Rev Paul Carrington Morton
1869	Church listed - name of pastor not given
1871	Church not listed
1872-73	Vacant
1873-74	Vacant
1874	Rev Joseph Washburn
1875-77	Church listed - name of pastor not given
1878-81	Rev Robert W Milner, Evangelist and stated supply
1882-83	Rev Nelson Horace Smith
1884	Church listed - name of pastor not given
1890-92	Rev Hugh McLees, occasional - South Carolina Presbytery
1893-94	W O Phillips
1895	Rev Farr (Possibly Rev John Fleming Pharr, Evangelist, Athens Presbytery)
1897	Rev Isaac Watts Waddell, President North Georgia College 1893-1899
1902	Rev David Johnson Blackwell, founder of Nacoochee Institute 1902
1914	Rev Lamar Ferguson, stated supply and pastor
1915-19	Rev Angus Gray Ferguson, stated supply-Supt Home Missions, Athens Presbytery
1922	Rev B W Baker
1923	Rev A G Ferguson
1925-28	Not listed
1928-31	Alton Henley Glasure, student supply
1931-33	Rev Richard Franklin Simpson
1933-38	Rev Marshall Coleman Dendy, Pastor Gainesville First Church 1931-38
1939-41	Rev Jack Guy Hand, pastor Gainesville First Church 1939-42
1941-42	Supplies sent from West End Church, Gainesville and from Columbia Seminary
1943-45	William Henry Benchoff, student supply
1945-46	James Robinson, student supply from Oct 45 to June 46
1946-summer	James Halverstat and Allin Hess assistant
1946-47	Allen Jacobs from Sep t 46 to May 47
1947-48	Chevis Ligon, student supply from June 47 to June 48
1948-49	A. Alan Gardner, student supply
1949-50	James B Reaves and Charles Moffatt assistant
1950-51	Charles Moffatt, student supply
1951-52	Neely Dixon McCarter, student supply April 51 to June 52
1952-Summer	E R Tufft
1952-54	Chilton Thorington June 52 to 54

NOTE:

This list of ministers was compiled from Sessional Records, Dahlonga Presbyterian Church; Minutes General Assembly, Presbyterian Church; USA

and Minutes General Assembly, Presbyterian Church, U S. Some of the dates are approximate.

(Mrs.) Irene H. Nowell

Irene H Nowell
Historian, Women of the Church
Athens Presbytery

Filed: Jan. 25, 1955

85212



85212



WESTMINISTER FELLOWSHIP
NORTH GEORGIA COLLEGE
DAHLONEGA, GEORGIA

Church History

Dahlonega Presbyterian Church has had Chilton Thorinton, a senior at Columbia Seminary, as student supply since springtime when Neely McCarter left us to do student work at the University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida. During the summer the student population was so low that church attendance was not required and we had no students all summer. The home mission committee furnished a student from Columbia Seminary or an elder to preach for us all summer. We had both small gains and losses--an army family moved away and Stephen Huntley, Jr. went to Davidson College so we lost his services though his membership is here. Miss Isabel Lumsden, instructional supervisor for the county, a member of Nacoochee Presbyterian Church works with us for the college young people. Mr. James Kidd, Professor of History at the North Georgia College, and his wife who are members of the Associate Reform Presbyterian Church, help in the church whenever they are able.

Forty Presbyterian students are registered in the college as of January, 1954. The church strives to provide them with fellowship as well as spiritual help. The Student Work committee of the Synod of Georgia beginning in October 1953 provided \$15 a month for student work of the church. Mrs. Huntley is a member of the committee of which Dr. Wade Huie is chairman. As Dr. Huie says, the money at least will help to feed the students. We serve coffee and cocoa before Sunday School and after hymn singing and Westminster Fellowship at the Huntley's serve coffee and cake.

For more than two years there has been emphasis on work with college students. In September 1952 Mr. McCarter took 13 students from the college to College Park for a Retreat. This proved to be the largest group in attendance. In September 1953 the Huntleys took a group to Camp Rutledge for a similar Retreat. This camp is between Atlanta and Augusta and is a state owned recreation park. Again in 1954 they took George Thurmond (who also took his car), Patsy Shattuck, Pat Compton, Jesse Varnadoe, Joy Hudgins, Joyce Bellamy, Bob Schlosser and Janet Simpson to Athens for another retreat. In 1954 four students went to Athens for the Retreat. In this way the church has tried very hard to do something for the students at the college.

Written from material compiled by Mrs. Nowell

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

Church History

The attendance at Sunday School is about 55 or 60. This counts the college students who meet across the street in the community house and have coffee and doughnuts served by Capt. and Mrs. Frank Smith. There are 70 to 80 attending church. Students take up the offering and sing in the choir. There is a great need for a resident minister as the town and college are both growing and something must be done to consolidate gains.

On faith and donated labor we have painted the church on the inside and hope to soon do the outside.

During the year James C. McDonald joined the church on profession of faith. On Dec. 10, Major and Mrs. Carlton Stephens joined on reaffirmation of faith. Mrs. and Mrs. James C. Kidd united by transfer of letter on Oct. 10, coming from Due West Associate Reform Church; Mr. and Mrs. William Cole from Toccoa Presbyterian Church in November; and Mr. Robert Short, a student, came from Moultrie Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Henry Lewis Smith has been student pastor since September. The Session has two members--Mr. Ben Sanders, clerk, and Dr. S. M. Huntley. In the Sunday School Mrs. James Kidd is kindergarten, Miss Emily Gaillard and Mrs. Huntley are primary and Mrs. Carlton Stephens is the junior teacher.

Again the youth work has received emphasis. We sent to Montreat five delegates for the Westminster Conference. They were George Thurmond, Patsy Shattuck, Joyce Bellamy, Joy Hudgins and Stephen Huntley. This and the conference at Athens in February (at which we had eight attendants) aided greatly in training these young people in the Christian work of the church. Patsy Shattuck was elected secretary of Synods Westminster Fellowship while George Thurmond was the out-going vice president. We also had a retreat with the Westminster Fellowship at Porter Springs at the summer home of the Joseph Whitners in the early spring.

Officers of the Westminster Fellowship for 1955 are: George Thurmond, Pres.; Janet Simpson, vice president; Joy Hudgins, program chairman; Joyce Bellamy, treasurer with Dr. Huntley as councilor and Henry Smith as song leader (student pastor).

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

C.W.
Athens Presbytery
Dahlongega Presbyterian Church
Dahlongega, Georgia

Church History

Pastor: Mr. Sefton Strickland, student at Columbia Seminary
Organists: Miss Emily Gaillard and Dr. S. M. Huntley
Choir Director: Dr. Huntley and Mr. Strickland are attempting to organize a choir.

Elders
Prof Ben. W. Sanders, Clerk
Prof. J. C. Kidd
Dr. S. M. Huntley

Deacons
Major Carlton E. Stevens
Prof. Frank Smith
Mr. Howard Burnett

Additions on Profession of Faith
Barbara Christian
Glenda Christian
James McDonald
Bob Schloesser

Additions on Reaffirmation
Maj. and Mrs. C. E. Stevens
Prof. and Mrs. Frank Smith

Additions by Letter
Mr. Howard Burnett
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Sanders
Patsy Sanders
Sgt. and Mrs. Snipes

Births, Deaths, and Marriages: none

Summary:

Our spirit and enthusiasm have grown with the growth in members; we are very thankful. A small church has to belong to every member and each must feel the responsibility for its on-going, as we do. We held a successful Bible School, beginning the day public school closed. This was led by Stephen Huntley, assisted as soon as he could get here by our student minister, Sefton Strickland. Efficient workers were Mrs. Stevens and Mrs. Kidd all six sessions. Several others helped with such things as serving refreshments.

Church School

Superintendent: Dr. S. M. Huntley
Sec.-Treas.: Mrs. Huntley
Pianist: Miss Emily Gaillard
Teachers: Mrs. Stevens, Miss Gaillard, Mrs. Huntley, Mrs. Kidd along with Mrs. Frank Smith. Prof Smith teaches the college class.

Westminster Fellowship

A good Westminster Fellowship is led by Dr. Huntley as sponsor and Mr. Strickland. Meetings are at the church with refreshments and hymn singing at the community house which we rent.

Mr. and Mrs. Strickland conduct a lively organization of the children. This has been one of our inspiring events of the year.

Filed at Montreat. Feb. 24. 1957

Mrs. S. M. Huntley

Barbara J. Webster
Pres. Hist.

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonaga Pres. Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia
1956

Women of the Church

This is not a formally organized group but is an active special group of women who meet to study the Bible and act as assistants to the church. Miss Isobel Lumsden is President, Mrs. C. E. Stevens, Vice President, Mrs. J. C. Kidd, Secretary, and Mrs. Ralph Sunasky, treasurer.

Members:
Prof. Sam Sanders
Prof. J. C. Kidd
Dr. E. C. Sanders

Deacons
Prof. Frank Smith
Mr. Howard W. Burnett
Major Carlton E. Stevens

additions to the church by letter:

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Little, Aug. 6, from Oak Springs
Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia
Mrs. Phyllis Sunasky, Jan. 19, from Grace Presbyterian
Church, Aiken, South Carolina

Baptisms:

Mr. and Mrs. William Cole and Mary Patricia Cole to
First Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia, March 1.

Deaths:

David Sipes July 22
Gentle Sipes, July 29
John Allen Little son of Mr. and Mrs. Morris Little, Oct. 6

Summary:

A recreational program was set up for the students in the Community
Center. This was to be planned by the students but supervised by
the session.

A committee was formed by the session for church building plans
and fund raising for it.

The session approved a Vacation Bible School for a week and to be
held in the church.

A representative was sent to Montreat during August to study
Vacation Bible School possibilities.

Services were held in the church so that Sunday School classes
could be drawn during church services.

Filed at Montreat
Feb. 25, 1957

Barbara J. Webster
Historian WOC
Athens Prestery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
~~1967~~ 1957

Church History

Pastor: Mr. Sefton Strickland, student at Columbia Seminary
Mr. Sam B. Laine, student at Columbia Seminary

Session members:

Elders
Prof. Ben Sanders
Prof. James C. Kidd
Dr. S. M. Huntley

Decans
Prof. Frank Smith
Mr. Howard W. Burnett
Major Carlton E. Stevens

Additions to the church by letter:

Mr. and Mrs. Norris Little, Aug. 4, from Rock Springs
Presbyterian Church, Atlanta, Georgia
Mrs. Phyllis Surasky, Jan. 13, from Grace Presbyterian
Church, Aiken, South Carolina

Dismissals:

Mr. and Mrs. William Cole and Mary Patricia Cole to
First Presbyterian Church, Marietta, Georgia, March 1.

Baptisms:

David Snipes July 22
Cynthia Snipes, July 22
John Alan Little son of Mr. and Mrs. Norris Little, Oct. 6

Summary:

A recreational program was set up for the students in the Community House. This was to be planned by the students but supervised by the session.

A committee was formed by the session for church building plans and fund raising for it.

The session approved a Vacation Bible School for a week and to be held in the church.

A representative was sent to Montreat during August to study Westminster Fellowship activities.

Screens were installed in the church so that Sunday School classes could be more private. These could be drawn during church services.

The above information was taken from the church session notes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

111001
Filed at Montreat
February, 1966
Dorothy J. Wether
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1957

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Miss Lumsden
Vice president: Mrs. Carlton Stevens
Secretary: Mrs. James C. Kidd
Treasurer: Mrs. Surasky

A church nursery was organized. The plan was for each member to take a turn keeping the nursery.

One member took responsibility for flower arrangements; later the women took turns.

The women volunteered refreshments for the Westminster Fellowship Group.

A tea was given with the other churches of Dahlonega for the new comers.

Plans for a summer Bible School were made.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett

Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
February, 1966

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Annual History

The Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, one hundred twenty-one years after its beginning, ended the year of 1958 with high hopes of soon having a resident minister. For the past several years we have been supplied with student pastors from the Columbia Seminary. Mr. Sam Laine acted as supply pastor from September 1957 until April 1958, and Mr. Ben Dunegan finished the year. Miss Emily Gaillard is church pianist.

Sunday School classes were held each Sunday at ten o'clock, church services at eleven, and Westminster Fellowship, Sunday evening at six. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was observed twice during the year.

At the beginning of the year the officers of the church included three deacons and two elders, but, because two of our deacons were transferred from the town and one elected an elder, our officers are now as follows:

Elders:

Mr. Ben W. Sanders, clerk
Mr. James C. Kidd
Mr. Frank Smith

Church Treasurer

Mr. Norris Little

There are twenty-five active members at the church roll, and eleven affiliate members--all students at North Georgia College.

Five new church members were added to our roll during the past year. By transfer of letter Miss Julia Oates, Major and Mrs. Chris Gooch; by profession of faith, Sgt. and Mrs. Merton Scott. We lost five members by transfer of letters to churches in other towns. One infant, Lindsey Ann Kidd was baptised in April by the Rev. Sam Inman.

Mr. Fred Hill is Superintendent of our Sunday School. The teachers are:

Mrs. Frank Smith, Beginners
Mrs. Fred Hill, Primary
Mrs. James C. Kidd, Juniors
Mr. Fred Hill, College Class and adults

Mr. Ben Sanders acts as sponsor for the Westminster Fellowship, which is an important part of our church program for the North Georgia College students.

We hope that with the encouragement and guidance of a resident minister, and the prayers of our friends, our church will grow in the years to come.

Filed at Montreat
Sept. 1959

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Pres.

Mrs. James C. Kidd
Historian

Women of the Church

The Women of the Church held regular meetings in the homes of the members on the third Wednesday of each month. We were affiliated with the Presbytery for the first time in 1958 and had ten active members.

The officers of the group were as follows:

President - Mrs. Ralph Surasky
Secretary - Mrs. Frank Smith
Treasurer - Mrs. Norris Little
Historian - Mrs. James C. Kidd

The women assisted members of the Westminster Fellowship in serving occasional Sunday evening suppers to the group, and at other times invited the Fellowship into their homes for their meetings and refreshments.

We prepared a special supper at the beginning of the school year for the church members and the Westminster Fellowship to welcome new North Georgia College students to the group.

The women have also sponsored and prepared regular quarterly church suppers for the congregation and guests.

Mrs. James C. Kidd, Historian

Filed at Montreat
Sept. 1958

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Pres.

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Dahlonega Presbyterians Rejoice Again

Sixty years ago a large flag was hoisted high in the air on the Dahlonega town square in celebration of the first rafters being positioned for the new Presbyterian church building.

The members were publicly rejoicing because they had been without a church of their own for some 30 years, although their organization was at that time already 61 years old.

Now, 121 years after their beginning, another redletter year has arrived for this small band of determined denomination members.

A call has gone out for a full-time resident pastor to minister to their spiritual needs--a pastor whose charge it will also be to guide activities of Presbyterian students at North Georgia College.

The prospective pastor, who visited Dahlonega recently, is a young, unmarried man. He is the Rev. Blake Breitenhirt Jr., an honor graduate of King College, Bristol, Va., and a 1954 graduate of Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. His studies included organ and church music.

Following graduation, the Rev. Mr. Breitenhirt was pastor of the Albertville (Ala.) church 1955-58, and is now serving as assistant pastor of the South Highlands Presbyterian Church in Birmingham. If he accepts the call to Dahlonega he will arrive the first week in April.

Except for brief intervals, Presbyterians here have been without a resident pastor. During recent years they have had a student pastor to come each Sunday from the Columbia Seminary in Decatur, the assignment being made on a yearly basis.

Struggle to Live

Various accounts of the church's history reveal that, though exceedingly small in membership, it has from the first been composed of town leaders--educators, lawyers, business men, officials of the old U. S. Branch Gold Mint and officials of large gold mining companies.

Despite this prominent interest, the denomination has through the years had to struggle for survival. The story of its dogged determination in the face of almost insurmountable obstacles is both inspiring and respect-commanding.

This story is taken from old "papers," and from quotes from Col. W. P. Price's 1897 book (about Dahlonega Baptists in particular), old newspapers and from Cain's History of Lumpkin County.

The Presbyterians were organized here in 1838 by the Rev. David Hastings Mason who was sent here from Philadelphia to be chief coinier at the Branch Gold mint which began operations that year. The Rev. Mr. Mason was also the first pastor, and 10 years later he built the first church house.

Available records do not show where meetings were held during the first years, but the statement was made that whenever without a church, the Presbyterians held their services, baptisms and communions in the Baptist and Methodist churches.

Both of these denominations were organized here around 1835 and built small meeting houses by 1840 or 41.

In 1848, Col. Robert Hughes Moore deeded one-eighth of an acre of land in the west side of town to the Rev. Mr. Mason as trustee. The minister then built a house for church downstairs and a Masonic Lodge use upstairs.

Dahlonega Presbyterians Rejoice Again p.2

Early church members are listed as the Mason family, the Frederick Boartfields, Hugh A. Frasers, A. F. Morrisons, James Kellys and John Swantons.

Damaged in War

A garrison of federal soldiers took over the building after the Civil War, damaged it extensively. It was later claimed as private property by a son-in-law of the Rev. Mr. Mason, sold and torn down. The materials from the house were used in the famous old water mill on Yahoola Creek known as Wimpy's Mill.

Dr. B. P. Gaillard, for 60 years a professor at North Georgia College, and one of the staunchest members of the Presbyterian Church beginning with the time he moved here in 1873, later wrote a newspaper article telling something of the church's struggles.

"When I came to Dahlonega in 1873, there were a few members left but the church was in a dormant state...In 1874, the Rev. James Washburn of Nacoochee Valley visited us and reorganized the church. Under his ministry several new members were added."

Dr. Gaillard further tells that this pastor moved to south Georgia and was succeeded by the Rev. R. W. Milner who undertook to build a house of worship on a lot donated by Col. Moore.

Whether this is the same lot as before is not known, but the efforts to build were thwarted by lack of funds, and only partial construction resulted.

The building committee was organized into a board of trustees consisting of D. W. Lewis, first president of North Georgia College; N. H. Hand, mining engineer and owner of prominent gold mining properties; Col. W. P. Price, founder of NGC, and two other well-known lawyers, Weir Boyd and James R. Lawhorn.

Funds Needed

However, not even these powerful men could raise enough money to complete the building, so both it and the lot were sold to Col. Price. The house was finished and became the Dahlonega Signal office.

In 1879 a petition to be incorporated "as the trustees of the Presbyterian Church of Dahlonega in connection with the General Assembly of the United States," was filed by Dr. Gaillard, Boartfield, Boyd, Kelly and Lawhorn.

During the 1880's, the women of the church decided the time had come for the females to take a hand. They started their own fund campaign, and "with the aid and cooperation from others worked wonders in the matter."

Mrs. John Moore Sr., widow of one of the sons of Col. Moore, tells today of buying aprons from the women who made them to sell in their drive for building funds.

The woman's touch combined with the gold mining boom which was on at the time resulted in complete success and at the turn of the century the present Presbyterian Church building was constructed.

New Church

In 1900, Dr. Gaillard wrote, "We now have a neat little church house, and while it is right that we should feel proud of it, we should also be mindful of our ever increasing responsibility to work for the Master, and welcome within its walls those who wish to worship God."

Dahlonega Presbyterians Rejoice Again p. 3

Col. Price, a Baptist, in 1897 commented: "The Presbyterians, though never strong in numbers, have always put forth their full influence in the saale for piety and temperance..."

Listing later members in addition to Dr. Gaillard as being the Cartledges, Allens, Waddells, Dupre and Witherspoons, he said:

"The influence of all these people went to the right side of every question. And it is no wonder that the evils which once ruled the town should give way under the opposition of such people...when united in church work, the walls of wickedness had to come down."

Today, 1959, the membership is still small (23 regular members), but the determination to survive is just as strong as it has been all during the past 121 years.

This progressive and typical pioneer spirit has won out for the loyal group, and a new day will begin with the coming of a resident pastor.

Elders in the church are Ben W. Sanders, James C. Kidd and Frank Smith, all members of the NGC faculty. Trustees, elected only this month, are Norris Little, an official of Pine Tree Company, and Miss Julia Oates, of the college library department.

Mrs. Ralph Surasky, wife of another NGC faculty member, is president of the Women of the Church. The Sunday School superintendent and teacher of a class for college students is Fred Hill who is currently attending NGC and plans later to study for the ministry.

Only two of the members are descendants of the past membership. These are two daughters of Dr. Gaillard, Miss Emily Gaillard who is the church pianist, and Miss Sally Gaillard.

The above is a copy of an article by Miss Madeleine Anthony which appeared in The Daily Times, Gainesville, Ga. on Mar. 23, 1959. Miss Anthony is extremely interested in Dahlonega and things historical and is on the Times District Staff

Filed at Montreat
Sept. 1959

Barbara J. W. Johnston
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1959

Church History

Pastor: Rev. Blake Breitenhirt, Jr.

Session members: Prof. Ben Sanders, Prof. James C. Kidd, and
Prof. Frank Smith

Additions on Profession of Faith:
Charlie Jean Thompson

Additions by letter:
Kenneth Melton from Edgewood Presbyterian Church,
Columbus, Georgia

Baptisms:
Merton Scott
Charlie Jean Thompson
Mrs. Tom Scott

Births, Deaths, and Marriages: none

Summary:

A Campus Christian Life Committee was set up for the purpose of supervising the Westminster Fellowship Group. Appointed were: Rev. Blake Breitenhirt, Miss Julia Oates, Mr. James C. Kidd, and Mr. Ben Sanders.

In October, there was an "open house" at Pine Valley for the Westminster Fellowship Group. On Sunday nights, the Community House was used for a meeting place for the students. Here-
tofore the Women of the Church prepared and served refreshments in their homes.

The session agreed to act as a building committee for a student center. Mr. Breitenhirt was to act as contact man.

The above information was taken from the church session notes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
February, 1966

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonga, Georgia
1959

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. Phyllis Surasky
Vice president: Mrs. Frank Smith
Secretary: Mrs. Fred Hill
Treasurer: Mrs. Norris Little

It was decided for the women to make pledges so that a budget could be established.

The women met in one of the homes and made 25 baby gowns for world missions.

There was a church dinner for two families who were leaving.

A banquet was given the Westminster Fellowship Group.

Curtains for the Sunday School were purchased.

An artificial flower arrangement was also purchased.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
February, 1966

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1960

Church History

Pastor: Rev. Blake Breitenhirt, Jr.

Session members: Mr. Ben Sanders, Mr. James C. Kidd, and
Mr. Frank Smith

Additions on Profession of Faith: none

Additions by letter:

Mr. and Mrs. Lawton Baggs from Black Street Presbyterian
Church, Woodstock, Georgia
Mrs. G. E. Kidd from Camden, South Carolina

Births, Deaths, and Marriages: none

Summary:

Mr. Breitenhirt attended the Campus Christian Life Staff Worker's
Conference in Montreat, North Carolina.

There was a church supper in honor of members who were leaving.

Church School:

Adult class: Mr. Lawton Baggs
College class: Capt. Al Kitchen
Kindergarden: Mrs. Al Kitchen
Primary: Mrs. James C. Kidd
Juniors: Mrs. Lawton Baggs

The above information was taken from the church session notes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian

Filed at Montreat
February, 1966

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1960

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. Frank Smith
Vice President: Mrs. James Kidd
Secretary: Mrs. Fred Hill
Treasurer: Miss Julia Oates

A china vegetable dish was purchased for a missionary family.
Also purchased was silver flatware for the Westminster Fellowship Group.

Food and gifts were given at Christmas time to a needy family.
Students helped with this project.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church
secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

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Filed at Montreat
February, 1966

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

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DAHLONEGA CHURCH HISTORY

September, 1961-June, 1965

The Reverend Lowell Beach Sykes preached his first sermon in our church on the last Sunday in September, 1961. He and his family had moved to Dahlonega the day before from Comer, Georgia.

Mr. Sykes was installed as pastor of the Dahlonega Church on October 1, 1961 by the following commission of Athens Presbytery: The Rev. Samuel M. Inman, Executive Secretary of the Presbytery, presided; The Reverend Dr. Samuel A. Cartledge, professor of New Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary, preached the sermon; The Reverend Dr. A. Hoyt Miller, retired missionary to the Congo, charged the minister; and Ruling Elder Dallas N. Fields of New Hope Church, charged the congregation.

A reception was held to welcome the new minister and his family that afternoon in the Community House.

The church bought an electronic Baldwin organ from Mrs. William C. Boyd, organist. This greatly improved the congregational singing.

The Pastor began a mid-week service of prayer and Bible study, a weekday communicants' class for children in school, and a Sunday communicants' class (during the Church School hour) for adults.

We were thrilled by the number of college students worshipping with us. We sometimes have to bring in extra chairs, and the church is always full whenever the college is in session.

New members added to the church during 1961 were as follows:

October 15, 1961	Col. and Mrs. Marvin D. Bennett
	Maj. and Mrs. Albert B. Kitchen, Jr.
	Stephen Smith
December 3, 1961	Mrs. Mary Hicks Leffingwell
December 17, 1961	Mr. and Mrs. George Franklin
December 24, 1961	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Harkey

Year End Statistical Report for 1961

Total communicants	28
Elders	3
Baptisms - Adult	2
Infant	3
Sunday School enrollment	70
Budgeted benevolences	\$ 53.
Total benevolences	53.
Current expenses	2,335.
Total contributions	2,388.

On April 8, 1962, the following were ordained and installed as Ruling Elders after having been duly elected to that office by the congregation, instructed by the pastor, and examined by the church session: Lawton Baggs, Albert B. Kitchen, Jr., and Marvin D. Bennett.

The session approved a "pastor's fund" not to exceed \$25 per month, which the pastor will be able to use at his discretion, to meet emergency needs of people in our community.

During the spring much work and planning went into the prospective new building. Arrangements were made with a local man to remove the old building on the new property so that work could begin as soon as a contract was let. Because some of the older people in town thought that a gold mine shaft was on the property for the new building, during the spring a company from Atlanta was employed to check this out by drilling. They found no shaft.

In July the contract to build was let to the Sherrill Construction Company, Gainesville, Georgia. On the Lord's Day, July 22, after morning worship in our old building, the congregation adjourned to the site for the new building for a service of ground breaking. Work actually began on the new building on August 10.

New hymnals were badly needed because of the greatly increased size of the congregation. The session voted to purchase TRINITY HYMNAL, published by the Orthodox Presbyterian Church, because it seemed to meet the particular needs of our congregation better than other available hymnals. The new hymnals were used for the first time by our congregation at Morning Worship on September 9, 1962. Mr. Sykes preached on "The Gospel in the Hymnbook" from Col. 3:16b.

On September 16, 1962 in a duly called congregational meeting, the following trustees were elected: Lawton Baggs, chairman, Mrs. G. E. Kidd and Ben W. Sanders. Said trustees were empowered to transact the following motion which was unanimously approved: "That we accept the \$7,000 offer for our present church building from the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta with the following provisions:

- 1) that we will vacate the present church building by June 1, 1963, or upon completion of our new building-which ever occurs earlier;
- 2) that we will retain possession of the organ and that the purchaser supply us with an acceptable bell;
- 3) that a lawyer be employed to work out the transaction."

The session appointed the following committees at their October 10, 1962 meeting: CHRISTIAN EDUCATION-Lawton Baggs, Chairman; Sunday school superintendent, Mrs. M. D. Bennett, Mrs. James C. Kidd, Mrs. A. B. Kitchen, Jr., Mrs. Ben W. Sanders, Education Chairman of W. O. C.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP-Ben W. Sanders, Chairman; Raymond Anderson, William Boyd, Miss Julia Oates.

EVANGELISM-Marvin D. Bennett, Chairman; Mrs. G. E. Kidd, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. R. G. Anderson.

SERVICE-A. B. Kitchen, Chairman; Clinton Boyd, Representative from W. O. C.

WORSHIP-Frank Smith, Chairman; Mrs. William Boyd, Mrs. Lawton Baggs, Miss Julia Oates.

PROPERTY-James C. Kidd, Chairman.

On November 14, 1962 the session adopted the following resolution:

"WHEREAS Mrs. William C. Boyd has served with untiring devotion and faithfulness in the Ministry of Music of our Church for the past year and a half; AND WHEREAS we feel that this service of love at the organ and with the choirs has not only contributed greatly to the increased interest in and growth of our Church during that time, but has also contributed in a most positive way to our expression of worship of Almighty God; BE IT RESOLVED: That the Session of the Dahlonega Presbyterian Church in stated meeting, November 14, 1962, express its gratitude to God for sending a person with such talent and dedication to us; That we pray God's richest blessings upon her; That these resolutions be spread on the minutes of the Session; And that a copy of these resolutions be presented to Mrs. Boyd."

New members added to the church during 1962 were as follows:

February 18, 1962	Col. and Mrs. William C. Boyd, reaffirmation of faith
	Clinton Boyd - profession of faith
	Jeffrey Boyd - profession of faith
February 25, 1962	James C. Kidd, Jr., confirmation of baptismal vows
	Caroline Rowan Kidd, confirmation of baptismal vows
	Roger Smith, baptism and profession of faith
December 2, 1962	James R. Essam, transfer
December 12, 1962	Mrs. Ann Royston Watson, transfer

Year End Statistical Report for 1962

Total communicants	37
Elders	6
Baptisms - Adult	1
Infant	2
Sunday School enrollment	80
Budgeted benevolences	\$ 60.
Non-budgeted benevolences	113.
Total benevolences	173.
Current expenses	4,000.
Building fund receipts	6,878.
Total contributions	11,051.

Because we had been assured that our new building would be complete by the first of May, 1963, the session decided to have the dedication of the building on May 26 at 3:00 P.M. Although the building was not complete, because plans had already progressed so far we decided to go ahead with the service as planned. Although the weather was very bad, approximately 300 people attended the service. The following ministers took part: The Reverend Roland P. Perdue, III, University Pastor, Athens, Georgia, prayer; The Reverend David B. Walthall, Regional Director of Christian Education, Synod of Georgia, reading of the scripture; The Reverend Samuel M. Inman, Executive Secretary, Presbytery of Athens, the sermon "The Sure Foundation"; The Reverend Robert C. Peeley, Jr., moderator of the Synod of Georgia, the benediction; The Reverend Lowell Beach Sykes, Pastor, Dahlonega Presbyterian Church, presided. Also taking part were the officers of the congregation, the general contractor, the junior choir, and the North Georgia College Glee Club. The following memorials were read:

BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE, in loving memory of Dr. E. P. Yager by friends.

ONE PEW in loving memory of Dr. E. P. Yager, by friends.

ONE PEW in memory of our beloved brother, John W. Sanders, Jr., by the Tom Sanders family.

SILVER BREAD AND WINE COMMUNION TRAYS in loving memory of Miss Emily Gaillard, by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitner.

SILVER COMMUNION CHALICE in loving memory of Mr. J. F. Little, by his daughter, Miss Betty Little.

SILVER COMMUNION PITCHER in loving memory of Charles M. Powell, father of Mrs. L. B. Sykes, by friends.

ONE HYMNAL in loving memory of Miss Emily Gaillard, by Mrs. Pearl Thompson and Reger Thompson.

ONE HYMNAL in loving memory of The Reverend G. E. Kidd, by Mrs. G. E. Kidd.

ONE HYMNAL in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Rowan, by Mrs. G. E. Kidd.

THREE HYMNALS in loving memory of Ben M. Sanders, father of Ben W. Sanders, by Dr. and Mrs. Harold Harry.

HALL

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS FOR FELLOWSHIP/FURNISHINGS in loving memory of Martha Jane Gardiner Graham by her daughter, Lillian Graham Heath.

ONE PEW to the glory of God by Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitner.

THREE HYMNALS in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Peeley, by their son, The Reverend Robert C. Peeley, Jr.

TWO HYMNALS in loving memory of Mrs. Sue V. Clements, mother of Mrs. John T. Simpson, Jr., by Mr. and Mrs. John T. Simpson, Jr.

Our new building, of contemporary design, has already been described as a "landmark in Dahlonega". From the village square, and from the campus of North Georgia College, the free-standing, seventy-two feet high spire, topped by a celtic cross, can be seen pointing, as a finger, heavenward. In the spire hangs a bell which "calls to worship."

As one enters the sanctuary he feels "an upward lift" given by the high arched ceiling supported by exposed laminated wood arches. He sees - not a chancel - but what might better be called "a setting for Reformed worship."

A large wooden cross, high on the front wall, reminds him that "we preach Christ crucified," "for the preaching of the cross is to them that perish, foolishness; but unto us who are being saved, it is the power of God." This truth is set forth in the Word and the Sacraments.

The Word and the Sacraments "go together" in Reformed worship. Therefore, the pulpit for the reading and preaching of the Word, the Lord's Table for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and the font for the Sacrament of Baptism form one unit which is clearly visible to the congregation.

The Lord's Table, centrally located, is not an altar on which a sacrifice is made. Our Lord's sacrifice on the Cross was "once for all." Therefore, it is a real table "with legs on it" to symbolize the fact God gathers His people around His table to give them spiritual food. The Table, raised two steps for visibility, is essentially on the same floor level as the congregation to emphasize our fellowship with God and with each other.

The Font is to one side and on the same floor level as the Table, insuring good visibility. This enables the whole congregation to actively participate whenever Baptism is administered. Thus, each one can, in the words of the Larger Catechism, "improve his baptism" when another is baptised.

The Pulpit, on which rests the Holy Bible, is at one side in this setting, but actually predominates because of its height and size. This is in full accord with the Reformed and evangelical emphasis on the reading and preaching of God's Word. Because the preached Word must never be separated from the written Word, there is no separate lecturn for reading the Scriptures. The shape of the pulpit is that of the bow of a ship - reminding us that as Noah and his family were saved from destruction by entering into the ark, so we are saved when we hear and believe the Gospel according to the Scriptures.

The organ and choir are placed in the balcony to emphasize the fact that the choir is a part of the worshipping congregation - not performing for the congregation, and that the primary function of the choir is to support congregational singing.

The stained glass window over the balcony, made in Chartres, France, is a symbol of the holy Trinity. The hand symbolizes the creative hand of God the Father, the cross the sacrifice of God the Son, and the dove the Holy Spirit.

One hundred and ninety people can be seated in the pews on the main floor and in the balcony. With folding chairs on the main floor and in the narthex an additional 75 can be accommodated, bringing the total seating capacity to 265.

The building also includes four class rooms, the Pastor's study, a lovely fellowship hall, and a small kitchen. The whole unit is heated and air conditioned by electricity. Future plans call for the addition of a two-story educational building.

During the summer we held joint Sunday evening services with the Methodist Church. Services were held at the Methodist Church during the month of July and at the Presbyterian Church during the month of August.

Because Colonel Boyd was transferred and the Boyds moved, we had several substitute organists during the year from June 1963 until June 1964. The Westminster Fellowship gave a piano for the Fellowship Hall in appreciation of the fine work that Mrs. Boyd had done at the organ and with the Junior Choir.

In September 1963, the Church employed Albert Anderson as part-time sexton.

Because of the great number of students that began worshipping with us in the fall, we began having two Sunday morning services.

On Monday, the 14th of October, the church spire was put up. A special effort had been made to get it up before the meeting of the Presbytery of Athens. The Presbytery met in this church on October 15, 1963 in stated meeting. As far as anyone could remember, this was the first meeting of Presbytery in the Dahlonega Church. Although there were still a few things incomplete in the new building, it had been for all practical purposes completed by this time.

New members added to the church during 1963 were as follows;

January 19, 1963	Carol Ann Hutcheson, baptism and profession of faith James Walden from Dahlonega Methodist Church Edwin F. Hall, III, from First Baptist Church, Jerome, Idaho Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Whitner, from Central Presbyterian Church, Atlanta
September 22, 1963	Mr. and Mrs. Paul Tracy Gerard, Jr., he from the Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, Augusta, she on re-affirmation of faith from the Baptist Church.
September 29, 1963	Dr. and Mrs. R. P. Tregdon and their son, Richard, from the Presbyterian Church, Marion, Alabama.

Year End Statistical Report for 1963

Total communicants	48
Elders	5
Baptisms - Adult	0
Infant	3
Sunday School enrollment	75
Contributions to budgeted benevolences	\$ 48.
Non-budgeted benevolences	96.
Current expenses	7,625.
Building fund	2,454.
Total contributions	10,223.

On March 22, 1964 the North Georgia College Glee Club presented a program of sacred music in our church.

At the end of the school year, 1964, the Westminster Fellowship gave 30 new hymnals (which were badly needed due to increased numbers at worship) in appreciation of Major Albert B. Kitchen, Jr.

The session in May 1964 elected Douglas L. Butler, Jr., a student at Stetson University, as organist for the summer.

During the summer of 1964, we again had union services with the Methodist Church on Sunday nights. The services were at the Presbyterian Church during the month of July and at the Methodist Church during the month of August.

In the fall of 1964 Mrs. Marian Bouffard was elected by the church session as regular organist.

The community Thanksgiving services were held on Thanksgiving Eve at our church. The sacrament of the Lord's Supper was celebrated with ministers and officers of the Baptist, Methodist and Presbyterian churches participating.

During the year 1964 Mrs. Marvin D. Bennett made and presented to the church an original painting by herself of "The Last Supper."

New members added to the church during the year 1964 were as follows:

February 12, 1964	Mrs. James D. Heard from Hapeville Methodist, Hapeville, Ga.
April 26, 1964	Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Carroll, reaffirmation of faith
May 10, 1964	Thomas Palmer Sanders, Jr. David Mayson Sanders Jeanne Ellen Sanders John Quarterman Sanders
	Margaret Louise Sanders, all the above on confirmation of baptismal vows
July 19, 1964	Lillian Diane Brown, profession of faith and baptism Barbara Sue Thurmond, profession of faith and baptism
October 4, 1964	Ford F. G'Segner from Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Marietta
November 29, 1964	Dr. and Mrs. Wm. Leger and their son, Philip Carlos Leger, from United Presbyterian Church, Jamestown, North Dakota.
December 6, 1964	Brenda Couch, from Harmony Baptist Church, Dawsonville, Ga.

Year End Statistical Report for 1964

Number of communicants, end of year	57
Elders	4
Baptisms - Adult	2
Infant	0
Sunday School enrollment	83
Contributions - Budgeted benevolences	\$ 102.
Contributions - Non-budgeted benevolences	176.
Total benevolences	278.
Current expenses	5,349.
Building fund	94.
Total contributions	5,721.

In January 1965 Mrs. Charles Huppuch was employed as church secretary for two afternoons a week. This was made possible by an increase in funds for the support of the student program by the Campus Christian Life committee of the Synod of Georgia.

On March 19, 1965 Pastor Sykes requested the session to announce the following Sunday a congregational meeting to be held March 28, 1965 immediately following worship for the following purpose: To concur with him in his request to Athens Presbytery that his pastoral relationship with this church be dissolved, effective June 30, 1965 in order that he may accept the call of the Lakement Presbyterian Church, Augusta, Georgia; and to transact any other business growing out of the above. The session voted to concur with this request.

On March 28 the congregation voted with regrets to concur with Mr. Sykes in his request to Presbytery and elected the following Pulpit Nominating Committee: Frank M. Smith, Miss Julia Oates, Ford F. G'Segner, Marvin D. Bennett, Ben W. Sanders. The Committee later elected Mr. Smith as its chairman.

New members added to the church during 1965 are as follows:

March 8, 1965	Robert Garrard Leger
June 6, 1965	Robert M. Watson Carol S. Watson Elizabeth Ann Watson Henry W. Bennett

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Oct., 1961 - Oct., 1962

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. Frank Smith
Vice president: Mrs. Al Kitchen
Secretary: Mrs. G. E. Kidd
Treasurer: Mrs. Lawton Baggs

In the beginning of the school year, a supper was given in the Community House for the Westminster Fellowship Group.

October 1st., after the installation of our new minister, the Reverend Lowell Beach Sykes, a reception was given in the Community House. The entire community was invited.

Also in October, a church nursery was set up, organized, and carried out by the women.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett

Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

110625-
Filed at Montreat
January, 1966
Barbara J. Webb
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia
1963

DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The Presbyterian Church in Dahlonaga was organized in 1840 by Dr. Nathaniel Pratt. Its first report listed 17 communicants. For 123 years the work has been carried on with varying degrees of success. The largest membership, 60, was reported in 1866. The low ebb was between 1928 and 1934, when only four communicants were reported for seven years. Beginning in 1948, when only five communicants were reported, there has been a slow but steady growth until, at the present time, the communicant membership is 50. Of this number 32 have been added during the past two years.

The student community of North Georgia College numbers nearly 1000. With about ten per cent of the students giving a Presbyterian preference, the church is faced with a tremendous challenge to minister to them. This past Sunday 214 people attended Morning Worship here.

Four years ago the Church Extension Committee of Athens Presbytery decided immediate action was necessary. Over one hundred years had passed, and one opportunity after another had gone by. The committee acted. A beautiful tract of land was purchased, high on a hill, overlooking the campus. It is the tract on which the original Presbyterian Church was built, and the old building, later converted into a residence, was still standing until last summer when it was torn down to make way for our present building.

Preston McIntosh, Architect, of Atlanta, was engaged to design a building which would meet the needs of our ministry both to the community of Dahlonaga and to the students of North Georgia College. In July, 1962, the contract to build was let to the Sherril Construction Company, Gainesville, Georgia. The new building, without furnishings, would cost \$80,000.00.

Athens Presbytery authorized its Church Extension Committee to borrow up to \$50,000 for this project. The Board of Church Extension of the General Assembly gave \$10,000, and the Campus Christian Life Committee of the Synod of Georgia contributed \$10,000. The local congregation, when numbering only 18 communicants, pledged \$10,000. We note that every court of our Church has contributed to make this new building possible. Several individuals in Dahlonaga and throughout Georgia have also made contributions.

On the Lord's Day, July 22, 1962, after Morning Worship in our old building, the congregation of the Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church climbed this hill for a Service of Ground-breaking. Work actually began on August 10, 1962.

On May 26, 1963, we had our Service of Dedication, having been assured that the building would be completed by that time. However, as you can see, there is still work to be done. The contractor has promised that everything but the stained glass window over the balcony will be finished by the end of this month.

This building, of contemporary design, has already been described as a "land mark" in Dahlonaga. From the village square, and from the campus of North Georgia College the free-standing, seventy-two feet high spire, topped by a celtic cross, can be seen pointing, as a finger, heavenward. In the spire will hang a bell which "calls to worship."

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia
1963

As one enters the sanctuary he feels "an upward lift" given by the high arched ceiling supported by exposed laminated wood arches. He sees - not a chancel - but what might better be called "a setting for Reformed Worship."

A large wooden cross, high on the front wall, reminds him that "we preach Christ crucified, "for the preaching of the cross is to them that perish, foolishness; but unto us who are being saved, it is the power of God." This truth is set forth in the Word and the Sacraments.

The Word and the Sacraments "go together" in Reformed worship. Therefore, the Pulpit for the reading and preaching of the Word, the Lord's Table for the celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and the Font for the Sacrament of Baptism form one unit which is clearly visible to the congregation.

The Lord's Table, centrally located, is not an altar on which a sacrifice is made. Our Lord's sacrifice on the Cross was "once for all." Therefore, it is a real table "with legs on it" to symbolize the fact that God gathers His people around His table to give them spiritual food. The Table, raised two steps for visibility, is essentially on the same floor level as the congregation to emphasize our fellowship with God and with each other. The Presbytery or "elders bench" is behind the Table, showing the parity of the ruling elders with the teaching elder.

The Font is to one side and on the same floor level as the Table, insuring good visibility. This enables the whole congregation to actively participate whenever Baptism is administered. Thus, each one can in the words of the Larger Catechism (Q. 167), "improve his baptism" when another is baptised.

The Pulpit on which rests the Holy Bible, is at one side in this setting, but actually predominates because of its height and size. This is in full accord with the Reformed and evangelical emphasis on the reading and preaching of God's Word. Because the preached Word must never be separated from the written Word, there is no separate lecturn for reading the Scriptures. The shape of the pulpit is that of the bow of a ship - reminding us that as Noah and his family were saved from destruction by entering into the ark, so we are saved when we hear and believe the Gospel according to the Scriptures. The anchor cross on the pulpit hanging carries out this theme, and emphasizes Christ our Anchor.

The Organ and choir are placed in the balcony to emphasize the fact that the choir is a part of the worshipping congregation - not performing for the congregation, and that the primary function of the choir is to support congregational singing.

The stained glass window over the balcony, has been ordered, but will not be here for several months. It is being made in Chartres, France, and will be a symbol of the holy Trinity. A hand will symbolize the creative hand of God the Father, a cross the sacrifice of God the Son, and the dove the Holy Spirit.

Two hundred people can be seated in the pews on the main floor and in the balcony. With folding chairs on the main floor and in the narthex, and additional 100 can be accommodated, bringing the total seating capacity to 300.

The building also includes four class rooms, the Pastor's study, a lovely fellowship hall, and a small kitchen. The whole unit is heated and air conditioned by electricity. Future plans call for the addition of a two-story educational building.

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1963

The Dahlonega Presbyterian Church would like to take this opportunity to thank Athens Presbytery for making this building possible in order that we might better carry out our ministry in this place.

From Minutes of Athens Presbytery, 1963.

Filed at Montreat

May 21, 1968
N. Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Oct., 1962 - Oct., 1963

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Miss Julia Oates
Vice President: Mrs. Frank Smith
Secretary: Mrs. James C. Kidd
Treasurer: Mrs. Al Kitchen

A committee was formed for the purpose of obtaining supplies and equipment for the kitchen of the new church. It was decided to save stamps and coupons for this purpose; and later in the year, there was a kitchen shower.

Another new committee was formed to be responsible for flowers in the sanctuary for church services.

In October, a supper was given for the Westminster Fellowship Group in the Community House.

The County Welfare recommended an indigent family whom the WOC might make appropriate donations. The family was given a Thanksgiving box of food and clothing. A similar box and gifts for each member of the family was given at Christmas time.

Also in December, the women had a Christmas program and a party for the children of the Sunday School.

After the dedication service of the new church, May 22nd., there was an open house. The community and many out of town friends were invited.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett

Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
January, 1966

Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonega Pres. Church
Newspaper Clipping
The Daily Times
May 26, 1963

123486

PRESBYTERIANS HOLD DEDICATION CEREMONY

The Presbyterian Church, founded here in 1840, today will dedicate a new modern meeting house on a hill overlooking North Georgia College campus and the town of Dahlonega.

Formal dedication ceremonies will be held in the new church building at 3 p. m.

The Presbyterian Church was organized in Dahlonega in 1840 by Dr. Nathaniel Pratt. The doctor's first report listed 17 communicants. A later report, in 1866, reported the largest number of members the church has enjoyed since its beginning 123 years ago, 60.

Work for new membership was carried on with varying degrees of success over the years and a low of only four members was reported for seven consecutive years between 1928 and 1934. In 1948 the church could boast only five members, but since that time growth upwards has been steady and today the number stands at 45.

A challenge to Presbyterians here is North Georgia College. The student body at the college numbers 900 and 10 per cent have indicated their religious preference to be Presbyterian. The challenge was there, but the facilities to handle it were not.

Land

In 1959 the church extension committee of Athens Presbytery decided something must be done. A tract of land was purchased by the committee high on a hill in Dahlonega overlooking the college campus and the town square. It is the same tract of land on which the original Presbyterian Church was constructed 123 years ago.

The old church building was converted into a residence and last summer was torn down to make way for the present building.

The new church will cost \$80,000 without furniture. Athens Presbytery authorized its church extension committee to borrow up to \$5,000 to finance the project. The committee gave another \$10,000, campus Christian life committee of the Synod of Georgia gave \$10,000, the Dahlonega congregation, numbering only 18 at the time, pledged another \$10,000 completing the cost. Other contributions from Dahlonega citizens and Presbyterians throughout Georgia also have made pledges.

Groundbreaking

Groundbreaking was held on the site of the new church July 22, 1962. Described as a landmark, the building began to rise on August 10 of the same year.

After its completion, the new church will boast a 72 foot spire topped by a celtic cross. As one enters the sanctuary he senses an upward lift caused by a high arched ceiling supported by exposed laminated wood arches. A large wooded cross is high on the front wall.

The organ and choir are placed in the balcony. A stained glass window over the balcony was made in Chartres, France, and is a symbol of the holy Trinity.

One hundred and ninety people can be seated in the pews on the main floor and in the balcony an additional 75 can be accommodated with folding chairs, bringing the total seating capacity to 265.

The building also includes four class rooms, a pastor's study, a fellowship hall and a small kitchen. It is heated and air-conditioned by

electricity. Future plans call for the addition of a two-story educational building.

The Rev. Lowell Beach Sykes is pastor. The building committee is composed of Frank M. Smith, chairman; James C. Kidd, secretary; Marvin D. Bennett, treasurer; Miss Julia Oates, Albert B. Kitchen Jr., Ben W. Sanders, and Lawton Baggs, representatives from Athens Presbytery's church extension committee, representatives from Synod's Christian Education Committee and advisory members.

Samuel M. Inman, executive secretary of Athens Presbytery; David B. Walthall, regional director of Christian Education Synod of Georgia; and Lowell Beach Sykes, pastor.

A large number of invitations have been issued to friends of the church.

Sent by:

Mrs. Barabara Webster

Filed at Montreat

August 20, 1971

N. Beason
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Oct., 1963 - Oct., 1964

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. Charles P. Huppuch
Vice President: Miss Julia Oates
Treasurer: Mrs. Raymond G. Anderson
Secretary: Mrs. Marvin D. Bennett
Historian: Mrs. James C. Kidd

The WOC has steadily grown to around fifteen members.

A sunshine committee was set up to remember sick members or those who need help.

Oct. 15th. the Athens Presbytery met in the church. The women prepared dinner and served it.

A roll call was added to the procedure of the meetings.

In November, there was a family night supper in the Fellowship Hall and a program on Thornwell Orphanage.

Miss Julia Oates attended the Presbyterial held at Rabin Gap Nacoochee School.

Food and gifts were given our needy family at Thanksgiving and Christmas time.

There was a Christmas family night supper with a program on ministerial relief. The college students were invited, and at the close there was a tree and gifts for the Sunday School children.

Members volunteered to help with the White Christmas Project held at the Methodist Church.

Mrs. Charles P. Huppuch attended the January Presbyterial held in Athens, Georgia.

A flower stand was purchased for the church pulpit.

A family night supper was enjoyed in February with a program on World Missions.

Receiving blankets were made by a member for world missions.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett

Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
January 1966

Barbara J. Wilbitt
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Oct., 1964 - Oct., 1965

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. D. P. Trogdon
Vice President: Mrs. Marvin D. Bennett
Secretary: Mrs. Charles P. Huppuch
Treasurer: Mrs. Raymond G. Anderson

The annual student dinner, given by the women, was held in the Fellowship Hall in October.

The same indigent family was given food, clothing and gifts at Thanksgiving and Christmas times.

The flower stand committee obtained an extension for the flower stand since the order was filled incorrectly. Now three heights can be used for different arrangements.

Boxes of gifts and clothing were sent to Thornwell Orphanage and Quilman Home.

A little girl, Debbie Dennis, from Thornwell was partially adopted. This includes correspondence by the women and gifts at Christmas time and her birthday. The oriental napkin sales continue to be successful. Part of the profit goes to our local WOC work and part to the building projects of the Alpines.

May 30th. a reception was held in the Fellowship Hall in beloved respect for the Rev. Lowell B. Sykes and his family. They have accepted a call to Augusta, Georgia. The community was invited.

June 27th. there was a dinner in the Fellowship Hall in honor of the visiting minister, Mr. John. B. Talmage.

August 29th. there was a coffee for our new minister and family, the Rev. John B. Talmage and wife Nancy and children Elizabeth and John; and Mr. and Mrs. Charles P. Huppuch; and Mr. and Mrs. Loren Davidage and family. The Huppuchs and the Davidages are leaving our congregation for Gainesville and Jasper, Georgia respectively.

This information was taken from the Women of the Church secretarial minutes.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
January, 1966
Barbara J. Webster
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
 Presbyterian Church
 Dahlonega, Georgia
 Church History
 October, 1965 - October, 1966

Church History

Pastor: From June 30th., 1965 until Sept. 1st., 1965; our church was without a minister. During this time, the pulpit committee arranged for visiting ministers to come. Reverend John Bilbra Talmage became our new minister Sept. 1st., 1965. He was ordained and installed Nov. 21, 1965 at 3:00 P. M.

Session members: Prof. Ben Sanders, Prof. James C. Kidd, Prof. Frank Smith, and Lt. Col. Marvin D. Bennett

Additions to the church by letter:

Mr. and Mrs. Raymond G. Anderson, June 1962 from St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Atlanta, Ga.

Susan De Leach May 22, 1966 from Chapel Methodist Church, Eatonton, Georgia.

Joe Harrelson May 22, 1966 from Sardes Baptist Church, Palmetta, Ga.

Robert Garard Legar March 8, 1965 from United Presbyterian, Jamestown, North Dakota.

Mr. and Mrs. Larry Stearns Sept. 26, 1965 from Fountain City Presbyterian Church, Knoxville, Tenn.

Mrs. John B. Talmage Feb. 20, 1966 from Faut Presbyterian Church, Huntsville, Alabama.

Robert Wages May 1, 1966.

Additions to the church by confirmation:

Henry Wesley Bennett June 6, 1965.

Elizabeth Ann Watson June 6, 1965.

Carol Sue Watson June 6, 1965.

Robert Morris Watson June 6, 1965.

Non-communicant members:

Elizabeth Collen Murphy Dec. 8, 1965, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dan Murphy.

John B. Talmage, Jr. Feb. 20, 1966, son of Rev. and Mrs. John B. Talmage.

Elizabeth Talmage Feb. 20, 1966, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. John B. Talmage.

Dismissals:

Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Carroll Jan. 3, 1966 to First King Presbyterian, Ocala, Florida.

James R. Essom Sept. 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul T. Gerard Sept. 1965.

Carol Ann Hutcheson Sept. 1965.

Mrs. Lowell B. Sykes July 18, 1965 to Lakemont, Augusta, Georgia.

Charlie Jean Thompson Sept. 1965.

Births:

Elizabeth Collen Murphy July 29, 1965.

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October, 1965 - October, 1966

Church History Cont.

Deaths: none

Baptisms:

Henry W. Bennett June 6, 1965.
Elizabeth Collen Murphy Dec. 8, 1965.

Marriages:

Brenda Cochran and Edwin Bradberry
Nancy Thompson and Carroll Broch
Vickie Corneliason and Donald Devlin
Brenda Couch and Joe Harrelson

Sunday School:

Mr. Raymond G. Anderson has been the superintendent and the following people have served on the faculty: Mrs. Raymond G. Anderson, Mrs. Ben Sanders, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Marvin D. Bennett, Caroline Royan Kidd, Cadet Gordon Dunnaway, Mr. Jim Waldon, Mrs. John B. Talmage, Mr. Raymond G. Anderson, and Dr. R. P. Trogdon. The entire school and Westminster Fellowship Group study The Covenant Life Curriculum.

Vacation Bible School:

In June, a Bible School, headed by Mrs. Raymond G. Anderson, was conducted. Approximately thirty students and teachers attended.

Westminster Fellowship:

The students have their meetings Sunday evenings in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 P. M. They plan their own programs and suppers with Mr. Talmage supervising. The officers are: president, Ray Stewart; vice president, John McCain; secretary, Margaret Hulsey; and treasurer, Pete Mitchell.

Youth Fellowship:

On Sept. 20th, a youth fellowship was organized under the direction of Rev. Talmage. Stephen Smith and James Kidd are chairman and co-chairman.

Gifts:

Pulpit bench cushion given by Miss Julia Oates
Rug for the nursery given by Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Anderson
Cabinet for Sunday School room given by Dr. and Mrs. R. P. Trogdon

Manse committee:

A manse committee was set up to plan for a permanent home for our ministers and their families. Dr. R. P. Trogdon is chairman, and the following people are to serve: Mr. Raymond G. Anderson, Mr. Frank Smith, Mrs. John B. Talmage, and Mrs. M. D. Bennett.

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October, 1965 - October, 1966

Church History Cont.

The Minister's Report:

THE STATE OF THE DAHLONEGA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

As the Dahlonega Presbyterian Church faces the close of 1966 and the beginning of 1967, it is on the threshold of a new day. Within our ranks may be found a decidedly growing concern as to the mission to which God has called us. No longer is a simple "plan of salvation" approach agreeable to the majority of the congregation. This fact alone is indicative of the concern in the midst of the congregation for an understanding of the relevance of the Christian message. With a growing number of young people of junior highschool and high school age, there is also a further corresponding growth in the amount of questioning and discussion taking place in the church. This is all good and healthy. Certainly much of this stems also from the fact that the church is closely college oriented. Thus, it is my feeling that God has richly blessed the congregation, for through the younger segment of the congregation he has seen fit to begin a process of renewal within the church.

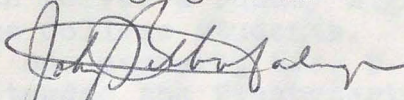
To return to the church as a whole, I feel that several things must be noted:

1) The attendance of the adults of the congregation in the worship service of the church has been down for two or three months. This is indicative of two things: First, it is indicative of a confusion on the part of the congregation as to their role as the worshipping body, who must listen for the word and respond to it. Secondly, and more importantly, it is a necessary part of the growing process, whereby the church must grow through a transition, from those who understand worship as a spiritual exercise to one which can understand the worship of Jesus Christ. Thus, it is my own feeling that the attendance is in essence part of a searching, and searching is good, for it indicates a degree of openness, whether this be seen as obvious or not, and openness is necessary for the Lord of the Church to speak to his church. 2) A highly significant part of the church has assumed some of the major leadership in the total community in terms of the way in which the community deals with problems of poverty, juvenile delinquency, and other problems of the whole man. In a word, the church is beginning to bear witness in a tremendous way in the community to the Lordship of Christ over the community. 3) The members of the academic community, and particularly the students of North Georgia College, are feeling that they are more a part of the church's life, rather than just guest who are allowed to worship in the church. Thus, the church is beginning to pioneer in a field which is vital to the entire denomination, by demonstrating that a local church can have a relevant and dynamic campus ministry.

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October, 1965 - October, 1966

Church History Cont.

With these things in view, it would seem that the church is in a healthy position. Its problems are to be seen as points of encouragement, i. e. growing pains, and its accomplishments bear witness to the tremendous way in which the church is being used by God to bring the gospel of Jesus Christ to relate to the community in which God has set his congregation.


John Bilbra Talmage
Minister


Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

113284

Filed at Montreat
October, 1966
February 28, 1967
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery
Nancy Beaver

Athens Presbytery
 Presbyterian Church
 Dahlonaga, Georgia
 Oct., 1965 - Oct., 1966

Women of the Church

Officers:

President: Mrs. D. P. Trogdon
 Vice President: Mrs. M. D. Bennett
 Secretary: Mrs. R. G. Anderson
 Historian: Mrs. M. D. Bennett

On Oct. 3rd., the women served a Sunday night dinner in the Fellowship Hall for the college students.

On Oct. 13th., two of our members, Mrs. D. P. Trogdon and Mrs. J. B. Talmage, attended the Presbyterial meeting in Toccoa, Georgia.

On Nov. 21st., the women gave a reception in the Fellowship Hall for Mr. J. B. Talmage following his ordination.

On Dec. 12th., Christmas was observed with a dinner for the entire church and college students, a candle light service and program by the children and students, and a Christmas gift exchange for the children.

On Dec. 20th., White Christmas was organized and supervised by our minister, Mr. Talmage. Items of food, candy, and toys were delivered to our church, and the women along with other women of the community churches filled eighty-five boxes. The list of needy families is gotten together by the Dept. of Family and Children Service.

The WOC sent blankets to flood victims in Korea and baby clothing to Brazil.

Mrs. Wm. Boyd started a fifteen foot needle point cushion for our pulpit bench. After completing over half of the cushion, it was decided that members of the WOC would complete it. Fourteen women, including some nonmembers, agreed to help. The design consist of a tree with Christ represented by a crown in the center and the twelve apostles represented by the shields as leaves on the tree.

In the meantime, Miss Julia Oates gave the materials for a lovely blue corduroy foam rubber cushion which would later be covered by the needle point. Mrs. James Kidd and Mrs. Ben Sanders constructed this cushion.

In Jan., Mrs. D. P. Trogdon, our president, attended the District 1 meeting in Athens, Georgia.

World Day of Prayer was observed Feb. 25th. in the Methodist Church. Mrs. M. D. Bennett and James C. Bennett took a part.

During the cold months coffee and koolaid were served in the Fellowship Hall after the Sunday morning services. Several times, during the year, members and friends left our congregation and were honored at this time. These included Capt. and Mrs. R. C. Sanders who left for Germany and

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Oct., 1965 - Oct., 1966

Women of the Church cont.

Miss Julia Oates who left for Gastonia, North Carolina.

Among our visitors were Mrs. James E. Murray of Hartwell, Georgia who was our Birthday Offering Interpreter, and Mr. McElroy of Quitmen, Georgia. After a family night dinner, Mr. Elroy, director of Quitmen Home, narrated a film on the life and activities at the home.

113274
April 15th., a Thrift Shop was opened in the old jail in Dahlonega. This was organized by Mrs. W. G. Leger, chairman of Christian Community Action with the help and cooperation of other churches of the community and the Dept. of Family and Children Service. The cloths are donated by the citizens of the community and sold for a small fee. The procedes go back to the Dept. of Family and Children Service for emergency expences. Clothing from the shop is also given to indigent individuals on recommendation by the department. In only a few months of operation, the shop has earned several hundred dollars.

During the social hour of the Sept. meeting, a shower was given to Mrs. J. B. Talmage who is expecting her third child.

On Sept. 25th., the WOC planned and served the annual Sunday night dinner for the college students.

Rebecca O. Bennett
Rebecca O. Bennett
Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
~~October, 1966~~
February 28, 1967
Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Nancy Beaver

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October, 1966 - January, 1968

Church History

Pastor: From October 1966 until June 30, 1967 Reverend John Bilbra Talmage. June 15, 1967 - September 1, 1967, Mr. Ford G'Segner, Columbia Seminary student (also a member of our church) served as supply pastor. September 15, 1967 Reverend William Ross Johnston began serving as pastor. He was installed October 22, 1967 at 4:00 P.M.

Session members: Mr. Ben Sanders, Mr. James C. Kidd, Mr. Frank Smith, Lt. Col. Marvin D. Bennett, Mr. Raymond G. Anderson and Dr. Richard P. Trogdon. Mr. Anderson ordained and installed November 19, 1967. Dr. Trogdon also installed on this date.

Additions to the church by profession: James C. Bennett, May 7, 1967. Kathryn Smith, May 7, 1967. Deborah Otter, May 14, 1967. Cheryl Otter, May 14, 1967.

Additions to the church by letter:

Otter, Donald, May 14, 1967.

Otter, Betty (wife of Donald), May 14, 1967.

Schlosser, Robert P, June 25, 1967.

Siewert, Ray, October 8, 1967.

Johnston, Linda (wife of Rev. Wm. R. Johnston), November 19, 1967.

Dismissals:

Mr. Robert P. Schlosser, June 25, 1967.

Mr. James Walden to Methodist Church, Dahlonega, August 27, 1967.

Mr. Ben A. Sanders to First Methodist of Ocala, Florida, Oct. 22, 1967.

Births:

Layne Adair Talmage to Rev. and Mrs. John B. Talmage, Sept. 23, 1967.

Baptisms:

Tucker, Samuel Joseph, jr. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Samuel J. Tucker, April 30, 1967.

Smith, Kathryn. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Smith, May 7, 1967.

Otter, Deborah. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Otter, May 14, 1967.

Otter, Cheryl. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Donald Otter, May 14, 1967.

Gerard, Susan Shannon. Parents, Mr. & Mrs. Paul T. Gerard, October 15, 1967.

Marriages:

Jean Ellen Sanders, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. Tommy P. Sanders to Danny I. Glover of Jacksonville, Florida, June 3, 1967. Reverend John B. Talmage officiated.

Linda Crosley and Dwain Gilreath, June 17, 1967. Reverend Edward M. Ralph, Trinity Luthern Church, Athens, Ga. officiated.

Deaths: None.

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October 1966- January 1968

The minister's report:

The period in question is a period that I have not had complete first hand experience with for the reason that I have only been pastor of the Church since September, 1967. However, my remarks will attempt to access the situation that I have seen and also that which I have been able to deduce.

It is often difficult for a small congregation to switch pastors. The pastor in many ways sets the tone for the congregation's life in many Churches and to have a change is to upset some patterns and begin to rebuild some others. This has been such a time here. Most would say that it has been a hard time. The Church has been involved in some controversy, and in some soul searching, and it has not been a time of statistical success. This has been especially hard after some years of steady prosperity after many years of impossible struggle. Thus it has taken a lot out of people and there are marks left from the months past that will remain for some time. This is a hard time in the life of many Churches, a time of transition, and the old ways and the new ways are not easily reconciled. This seems to be especially true in a college community when a Church is entrusted with the task of nurture to students and faculty. How do you communicate with those seeking a "more relevant" gospel and still provide support for those whose faith is framed in older forms? Another aspect of this Church's situation has been the relation to congregation by a student oriented minister. Which is to claim the main focus, the campus or the local congregation?

In the past few months, there have been some important changes occurring. The session is beginning to move ahead toward some commonly accepted goals. Two new elders have been added, a thing which has given the session a shot of new vision that is of critical importance for our future. The Church has taken some important steps toward a more responsible financial base. There is a stated budget of the Church's program and ministry that includes benevolences. There is a file of congregational pledges which covers the year's budget and to which the majority of the congregation have given their support by means of a pledge card. We are starting to see some more young people in the Church's life, and we believe that this is the beginning of some good development in youth work for the congregation. The session's committees are beginning to take responsibility for the Church's life, and a much better job is being done in all areas. A monthly newsletter, The Focus, goes out that helps tie the congregation together. Currently the Church is on the verge of buying a manse for the first time in recent history, and will be committing itself in this way to a more solid support of the pastor. In short, the state of the Church is difficult but promising as we move into the year 1968.

Wm. Ross Johnston

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
Church History
October, 1966 - January, 1968.

Church History Cont.

Sunday School:

Lt. Col. Marvin D. Bennett became superintendent in the fall of 1966. Serving as teachers are as follows: Mrs. Sanders, Mrs. Bennett, Mrs. Trogdon, Mrs. Otter, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Johnston, Rev. Johnston and Dr. Trogdon. The entire school uses Covenant Life Curriculum for study. January 28 and 29, 1967 Dr. David B. Walthall and Rev. Yale Gunn, leaders in our Christian Education program, held a Church School Clinic in our church. We feel that, although, all changes suggested have not been accomplished, we have made progress and that our school is now on a firmer foundation. Our aim is to continue effort to build a better school.

Vacation Bible School:

Mrs. James C. Kidd headed the Bible School which was held in June. Approximately 25 students and teachers participated.

Westminster Fellowship:

Rev. William R. Johnston supervises this organization. This year the Episcopal college students are joining with our group which meets every Sunday evening. This group also cooperates with the United Campus Christian Tutoring program.

Youth Fellowship:

Rev. Johnston, director. Junior and Senior High School students make up this group which meets twice a month for study. Social activities are also enjoyed at various times. This group entertained the youth of the other churches of Dahlonega at a New Years Eve party held at Dahlonega Methodist Church.

Remarks:

In July 1967 the Session authorized the rental of the George Lipscomb house on North Hall Road to be used as a manse. The Session, also at this time, voted unanimously to send 10% of the monthly offerings to benevolence.

In August 1967 the Session agreed to allow the Episcopalians to use our church for Sunday Morning Services. Their service time not to conflict with ours. A rental fee is charged.

Filed at Montreat

March 18, 1968
N. Beaver

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
 Presbyterian Church
 Dahlonega, Georgia
 Church History
 October, 1966 - January, 1968

Church History Cont.

Women of the Church:

Officers:

President - Mrs. M.D. Bennett
 Vice President - Mrs. R.P. Trogdon
 Secretary - Mrs. R.G. Anderson
 Historian - Mrs. R.P. Trogdon

The Dahlonega WOC were hostesses for the District I meeting of Athens Presbytery on October 6, 1966. Approximately 100 district members attended.

Our president attended Athens Presbytery WOC Council meeting in Athens, January 1967. Six members of our organization attended Presbyterial held in Clarksville on April 5, 1967. One of our members (Mrs. Trogdon) is serving as chairman of Personal Faith and Family Life of Athens Presbyterial. Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Trogdon attended the week-end STS at Columbia Seminary, June 24 - 25, 1967.

In May 1967 the WOC gave a Family Night supper honoring Rev. and Mrs. Talmage and family who were leaving to accept a charge in Florida. Gifts from the church were presented to Rev. and Mrs. Talmage in appreciation of their work here.

Mrs. Bennett gave therapy once a week to two young brothers who are victims of Muscular Dystrophy. Mrs. Leger, chairman of Community Action, continues to serve as chairman of the Dahlonega Thrift Shop. This shop is the result of a combined effort of the local churches to serve the needy in this area. Any profit derived from this source is available for use by the Dept. of Family and Children Service for special causes. On hand at this date is approximately \$1,000.

October 1, 1967 the WOC gave a spaghetti supper for the Westminster Fellowship. Also invited were the Episcopal students from North Georgia College. There were fifty-two young people present.

Eulalie S. Trogdon

Eulalie S. Trogdon
 Historian, Women of the Church

Filed at Montreat
 March 18, 1968
N. Beaver
 Historian, WOC
 Athens Presbytery

Athens Presbytery
Dahlonega Presbyterian Church
Dahlonega, Georgia
1968

Pastor: William Ross Johnston
Session: Ben W. Sanders, Clerk and church treasurer
Dr. R. P. Trogdon
Mr. Raymond Anderson
Mr. Marvin Bennett
Mr. Donald Otter
Mrs. Ann Watson

During 1968, the church added as new members:
Major Joe M. Brown from First Baptist Church, Coletton, California
Cadet Jack Mahaffrey Callahan, Jr. by Profession

The following were dismissed:
Mrs. Ford G'Segnor to New Hope Presbyterian Church
Mrs. Nancy B. Talmage to Gainesville, Florida

The following were placed on the inactive roll:
Miss Lillian Dianne Brown
Mrs. James D. Heard

The infant daughter of the Reverend and Mrs. William Ross Johnston was baptized May 19, 1968.

Thomas P. Sanders, Jr. and Miss Paulette Parrish were married in the church sanctuary May 10, 1968 by the pastor.

Col. Marvin Bennett is superintendent of the Church school with the following teachers:

Mrs. Connie Schapansky--Nursery
Mrs. Rebecca Bennett--Grades 1 - 3
Mr. Raymond Anderson--Grades 4 - 6
Mrs. Linda Johnston--Youth
Rev. William Ross Johnston--College group
Dr. R. P. Trogdon--Adult

A successful Vacation Bible School was conducted by the pastor with the following ladies teaching in the school: Mrs. Otter, Mrs. Guest, Mrs. Moore, Mrs. Bennett.

The Women of the Church are organized under the able leadership of Mrs. Raymond Anderson. The group is small but active in all of the programs of the church and community.

There are several accomplishments that mark 1968 as a memorable year in the life of the congregation. The Church contributed \$550.00 toward the benevolence of the presbytery. As the result of a check from Athens Presbytery for \$2200.00, the congregation purchased from Mr. James Tinney his property on West Circle Drive to be used as a manse.

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Mr. Frank Smith and Mr. James Kidd requested that their names be placed on the inactive elders' roll due to continued work toward higher degrees. Both of these men have served the Church faithfully for a number of years.

At a called meeting of the congregation on May 19, Mrs. Ann Watson and Mr. Donald Otter were selected to serve the congregation as elders. Mrs. Watson and Mr. Otter were ordained and installed by the pastor Mr. William Ross Johnston. Mrs. Watson is the first woman to be selected as an elder by this congregation.

The Dahlonga Church hosted the fall meeting of Presbytery on October 15 with Mr. Raymond Anderson as commissioner.

Catherine A. Sanders

Catherine A. Sanders
Historian, Women of the Church

Athens Presbytery
Historian, WOC
August 20, 1971
N. Braden

Filed at Montreat

Athens Presbytery
Presbyterian Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia

121355

1969

Church History

Pastor: William Ross Johnston

Session: Raymond Anderson (Clerk)
Dr. R. P. Trogdon (Treasurer)
Marvin Bennett
Donald Otter
Mrs. Ann Watson

New Communicants: Paul Watson
Danny Otter
Andy Anderson

Baptisms: Moore, David Summerville 26 January 1969
Parents: Captain and Mrs. David Moore

Brown, Kimberly Jo and Ditty 2 March 1969
Parents: Major and Mrs. Joe Brown

Haise, Julia 27 July 1969
Parents: Major and Mrs. James Haise

Colonel Marvin Bennett is Superintendent of the Church School with the following teachers assisting:

Mrs. Connie Schapansky - Nursery
Mrs. Rebecca Bennett - Grades 1-3
Mr. Raymond Anderson - Grades 4-6
Mrs. Linda Johnston - Youth
Rev. William Johnston - College Group
Dr. R. P. Trogdon - Adult

A successful Vacation Bible School was held June 9-13. Mrs. Linda Johnston served as director with the following staff:

Teachers: Mrs. Glenda Rensi
Mrs. Betty Unlaub
Mrs. Betty Otter
Crafts: Mrs. Connie Schapansky
Helpers: Debbie, Cheryl and Danny Otter
Sherry Schapansky
Beth Watson
Jay Bennett

The Youth of the church has regular Sunday classes and a flexible evening meeting schedule. The evening meetings have been both informative as well as social and have been well attended.

The college group likewise has a Sunday morning class and a flexible evening group. Their meetings have ranged from Friday evening Coffee House, Retreats and informative programs.

Betty L. Unlaub
Historian
Dahlonaga Presbyterian Church
Dahlonaga, Georgia

Church History Continued

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The Women of the Church are organized under the able leadership of Mrs. Pat Anderson. Serving with her are: Mrs. Ann Watson - Vice President, Mrs. Margaret Leger - Secretary, Mrs. Glenda Rensi - Treasurer, Mrs. Betty Unlaub - Historian, Mrs. Piggie Trogdon - Personal Faith and Family Life, Mrs. Becky Bennett - Leadership and Resources, Mrs. Margaret Sanders - Christian Community Action, Mrs. Linda Johnston - Ecumenical Missions and Mrs. G. E. Kidd - Columbia Friendship Circle. The group is small but faithfully attended and has been very active in church and community life.

The congregation stabilized its budget and pledge procedures; and had the best year of its financial history. The improvement came as the result of a general commitment across the congregation. This was also the church's best year in benevolences in its history.

Betty L. Unlaub
Historian
Dahlonge Presbyterian Church
Dahlonge, Georgia

Filed at Montreat

June 23, 1970

N. Brewer

Historian, WOC
Athens Presbytery