

Woodstock Church History.

Presbyterians living in Wilkes Co. Ga. about the time of the Revolutionary war organized a church near Kettle Creek called Liberty.

The original records of this church have been lost, and the first official account of it is found in the minutes of Hopewell Presbytery.

This Presbytery was the first one organized in Georgia, and it was organized at Liberty church in Wilkes Co. March 16, 1797. The first sermon was preached by Rev. John Springer of Washington, Ga.

Rev. Springer was the first Presbyterian minister ordained in Georgia. He was ordained under a poplar tree which is still

standing on the Alexander estate
in the City of Washington.

The Presbytery consisted of New Hope
Liberty and Belhamp churches, these
churches were organized by Rev.
Daniel Thatcher a missionary from
Orange Presbytery. N.C. between 1780-1790
Belhamp located in Green Co was
organized in 1786. The first house
of worship was erected of logs, the
land on which the church was built
was given by Messrs James Daniel,
Archibald Simpson and Mr Finley. This
church was served at different times
by Rev. John Springer. The house was
torn down about the year 1817 and the
same congregation erected a new house
on the south side of Kettle Creek
near the site of the battle field of
Kettle Creek. This new church was
called Salem. Dr. Cummins was the

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first regular supply, and Mr Cunningham
Daniel was ordained Elder.

About the year 1824 Rev. Alexander Webster
of Washington began to serve the church
In 1828 as number of members with-drew
and organized "South Liberty" twenty miles
south of the original Liberty. This church
was organized the first Sunday in
May 1828, with eleven charter members.

Seven of these member decided to
organize and form the church of Salem
located on the Greensboro road. Mr.
Joseph S. Foster donated the land.

There being a goodly number of
members residing at Woodstock they
decided to sell their property on the
Greensboro road to the Baptist, and
1843 they erected a church at
Woodstock. The Rev. John C. Reid
was the pastor at this time.

In 1898 the congregation decided
to build a new church in which

they are still worshipping.

The ladies organized what was known as the "Ladies Aid Society" about the year 1890.

This went on for several years and then it ceased to function.

About 1910 the Roman's Missionary society was organized, since that time it has been a regular organization though we have but a few members.

The church has had a S. S. for a number of years. At one time there was not a man that would serve as superintendent and Mrs. F. G. C. Peck took up the work. A Christian Endeavor society was organized in 1920 and ceased to function about 1930.

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This church has sent-out only
one full time servant-for the
master who is Mr. E. J. Arnold.

The following is a list of Elders
both past and present.

- 1834 - Cunningham Daniel
- Charles E. Gresham
Isaac Newton Grice
- 1836 - D. E. McJunkin
- 1848 - John Scott,
Johnson Boswell
- 1856 - Robert Cunningham Daniel
- 1859 - E. B. Moore
- William Daniell
- James Higgins
William Johnson
- 1868 - James Cicero Daniel
- James Kels Daniel
- 1872 - F. G. C. Peck
C. F. Briggs,
- 1888 - J. M. C. Bryan,
E. J. Peck.

- 1893 - J. J. Daniel
 1904 - Walter H. Arnold.
 1908 - R. C. D. Bryan.
 1913 - John Bryan

The following is a list-Pastors
 both past and present-

- 1780-1790 - Daniel Thatcher.
 1800 - John Springer.
 1817 - Robert Cunningham
 1817-1822 - Dr. Cummins
 1824 - Alexander Webster
 1832-1836 - S. J. Cassels
 1836-1838 - John Cassels
 1838 - Francis R. Goulding
 1839-1866 - John W. Reich
 1868 - Paul C. Morton
 1872-1879 - Henry Newton
 1880 - R. H. Smith
 1893 - L. A. Simpson
 1895-1896 - H. S. Allyn
 1896-1899 - R. E. Telford
 1902-1905 - M. E. Peabody
 1906-1908 - R. E. Telbford,

1910 - W. J. Secrest.

1915 - W. F. Fisher.

1918 - E. P. Mickel

1921 - M. W. Doggett.

1924-1926 - W. B. Clemmons

1926 - William S. Porter Jr.

1933-1937 - John T. Young.

1937 - Stewart Lang.