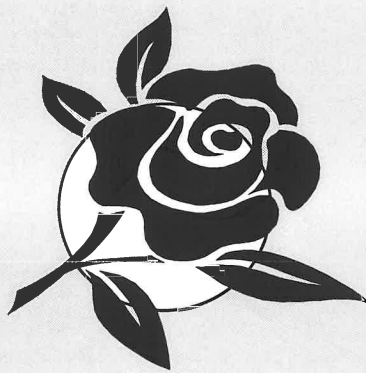




# Church Histories

1998



PALMETTO PRESBYTERY  
ANDREWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
WOMEN IN THE CHURCH  
ANDREWS, SOUTH CAROLINA

1993

OFFICERS:

President: Kim Rufus  
Vice-President: Floride Reynolds  
Secretary-Treasurer: Melbie Jones  
Historian: Margarete K. Radcliffe

HERRING-KNOX CIRCLE:

Chairman: Millie Grant  
Co-Chairman: Aggie Rogers  
Secretary-Treasurer: Margarete K. Radcliffe

Meeting Time: 2nd Monday of each month at 3:00 P.M.

Material Studied: Study of "Matthew" on tape by Stephen Brown

CLARA HARPER CIRCLE:

Chairman: Janet Sauve  
Secretary-Treasurer: Melbie Jones

Meeting Time: 2nd Tuesday of each month at 8:00 P.M.

Material Studied: "West Minister Confession of Faith"

The Clara Harper Circle mailed Valentine boxes to our college students.

Four Family Night Suppers were held during the year. We entertained a group of medical students at the June Family Night Supper and also furnished lunch for them on the same day. The medical students were in town performing a community service.

The children enjoyed one week of Bible School ending with a worship service and social for all church members.

At the December Family Night Supper a gift for retired ministers was received. Our PYF entertained the congregation with a Christmas play after the supper.

Two Women in the Church Council Meetings were held. No new officers were elected.

In January 5 ladies attended Women in the Church Presbytery in Central, South Carolina.

In October three ladies attended the Women's Conference at Ridge Haven.

In December the circles met jointly. Small gifts were brought to take to the local nursing home.

*Margarete K. Radcliffe*  

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Margarete K. Radcliffe



Andrews Presbyterian Church  
Andrews, S.C.



*Bethel Presbyterian Church  
Kingstree, S.C.*

## A BRIEF HISTORY OF BETHEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In 1855, Members of Midway Church, who lived on the east side of Puddin Swamp, began a move for a church of their own. On Friday, November 19, 1858, Rev. Philip Pierson, using as his text "And He Called The Name Of The Place Bethel", dedicated the building which was built of hand-prepared materials on land donated by the late Robert Epps. Bethel functioned as an arm of Midway until August 8, 1874 when it was organized with 52 members. Rev. Pierson preached at Bethel until his death in the pulpit while reading the scripture on Sunday, November 9, 1873. (In 1931 members living in the Mouzon Community, under the leadership of Rev. W. R. Pritchett, organized a church of their own and named it "Mouzon" at their dedication on July 24, 1931.)

In 1955, the interior and exterior of Bethel were redecorated, a steeple added, and stained glass memorial windows were installed. In 1960, Sunday School rooms and the Fellowship Hall were added to the back. Early in 1967, a four-columnal porch was added to the front. The Choir Loft was added in October 1968.

On September 2, 1973, Bethel voted to separate from PCUS and join with The Continuing Church, later re-named The Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

On September 21, 1989, when Hurricane Hugo struck, the original tin roof was partly blown away and water drastically damaged the entire interior of the church; and the centuries-old trees surrounding the building were blown down. Soon after the storm the roof was replaced and the yards cleared. On December 31, 1990 repairs were begun; and on May 26, 1991 Bethel Presbyterian Church was proudly re-dedicated with only 20 members.

As of December 26, 1998, the Church is still functioning with only eleven members due to deaths and transfers. The Church is grouped with Mouzon Church with Reverend William G. Walsh serving both Churches. Bethel has services at 10:00 A.M. and Mouzon at 11:15 A.M. The Church has an active Women in the Church group meeting once a month in the various homes.

The Church helps support a missionary family: Peter and Diane Bakelaar in Japan.

The Ministers who have served Bethel Church are: the Reverend Fred R. McAlister, the Reverend M. G. Lyerly, the Reverend Walter R. Buhler, the Reverend David E. Boozer, the Reverend Karl Woodmansee, the Reverend David Gillespie, the Reverend Paul Hill, and our present Pastor, the Reverend William G. Walsh.

This Church has been blessed by God and expect to continue serving him as long we can with so few members.