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DIXON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Dixon School Road • Kings Mountain

Dixon Presbyterian Church is located five miles south of Kings Mountain near the South Carolina line and the site of the historic Battle of Kings Mountain, said by President Thomas Jefferson to be "the turning point of the Revolutionary War."

The church was organized on February 6, 1944 at the Dixon School House. But its history traces back several years before that as several churches and individuals held Sunday School and preaching services at the school.

Preachers from at least four denominations--Baptist, Lutheran, Wesleyan and Presbyterian--held services there or either had transportation furnished for residents of the Dixon Community to attend their churches in Kings Mountain.

Many members of the church recall having been saved at a service in the school house which was conducted by the late Rev. Ed Gore, a Baptist preacher, and being baptized in "Mill Creek" which is located about a mile south of the church on Dixon School Road.

Although the "official" records of Dixon Presbyterian Church go back only to February 6, 1944--the date of the church's organization by the Presbyterian Church in the United States--the congregation will be forever indebted to such people who recognized the need of a house of worship in the community.

Of the 28 charter members of the church, 27 were dismissed from First Presbyterian Church in Kings Mountain in order to begin an "outpost" in the Dixon community.

Much of the leadership in organizing a church in the community came from Rev. P.D. Patrick, pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Kings Mountain, members of the Kings Mountain church, and seminary student pastors who served the Kings Mountain church in the 1940's.

Dixon owes a great debt of gratifude to the Kings Mountain church in the 1940's.

Dixon owes a great debt of gratitude to the Kings Mountain church and friends and neighbors in the Dixon Community who were members of other churches but supported Dixon also.

But the true strength of the Dixon Church is those members who supported the building of a church through

the sweat of their brow, the giving of their time, talents and resources, and their faithful attendance and support through the years.

In January of 1938, Rev. H.L. Reaves, pastor of Shiloh Presbyterian Church in Grover, began leading Sunday

School services each Sunday at the Dixon School.

In 1939, Rev. P. D. Patrick and members of First Presbyterian Church in Kings Mountain were asked to take

the Sunday School as a mission point of that church. Rev. Patrick surveyed the Dixon School community to determine the interest in a weekly service and the Kings Mountain church began holding Sunday afternoon services at the school.

Converts were admitted to membership in the Kings Mountain church until the Dixon Church was organized.

During those pre-organization years, Rev. Patrick was assisted in the preaching and teaching duties by many Elders and other members of the Kings Mountain Church and by summer seminary student pastors, C.E. Neisler, Jr., an Elder in Kings Mountain church, was very instrumental in the organization of Dixon Church. Summer seminary pastors who served Dixon before the organization of the church were Ned Iverson in 1941, Charles Bixler in 1942 and Lyndon Jackson in 1943.

On February 6, 1944 Dixon Presbyterian Church was organized. Charter members joining that day were J.G. Darracot, John A. Stewart, H.K. "Hub" Stewart, J.V. "Dan" Stewart, GeorgeStewart, Mrs. George Stewart, Elizabeth Stewart, Wayne Wells, Mrs. Wayne Wells, Johnny Barber, Mrs. Johnny Barber, Erwin Hughes, Janette Jackson, Carrie Jackson, P.Q. Hambright, Elmer Hambright, Prentiss Hambright, Mrs. Sybil Sanders, Mrs. Frances Sellers, Nancy Sellers, Mrs. Alma Sellers, Mrs. Quinn Wells and James Sanders.

The first two elders were elected and ordained that same day. They were John A. Stewart and J.G. Darracott.

The church continued to hold services in the afternoon, conducted by Rev. Patrick. Many members of the community who were members of other churches attended their own church in the morning and came to Dixon in the afternoon.

Rev. Patrick was called to be Dixon's first pastor on March 26, 1944. He served until September 1, 1958 when he resigned to accept a position as Field Representative for Columbia Seminary in Decatur, Ga.

On March 2, 1947, Mr. and Mrs. E.A. Stewart donated a parcel of land on which to build a church building. A

building fund was started with a 50-cents donation from Mrs Ethel hambright.

On August 23, 1948, at 9:30 a.m., Mrs. Ethel Hambright laid the first brick on the new church building. Arthur Biltcliffe laid the rest of the bricks. John Stewart donated the lumber, which was sawed by his sons, Hub, Dan and George. The trees were cut into lumber by Charlie Harry of Grover. Bennett Brick and Tile of Kings Mountain donated the bricks and the Wright family donated the blocks. Every member of the congregation, and many other friends and neighbors helped with the construction.

On June 26, 1949, the new church building was dedicated. Guest speaker of the worship service was W.L. Price, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, Rev. P.D. Patrick, Pastor and Rev. J. Eade Anderson, summer assistant pastor in 1948 and 1949, also participated in the service.

Attend Church,

Regularly

...and read your Bible daily

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