

RED HOUSE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Semora, N.C. 27343

Kathryn Summers-Bean, pastor

Lea Thompson, Reporter



Remember
the Shut-ins.

“Fulfil ye my joy, they ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.” Philippians 2:2

The months of January and February were busy ones for the congregation at Red House. A steering committee was formed, and they, in turn, designated various committees for the 250th birthday celebration. Notices have been sent out to present and prior members of the church as well as the Presbyterian Churches of Caswell County and our neighboring churches of Semora to let them know that we are planning October 1 as the birthday celebration. Invitations with times and other information will be mailed at a later date.

We began our “Moments in Red House History” with the first Sunday in February. Various members are responsible for presenting these during worship service, and all members are researching and sharing their findings informally with other members of the church. In March and April we will be hearing information on the following topics: Infant Baptisms at Red House Church presented by Rev. Summers-Bean and assisted with two of our young members: Zack Earp and Emily Deaton; Thompson family connections with Red House presented by Wayne and Phoebe Deaton. Ed and Margaret Thompson also assisted with this research, and the last presentation for April will be by Sally and Raymond Cook which will tell about the furnishing and the windows of the church and any changes in these since the late 1800s.

Worship service is held on the First and Third Sundays of each month. Everyone is invited to attend.

Our Minister, Katherine, is making plans to take a trip to a Presbyterian Disaster Assistance camp in Mississippi to aid in Hurricane Katrina relief. She plans to go March 25-April 2 with the First Presbyterian Church in Durham.

*I thought you would be interested in this historical church
The Church's address
is at the top.*



We still want to remember in our prayers the people in our community who are ill: Bille Blackard, Sam Deaton, Linda Foushee, Betty Swink, Kate Brummer, Kay Franz, Opal Thacker, Dennis Brann, Dot Blevins, Artie and Ed Meador, Rosemary Barker, Janie Mitchell, Dean Shirley, Kathleen Deaton, Loveleen Blaylock, and Rev. Joe Grubbs.

Brief history of Red House Presbyterian Church compiled by Cathy Long:

The historic Red House Presbyterian Church, Semora, NC, one of the oldest churches in the state, has begun its 250 years of worshipping God. The year long celebration will culminate in a special birthday service Sunday, October 1st at 10 a.m.

This church and its grounds have always been of interest to Revolutionary War history enthusiasts because it is believed to be the spot where British General Cornwallis camped during the winter of 1781 after failing to catch General Green in the "Race to the Dan". Also, the first pastor of Red House Church was the Reverend Hugh McAden, whose grave is located in the church cemetery. McAden was an outspoken opponent of the colonial government. Cornwallis, finding that McAden had died shortly before his arrival at Red House, is said to have reopened the grave and desecrated his body. British soldiers burned McAden's library and set fire to the church building.



Another history legend associated with Red House Church tells of the sudden, but brief, appearance of the pre-Civil War abolitionist John Brown one Sunday morning during worship services. He left abruptly shortly after a group of men on horses, thought to be a posse chasing Brown, had passed.

Many activities are being planned for the year long celebration. Each Sunday a church member gives a "Moment in History". Some of the topics include history of Red House, history of the founding preacher Hugh McAden, history of the church's connection with other churches in the area, history of the Sunday school, and recognition of the military service of members throughout the church's history.

An application to have Red House Presbyterian Church listed on the National Register of Historic Places is being prepared. A time capsule containing church related materials and memorabilia from church members will be put away for the opening at the 300 year anniversary.