

# Church is 'finishing the race' with completion of expansion



Left, Roswell Presbyterian Pastor Lane Alderman looks on the progress of his church's new addition. Below, left, The 40 square-foot addition Roswell Presbyterian expected to be completed in April.

Rick Philabaum/Staff

By Joan Durbin  
North Fulton Neighbor Staff Writer

When Lane Alderman came to pastor Roswell Presbyterian Church in 1994, it had 1,400 members. Today, there are 2,400.

"As the congregation grew, our need for space increased, and we had to face those needs," Alderman said.

In 1996, the church conceived a master plan for expansion on its 6.5-acre campus between Atlanta Street and Mimosa Boulevard.

A two-story addition currently under construction and expected to be finished in April will mark the completion of that plan.

"This is a very mission-oriented congregation, and the first phase [of the expansion plan] we called Building to Serve," Alderman said. "The one we are in now is called Finishing the Race."

The \$6 million, 40,000 square-foot addition will provide the church with rooms for youth and children's education, activities and Sunday school, as well as a fellowship hall.

Church members have been using the church gym for fellowship gatherings and elementary education activities have been housed in a cinder block building dating to the 1950s.

It was in such bad shape that it couldn't be renovated and has to be demolished, Alderman said.

The new construction is attached to an existing building where the church offices are located.

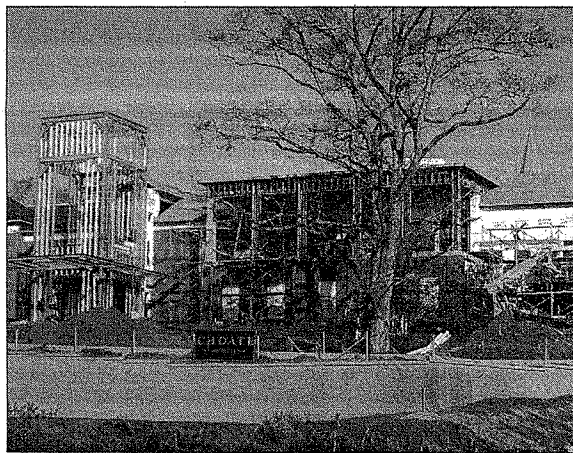
They, too, will be renovated as part of the project, as will the church's music rooms. A colonnade will connect the addition to the

sanctuary.

"The design maintains the integrity of the historic sanctuary as the centerpiece of the campus," Alderman said.

The extra space will be very welcome, the pastor said.

"Our buildings now are used seven days a week by community and church groups. This is a congregation that's very involved in the community, and we see this [expansion] as a launching platform to increase our involvement and service to our community and the world."



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**18th Annual Polar Bear Run**

1 Mile Fun Run 8:00 a.m. • 5K race 8:30 a.m.  
Cub Run (ages 4-5) 9:15 a.m. • Cub Dash (ages 2-3) 9:15

**What**  
The 18th annual Polar Bear Run is a unique road race featuring a flat course in East Cobb County. This event has grown to become one of the largest races in Cobb County. The race will be held rain, snow, or shine! This is a pre-registered only event.

**T-Shirt**  
The tradition of having a top race shirt continues as all participants will receive a long sleeve, 100% cotton, multi-colored design T-Shirt. You will be given the size indicated on the race application. (See below)

**Where**  
Johnson Ferry Baptist Church, 955 Johnson Ferry Road, Marietta, GA (call 770-565-0854 ext. 3000 for directions)

**Registration**  
Register by mail or in person at JFBC or Fleet Feet in Sandy Springs (404.255.3338). Each participant must fill out a separate form. Online registration available at [www.active.com](http://www.active.com) or [www.jfbc.org](http://www.jfbc.org). All entries must be received by Friday, January 20. Mail entries received after this date will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Race Number Pickup**  
Race confirmation or packets will not be mailed to race participants. Race numbers may be picked up at JFBC on Friday, January 27 between 6:30 - 7:45 a.m. or Saturday, January 28 between 6:30 - 7:45 a.m. Entries registered. All T-Shirts (with the exception of "Phantom" distributed before the race. Race packet may be picked up by copy of participating individual's I.D. is presented.

**Parking**  
Parking is available all around JFBC, or you may park in the restricted parking lots of area business will close completely no later than 7:55 a.m. to facilitate 1 mile Fun Run.

**The Course**  
The race will begin and end in the parking lot of JFBC double loop including Johnson Ferry, Lower Roswell, and Roswell. Course directions for the 1 mile will be available at the race.