

**ONE HUNDRED YEARS
OF
SERVICE & WORSHIP**



SEPTEMBER 30, 1979

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH

FLORA, INDIANA

1879 - 1979

FORWARD

One hundred years of service! Ten decades of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. One century in which the Flora First Christian Church has added her witness to the stream of Living Water that flows through the Savior.

We are but as one drop in that stream flowing through the centuries; only a small part of the Church universal; and yet, significantly invaluable as a community of faith touching down in one place for one hundred years. If the author of Hebrews (chapter eleven) was writing his epistle today he surely would have included the witness of this congregation in that statement, "What a record these people have won by their faith."

It is a fine record of one hundred years of service. However, would I be thought vainglorious to suggest that God has decided on even greater plans for us? That there are ten hundred years or more before us and the past is now only the foundation for the future? I think not.

We have this crowd of forebearers that has brought us to this day. We thank God for them. What a great work they have done. What a sacrifice they have made. What an inspiration they remain. The task is now our own. "Let us rid ourselves, then, of everything that gets in the way, and the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us" (Hebrews 12:1).



Pastor Larry J. Kuntz

100TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Lola Mae Harmon

Shirley Spangler

Judy Ayres

Mary Hanaway

Janet Nickelsberg

Kathern Shope, Chairman

With valuable assistance from Jennifer Archibald in writing the history and from Pastor Larry Kuntz.

We wish to thank each member of the Flora Christian Church who has helped compile this history by sharing memories and pictures. Without their help it wouldn't be quite so complete.

We also want to express our appreciation to the members of the CWF and all others who helped with the One Hundredth Anniversary Celebration.

We hope each of us has a deeper appreciation of our religious heritage by our searching the past. We can be proud of our accomplishments and look forward to greater and better worship and service of our Lord through the Flora Christian Church.

A HISTORY OF THE FLORA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

The seed for Flora First Christian Church was sown in an old brick school house on north Division Street. The year was 1877. The church was not yet organized, but a few believers met to worship whenever a pastor could come from Delphi or Patton.

The church's history, however, is being marked from 1879 for it was in that year that, following a revival, about 20 Christians banded together. In the spring they were baptized in Bachelor Run Creek. The youngest of those baptized was Lizzie Ferguson, who was just 13.

After a few inactive years, the Christians re-grouped as a Christian Church on May 25, 1884. Charter members were: Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Gwinn, Mr. and Mrs. Philip Voorhees, Samuel Smelcer, Mr. and Mrs. John Wickard, Mrs. Peter Garrison, Mrs. Olive Ferrier, Mrs. Hanna Hamilton, Mrs. Clarinda Eikenberry, Mrs. Americus Bright, Mrs. Sarah Ferguson, Mrs. Mary Ann Rice and Mrs. Rhoda Harrison.

The church was founded on the object, creed and motto printed on the following page.

Our Object

The Union of all Christians and the evangelization of the world according to the New Testament models.

Our Creed

I believe with my whole heart that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and the Savior of the world.

Our Motto

In faith, Unity; in opinions, Liberty; in all things, Charity. We accept the New Testament as our only standard of faith and practice, and have no other creed. We recognize only penitent believers in Jesus Christ as the Son of God, to be proper subjects for baptism.

We believe that Faith, Repentance, Confession and Baptism are steps into the Kingdom.

We believe in a return to Apostolic practice in regard to church ordinances and government.

We observe the Lord's Supper every first day of the week according to Apostolic precedent.

We believe in world-wide missions and have our missionaries in every land.

We repudiate human names and call ourselves Christians, or Disciples, pleading for unity of name and unity of faith. We believe in a constant warfare against sin in every form.

"Be thou faithful unto death and I will give you a Crown of Life." (Rev. 2-10)

Services were held in the Baptist Church, which was then located on West Walnut Street. Brother James Lily of Patton conducted the services once a month. He rode the train to Delphi and many times walked from there to Flora. He served the congregation until 1886.

The first church officers, chosen in May, 1887, were: Elders - J. C. Gwinn, D. Hawkins, and Philip Voorhees. Deacons - F. A. Smith, J. O. Ferrier, and A. J. Baker. Deaconesses - Anna Rice, Americus Bright, and Flora Voorhees.

LADIES AID SOCIETY

The Ladies Aid Society was instrumental in the early growth of the church. In June, 1887, the society gave the total amount in its treasury, \$20, to have the evangelist, O. E. Sharp, conduct a meeting. As a result, 60 souls were added to this little band of faithful Christians.

The members felt a growing need for a church home, and in the fall of 1887 a one-room brick church was started at the site of the present church building on the corner of South Center and South Streets. J. C. Gwinn, the owner of a brick kiln, furnished the brick at cost. Philip Voorhees did the carpentry work, and Samuel Smelcer acted as clerk. The members were so excited about their new church that they held services there even before it was completed in the spring.

Although the church struggled to make ends meet throughout much of its history, the first recorded yearly treasurer's report shows a surplus at the end of the year. In 1888 the church collected \$35.79 and paid out only \$25.59.

The first pastor's salary to be recorded in a yearly budget was in 1904. The salary paid that year was \$804.66. Collections were \$809.18. Before the time when ministers were given a set salary, they were paid basically whatever was received in collections. The earliest pastors were compensated at least in part with commodities. With only one exception, the pastor's salary did not reach \$2,000 before 1946. The exception was R. C. Dillman in the late 1920's.



Flora Christian Church - That served congregation from 1886, to April 6, 1914.

Church membership in 1895 was 135. By January, 1906, the number had risen to 200. There were 58 additions to the church in 1905.

Throughout the years, the Ladies Aid Society and its modern counterpart, the Christian Women's Fellowship, have donated time and money for many projects inside and outside the church. Another, less publicized activity, especially common in the early years, was calling on the sick. In 1907, the Society made 328 calls.

Flora Christian continued to grow, and the need arose for a new church. At 7 a.m. on April 6, 1914, members gathered for the last time in the little brick church which had served the congregation for 28 years. An emotional service of prayer, praise and thanksgiving preceded the razing of the building.

Three of the oldest members of the church took an active part in the service. J. C. Gwinn, a charter member of the church, sang two solos which brought tears to the eyes of all present. With tremulous voice, but unwavering faith, he sang, "Some Day the Silver Chord will break, and I no more as now shall sing, but Oh! the joy when I shall wake within the Palace of the King."

Sarah C. Ferguson, another charter member, with a voice no less tremulous, told of the many blessings she had received from her kind and loving Father in the old church building.

W. A. Pruitt, another of the aged members, whose heart was so full when he attempted to speak, could not restrain the tears that flowed down his furrowed cheeks.

Sweet and sad memories were in the thoughts of those present as they sang the closing hymn, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds." Immediately after the service, several of the women began taking up the carpet in preparation for the razing of the building.

On April 14, the building committee, composed of Charles E. Smith, M. W. Eaton, W. H. Miller, E. D. Voorhees, Charles E. Budrow, R. D. Voorhees, N. B. Grandstaff, and Russell Voorhees, signed a contract with W. H. Turner of Logansport for a new building. The original cost was to be \$15,000 but by dedication reached \$20,000.

The cornerstone of the new church was laid June 18, 1914, and the dedication was Nov. 29, 1914. From April 6 until the dedication, the congregation met in the old Flora Opera House above the Flora State Bank.



1914

Rev. George L. Snively of Lewistown, Ill., was brought in to conduct the dedication service and to raise money to pay off the church debt. Even before the dedication, members of the congregation had donated \$6,000.

The first pledge on the day of dedication was from the Ladies Aid Society. It was for \$2,000 to be paid over a five-year period. By the close of the dedication service, Rev. Snively had secured \$16,478.36 in cash and pledges, and within a few days, other donations put the figure over \$17,000. This was more than the amount needed to pay off the debt.

Rev. Snively, who had a national reputation as a leader in dedicatory services, said that in all his experience in dedicatory work, he never visited a town where the people responded more liberally to the call for funds, and he knew of no town the size of Flora that had a more beautiful house of worship. At the Sunday morning dedication services, eight persons were taken into membership and dedicated their lives to God.

The services were followed by an elegant dinner served to nearly 600 people. The church membership then was about 175, but people came from other congregations in the community, all parts of the county and even from surrounding counties.

Ministers from all the Flora churches gave congratulatory addresses at a union memorial service in the afternoon.

Perhaps the most impressive part of the evening service was the reading in unison of the dedication vows, led by Pastor G. Stanley West. The vow follows.



G. Stanley West, Minister

Dedication Vows

We set apart this house to the worship of the living and true God and to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord. We devote it to the preaching of the grace of God for the conversion of sinners, and to the education of Christians in the knowledge of spiritual truth; in all the grace of Christian character and in all the activities of Christian life.

Here shall the incense of prayer and praise ascend to God. Here shall the ordinances of the Lord's house be sacredly observed. Here shall the word of God which liveth and abideth forever be sounded out for the salvation of the perishing, and shine as a perpetual light to guide God's pilgrims through the night time to the dawn of everlasting glory.

Here may children of sin and sorrow find refuge from despair and ruin, and Christians a harbor to which they can resort when the tempest is high.

Here in the hearts of humble worshipers may the Holy Spirit find a temple, and the doctrine of God's word be distilled upon the waiting and thirsty Spirits as the rain upon mown grass, and as showers that water the earth, so that righteousness may flourish and holiness abound.

May no discordant note of strife ever be heard within these walls; no unholy spirit of pride or worldliness find entrance here, but may the faith out of which all goodness springs, the hope which purifies and comforts the sorrowing heart, and love which honors God, blesses man, and binds Christians in blessed fellowship ever inspire and sway the hearts that worship here.

May these earthly courts be as the holy place of the Temple, separated only by a veil from the holiest of all, in which the royal priests in the house of God may trim the golden lamp and eat of the bread of life, and burn incense at the golden altar. And may God graciously accept this offering of a house in His Name, an offering made by grateful hearts and willing hands, and bless every heart that shares in this gift.

May multitudes be born to God, so, when all these here today shall have gone to their eternal home, others will take up the services and repeat from generation to generation the old story of the cross, and the songs of Zion, and the prayers of the Saints, until Jesus comes, and His redeemed are gathered home. We give thanks to God that His people have been able to offer willingly of this sort. We invoke His blessings on the work of their hands. And we commit to His care and keeping all the interests connected with this religious enterprise.

May the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us. And establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

Let this house be a home for the stranger, a place of welcome and comfort to the poor, a consolation for the distressed and a place of salvation for the sinner. Let it be a place for the guidance of youth, for the consolation of old age, for the good of men and the glory of God.

In the next month after the dedication, there were 13 baptisms. The first person to be baptized in the new church was Laurel Smith, followed by his mother, Mrs. Vera Smith, both on Dec. 2, 1914. In 1914, the church enrollment increased by 33 and in 1915, by 20.

The pledges to the church building fund were fulfilled and on the first Sunday morning in January, 1920, Guy Kenrick burned the notes and the church was free from debt.

Later in 1920 the church purchased the W. F. Brubaker property as a parsonage. The cost was \$3,000 for the property and \$2,684 for improvements. It was on South Division Street.

Another improvement was made in 1928 when the church interior was re-decorated.

Throughout the years, church leaders have striven to make the church run as smoothly as possible. One step in that direction was the adoption of the first constitution in 1934. Enrollment at that time was 135 resident members and 10 non-resident members.

A constitution was adopted during the ministry of Rev. William C. Aschanhort. He was the only minister to serve the church twice, 1930-38 and 1942-48. He resigned the first time in order to devote full time as state evangelist for the Indiana Christian churches. He served in that capacity for 22 years.

Rev. Aschanhort was well versed in world affairs and had delivered nearly 800 lectures on "isms" of the world to teachers institutes, church organizations, service organizations, etc. He was voted most popular after-dinner speaker by 100 organizations in Indiana and was a popular commencement speaker for high schools all over the state.



Rev. W. C. Aschanhort

He appeared in Washington on peace conferences, and was sent to Russia to investigate Communism under the guise of a representative of the Board of Education. He was discovered and sentenced to Siberia by the Russian government, but escaped with the help of a Russian officer, who was later killed on this account.

During the Aschanhorts' second term in Flora, they moved out of the parsonage and bought their own home next to the church. Since the church didn't need the parsonage, the members decided to sell it in 1945 for \$4,500.

In 1949 Rev. Aschanhort became ill and took a leave of absence, and finally resigned within the year. Rev. Russell Kilmer was hired and served until his resignation in 1950.

The Kilmers lived in Flora, so a parsonage was not needed until a new minister came. Rev. Russell Hensley of Los Angeles, Calif. was called for 1951, and in 1950 the property of Ammon Oyler on South Center Street was purchased as a parsonage after the Ladies Aid committee inspected it and OK'd it as suitable. Cost of the property was \$1,000.

The first telephone was installed in the church in 1951.

ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

"100 YEARS OF SERVICE AND WORSHIP: 1879-1979"

ORGAN PRELUDE

"A Spring time Melody"

"Reverie" by Charles Demorest

Mrs. JoAnn Smith, organist

* THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor Larry J. Kuntz, presiding

LEADER: LET US GATHER IN THE MEMORY THAT WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

PEOPLE: To participate in His mission in the world.

LEADER: LET US GATHER TO THANK GOD FOR THE LIFE GIVEN TO US.

PEOPLE: That we might be the men and women God intended.

LEADER: LET US CELEBRATE ALL OF LIFE, APPRECIATING THE PAST, SERVING IN THE PRESENT, AND MEETING THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE.

PEOPLE: All this we do because Jesus Christ is Lord!

* THE HYMN OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE

#598

"Now Thank We All Our God"

* THE INVOCATION

OUR MOMENT OF FELLOWSHIP AND GREETINGS

This is a time when we will recognize former members, visitors and special guests.

SPECIAL MUSIC "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

The Thornberry's

A HISTORICAL DRAMA

SONGS OF CHRISTIAN PRAISE

Since Jesus Came Into My Heart

Revive Us Again

When the Roll is Called Up Yonder

Give Me That Old Time Religion

Amazing Grace

THE OFFERTORY

Statement of Purpose

The Gifts of the People

The Doxology

The Prayer of Dedication

Elder Emeritus Jean Smith

Mrs. Phyllis Reinke, director

THE ANTHEM "Get All Excited"

THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

THE PERIOD OF PRAYER

THE MESSAGE

Dr. William Martin Smith

THE HYMN "I Love To Tell The Story"

#532

THE POSTLUDE "Moderato"

by Ashford

OUR SPEAKER

William Martin Smith is the President of the Pension Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). He began his service as its president in 1971. Previously, he had served the Pension Fund as General Representative, Vice President and Treasurer. He is a graduate of Phillips University (Enid, Oklahoma) and its Graduate Seminary, Butler University and Christian Theological Seminary. He holds four earned and two honorary degrees.

He is married and resides in Indianapolis, Indiana. Mrs. Smith is a graduate of Methodist Hospital School of Nursing, Indianapolis. The Smiths are members of the United Christian Church of Indianapolis, where he is a deacon.

Dr. Smith led in organizing East Side Christian Church of Evansville, Indiana, locating it near the University of Evansville. It grew to be one of the larger congregations among Disciples in Indiana. He is the author of two books, "For the Support of the Ministry" and "Servants Without Hire." He also has been the author of many articles concerning the Church, the Ministry, and Christian Stewardship, printed in professional, religious journals and other publications. He has given several college and seminary lectureships including the Reed Lectures of the Disciples' Historical Society and the Scott Lectures at Bethany College.

OUR QUARTET

When Bob and Jeanne Thornburg and Cullan and Becky Eikenberry get together you have The Thornberry's which means good music. This quartet adds much to the music of our church and we are proud of them.

OUR HISTORICAL DRAMA

Taken from the pages of our own history by John Limeberry and Judy Ayres the drama gives us a glimpse back into our first 100 years of service and worship.

OUR SPECIAL INVITATION

Following the close of this service you are invited to a birthday celebration in Fellowship Hall.

In 1952 the church building was redecorated at a cost of \$4,000. During that time Sunday School and Worship Services were held in the basement. The basement was heated with old iron stoves. One sat outside what is now the door to the kitchen.

The nursery class met in the kitchen and other children's classes were on the second floor. DeVere Hoffman, Wilbert Kenrick and Kathern Shope took turns teaching the combined adult classes in the basement.

In 1953 the Ladies Aid was converted into the Christian Women's Fellowship with Martha Hoffman as the first president. This organization has played an important part in the church service program.

Also in 1957-59 the church supported a Living Link Missionary in the Belgian Congo. Her name was Mrs. Clifford Weare.

In 1953 a new constitution was adopted. This created the following committees: Membership, Outreach, Evangelism, Education and Finance. The chairmen of these committees, some women, began attending the Board meetings in September of that year.

In November of 1954 there was a fire in the church. Mark Carter saw it in the night and called the fire department. It started in the furnace room and burned up into the Minister's Study and Loyal Berean classroom, and into the kitchen. The stained glass window to the baptistry and the large picture on the east wall of the sanctuary, "The First Easter Dawn" were damaged. Pauline Eikenberry, who painted the picture, restored it.

For two months we held services in the Presbyterian Church. They had a church and no preacher, we had a preacher and no church. Rev. Whipple did the preaching and all was very congenial.

During 1954 to 59 Schools of Missions were held in cooperation with the Delphi and Oak Grove Christian Churches. The meetings were held once a week for 6 to 8 weeks during January and February. They alternated between the three churches and were well attended.

In 1959 the Aschanhort property was bought for a parsonage. Rev. Sell was minister at that time, but lived in the property on South Center Street.

When Rev. Craig came his family used the Aschanhort property for the parsonage until the new parsonage was built. The property on South Center St. was sold.



Mrs. Clifford Weare, living link missionary to Congo, 1957-59.



First Easter Dawn

In 1964 the church celebrated 50 years in the present building. An all day meeting was held with a basket dinner at noon. It was well attended by former members and friends. In that year new light fixtures, gifts of remembrance from church members were dedicated.

Also in that year the Humes property back of the church was bought and used as a church annex for several years.



Members of 1914 choir posed for this picture in 1964. Lois Ledman, Eris Steckel, Pauline Eikenberry, Jennie Shoff, Hilda Baum, Mabel Holmes, Elsie Foster, Unknown, George Baum, Ethel Boxell, Mabel Good.

In 1967 ground was broken for a new parsonage at 104 Meadow Lane. The Parsonage was dedicated June 30, 1968. Rev. Craig and family were the first to occupy the new home.

In 1970 the church was redecorated. The organ was rebuilt and chimes added. The choir seating and pulpit were changed.

In 1972 the church was host to the Korean Children's Choir. This was held in the High School Gym and was well attended by people from all over this part of the state.

The church held a Lay Witness Mission in March of 1973. This lasted 3 days and was well attended.

In 1975 the basement was remodelled into the Fellowship Hall. This made a great change in the church life. The kitchen was modernized and facilitated the preparation and serving of numerous meals and wedding receptions. It is still a popular meeting place.

New classes were formed and began meeting in the Fellowship Hall. The nursery was moved from the second floor to the basement. It was modernized and has been well used ever since.

In 1976 the office and classrooms on the east side were remodelled. The classrooms were turned into a library and church parlor.

In 1977 a new constitution was adopted. This incorporated the church and its properties for better care. A major change was to change the Church Board into a Board of Directors. The same committees were kept and still function.

The present membership of the church is 286. Of this number 180 are active members and 106 are inactive. The average church attendance is about 140 in Worship and 100 in Sunday School each Lord's Day.

Noteworthy as a part of the church history is the outreach program.

"It is more blessed to give than to receive" has characterized the congregation in recent years. Outreach giving for missions beyond the local church has truly been outstanding. The yearbook of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) reveals the following record out of more than 4000 churches.

OUTREACH RECORD

1975-76

Flora Christian Church;

9th in per member giving to missions	\$147.24
58th in dollars given to CFC	\$22,298.00
38th in percent income given away	35.3%

1976-77

16th in per member giving to missions	\$164.39
44th in dollars given to CFC	\$25,532.00
59th in percent income given away	33.4%

1977

20th in per member giving to missions	\$135.00
75th in dollars given to CFC	\$21,753.00
61st in percent income given away	31.8%

1978

10th in per member giving to missions	\$177.88
69th in dollars given to CFC	\$22,627.00
19th in percent income given away	35.9%

This is the history brought up to date as of September 1, 1979.

MINISTERS OF THE FLORA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Bro. Anderson, 1879 baptized 20.

Ministers as they could come from Patton and Delphi until James Lily, 1884-86

Rev. Plunkett, 6 months

C. J. Saunders, 1 year.

O. H. Sharp, June 1887-evangelistic meeting, 60 added

Rev. Mavity, 1887

Bro. Hathorn, 1888

Rev. Campbell, a meeting 1891

L. E. Murray, 1 year, 1892

Rev. Hathorn, 1892-94

M. N. Nethercutt, 1895-96

Henry Goodacre, 1902-03

A. B. Houze, 1904-08

Frank Davis, 1908-09

Nicholas Zuilch, 1909-12

H. E. Phillipi, 1913-14

G. Stanley West, 1914-18

J. C. Reynolds, 1919-20

R. D. Thomas, 1920-23

Homer Eshelman, 1923-24

Robert Dillman, 1925-29

Chauncey Piety, 1929-30

W. C. Aschanhort, 1930-38

Hayes Miller, 1939-42

W. C. Aschanhort, 1942-48

Russell Kilmer, 1949-50

Russell Hensley, 1951-53

George Whipple, 1953-58

Ralph Sell, 1958-60

Wm. Milton Craig, 1960-70

Charles Wickizer, 1970-76

Larry J. Kuntz 1976---

TIMOTHYS OF THE FLORA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Members who became ministers)

The Flora Christian Church has had three Timothys.

Paul Shields was graduated from Johnson Bible College and ordained in our church in June, 1954.

At present Paul is in Phoenix, Ariz. where he is working with the youth in a church there.

Walter Kelly was graduated from Johnson Bible College in 1955. While a student there he served a church at Shelbyville, Ind. and was ordained there.

At present Walter lives in Fort Wayne and has had to retire from his last church at Berne, Ind. because of ill health.

Robert M. Craig was graduated from Phillips University, Enid, Oklahoma in 1966. He got his Master's and Doctor's degrees from Christian Theological Seminary, Indianapolis, Indiana. He is now minister of the Christian Church at Valparaiso, Indiana.

FAITHFUL SERVANTS

Flora Christian is fortunate to have had many faithful servants. There are many who have served as an officer of the church or in another capacity for 20 or more years. Because all of these servants are too numerous to mention and for fear of omitting some, recognition is being given below to those members who have served for 30 or more years.

WILBERT KENRICK served as an elder for almost 50 years and taught Sunday School for over 50 years. In addition, he was church clerk 18 years and chairman of the board for several years. His first office was deacon. He was elected in 1914, but was asked to resign in 1918 since he was not then a married man, as required by Scriptures. Undaunted, he went on to later serve the church in the above capacities. In 1961, he received the Town and Country Layman of the Year Award presented by the state association of Disciples of Christ Churches.

EVERETT COCHRAN served as an elder for more than 30 years and as Sunday School superintendent for 22 years. Other positions include deacon and chairman of the board. It is said that as Sunday School superintendent, every Sunday morning he had the congregation sing his favorite song, "Living For Jesus." At 88, he is the oldest lifetime member of the church.

DE VERE HOFFMAN is currently an elder and Sunday School teacher. He has been an elder for 30 years and a teacher almost as long. He also has served as chairman of the board, deacon, Sunday School superintendent and choir member.

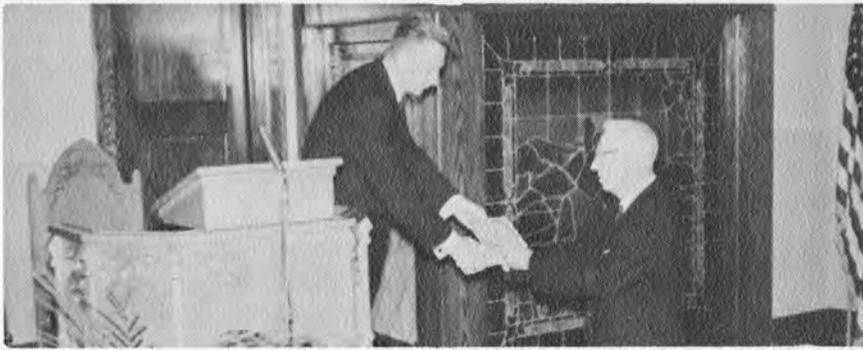
Other elders who served 30 or more years were N. B. GRANDSTAFF and CHARLES BUDROW. Grandstaff also served as chairman of the board for 23 years.

WILLIAM AYRES was church treasurer and deacon for a combined total of more than 50 years.

FRANK PARKS and CHARLES COCHRAN were each deacons more than 30 years. JACK SMITH has been a deacon for more than 30 years and is still serving.

JO ANN SMITH, church organist, has served in that capacity more than 30 years.

KATHERN SHOPE, church clerk and librarian, began teaching Sunday School at age 18 and has taught at the Flora church the last 30 years.



Wilbert Kenrick (right) is shown receiving the Layman of the Year Award.



William Milton Craig (left) is shown in 1964 when he received the Town and Country Minister of the Year Award presented by the state association of Disciples of Christ Churches.



Women of the church who have been members for more than 50 years are shown (left to right) - Lucille Smith, 54 years; Laura Kenrick, 57 years; Hilda Baum, 65 years; Lois Ledman, 68 years, and Esther Dillman, 54 years.

KNOWN GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

Pulpit in memory of Roy Blue by Fannie Blue

Communion table and chairs by Amanda and Everett Chochran in memory of Charles and Elizabeth Cochran.

Pulpit Bible and American Flag by Charles Gibbs.

Conference table, office machines, song books in memory of Russell Hanaway by Mary Hanaway.

Chimes in organ in memory of Galen Shope by church members and friends.

Pictures in sanctuary painted and given by Pauline Eikenberry.

Typewriter by Phyllis and Jerry Reinke.

Blue choir robes by Russell Hanaway.

Choir robe closet by Maude Budrow.

Library book shelves by Joan Jackson.

Music folders and coat racks by Clayton Ayres.

Piano in sanctuary by Clayton and Grace Ayres.

Movie Projector and storm windows by George and Radiance Allen.

Seasonal colored cloths for pulpit by Martha Hoffman in memory of Carl and Mabel Eikenberry.

Memorial Book in memory of David Ayres by Ruthann and John Ayres.

Collection plates by Fred and Maxine Humes.

Drapes in Fellowship Hall by Dick and Dottie Ledman in memory of Ella Hursh and Inez Eaton.

White dishes and nativity scene by Vera Smith.

Tables in fellowship hall by Elaine Smith.

90 acre farm by Mary Jane Harter.

Advent Wreath and cloth by Frank and Opal Loudon.

Light fixtures by Annis Ayres in memory of William Ayres, Mary Jane Harter in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Reuben Harter, Lucille Smith in memory of Laurel Smith, Maud McNeil in memory of Mary Shirar, Mabel Holmes and Daughter, Jean Smith and family, Maude Budrow, Fannie Richter, and Loyal Berean Class.



Boy's Sunday School class taught by Wm. Spittler in 1930's

CHURCH ELDERS, DEACONS AND OFFICERS FOR 1979

ELDERS EMERITUS:

Everett Cochran

Jean Smith

ELDERS

Cullan Eikenberry

DeVere Hoffman

Maurice Robeson

F. K. Sisson

Tom Ayres

Larry Hamm

M. E. Jackson

Jerry Reinke

Richard Hicks

Mike Hoffman

Carrol Stout

Becky Eikenberry (first woman elder)

DEACONS EMERITUS

Lloyd Bixler

Dale Boller

Ernest Sylvester

DEACONS

Bill Clawson

Terry Helvie

Darrell Hoffman

Ed Krauss

Kyle Krauss

Kenneth McGill

Jack Smith

Berry Wheeler

Joe Ayres

Ralph Brower

Nelson Helvie

Tom Helvie

Greg Hoffman

Dave Nickelsberg

Frank Spangler

John Ayres

Dick Curtis

Gerald Harmon

Bill Helvie

Tom Miller

Scott Sisson

Robert Thornburg

Charles Whitlock

ORGANIST

JoAnn Smith

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Mike Hoffman

CHOIR DIRECTOR

Phyllis Reinke

CHURCH SECRETARY

Phyllis Reinke

DEACONESSES

Janice Cable

Janet Nickelsberg

Nancy Hicks

Jeanne Thornburg

Debbie Jones

Frances McGill

JUNIOR DEACONS & DEACONESSES

Open to all young people who are members of the church upon entrance to the ninth grade.

CARROLL COUNTY COUNCIL

OF CHURCHES

Beverly Ayres

JoAnn Miller

AREA IV CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OF INDIANA

Larry Hamm

Kathern Shope

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Judy Hoffman

Maxine Humes

Ed Krauss

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Presidents of Christian Women's Fellowship

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Mary Lee Stout, 1957-59

Eva Sisson, 1959-60

Kathern Shope, 1960-62

Beverly Ayres, 1962-64

Elaine Smith, 1964-66

Mildred Curtis, 1966-68

Becky Eikenberry, 1968-70

Maxine Humes, 1970-72

Eva Sisson, 1972-74

Judy Hoffman, 1974-76

Janalie Robeson, 1976-78

Phyllis Reinke, 1978-



Church Choir ... 1979



Youth Choir ... 1979



Sunday morning children's message given by the minister.

MEMBERS OF FLORA CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Allen, James E.
 Allen, Walter & LaDonna
 Averitt, Forest. Mrs. Forest, Della, Linda
 Ayres, Annis
 Ayres, Alan
 Ayres, Dawn
 Ayres, Loren & Lillian
 Ayres, Joe & Linda
 Ayres, John & Ruthann, Philip, John, Jr.
 Ayres, John E. & Judy
 Ayres, Tom & Beverly
 Baker, Louis & Ruth, Robert
 Baum, Hilda, Billy
 Bishop, Elaine
 Bishop, Winifred
 Best, Willard & Janet, Carla
 Bixler, Lloyd & Gladys
 Black, Shail
 Blue, Earl & Wilma
 Blue, Fannie
 Boller, Dale & Roselyn
 Bordner, Joanna
 Bright, William & Margaret, Terry, Richard
 Brower, Ralph & Harriet, Tom
 Butcher, Meredith & Naomi
 Butler, Carl & Sylvia
 Butler, Morris
 Cable, Janice, Brad, Bonita
 Cable, Russell
 Calender, Ruth
 Clawson, William & Carol
 Clingenpeel, Mildred
 Cochran, Everett
 Courter, Don & Phyllis
 Cree, Edith
 Cripe, James
 Cripe, Paul
 Cripe, Robert & Mary K., Steve
 Cromer, Dorothy
 Curtis, Richard & Mildred, Carole
 Davis, Christina
 DePoy, Richard & Martha
 DeVinney, Tom
 Dillman, Ester
 Driggs, Mary Elizabeth
 Early, Mildred
 Eikenberry, Cullan & Rebecca, Andy
 Foist, Nancy
 Fouts, Richard & LaVeda
 Garrison, Daniel
 Garrison, David
 Garrison, J. Don
 Garrison, Robert & Mary Sue
 Garrison, William
 Gillam, Roberta, Mike
 Glenn, Melissa
 Hamm, Larry & Judy
 Hanaway, Carl & Ruth, Sue, Eddie, Cynthia, C.T.
 Hanaway, Hobart & Betty, Larry
 Hanaway, Mary
 Harmon, Clarence & Lola Mae, Joyce
 Harmon, Gerald & Geneva, Kurt
 Helvie, Nelson & Jackie
 Helvie, Terry & Lyn
 Helvie, Tom & Kathie
 Helvie, William & Patricia
 Hicks, Richard & Nancy, Brad, Mike
 Hicks, Roy
 Hoffman, Darrell
 Hoffman, DeVere & Martha
 Hoffman, Greg & Sherry
 Hoffman, Michael & Judy, Alice
 Holmes, Helen
 Huff, Lois Jean
 Humes, Maxine
 Hursh, Gladys
 Jackson, M.E. & Joan

Johnson, Herbert & Florence, Richard
 Jones, Debbie
 Jordan, Sedonna
 Kenrick, Laura
 Kesner, Faye
 Kite, Oma
 Krauss, Eddie & Georgianna, Kenneth, Kim, Kyle
 Kuiper, Radiance
 Kuntz, Larry & Sherry
 Leazenby, Earl & Jane
 Ledman, Lois
 Ledman, Richard
 Lewark, Nancy
 Limeberry, John
 Little, Sherry
 Loudon, Frank & Opal, Bill
 Mann, Arlene
 Mann, Jean, Rick
 Mann, William & Susan, Kathy, Vicki, Dave
 Maxwell, Darrell
 McGee, Sandra
 McGill, Kenneth & Frances, John
 McKinley, Jeanne
 McNeil, Maude
 McReynolds, Donna
 Miller, JoAnn, Troy
 Miller, Tim & Kim
 Miller, Tom
 Mills, Steve & Betty, Brent
 Nickelsberg, David & Janet
 Oilar, Richard & Glenda, Michele
 Orem, Dean
 Parks, Howard, Sara
 Plum, Ann
 Ratcliff, Bethel
 Reames, Marjorie
 Reinke, Jerry & Phyllis, Jerry D, Sherrin
 Reppert, Cleo
 Robeson, Maurice & Janalee, Miriam, Michele
 Root, Flossie
 Shank, Kathy
 Shope, Kathern
 Short, Richard & Patricia
 Sink, Harold & Doris
 Sisson, Keith & Eva
 Sisson, Scott & Jennifer
 Smith, Jack & JoAnn, Tony
 Smith, Jean & Elaine
 Smith, Lucille, Jon
 Spangler, Frank & Shirley, Pam, Terry
 Spooner, Charles
 Spooner, John & Ruth, Jim
 Stout, Carrol & Mary Lee
 Sylvester, Ernest & Helen, Jeff
 Sylvester, Charles
 Teel, Arnold & Berdena, Vicki
 Teel, Randy
 Thornburg, Robert & Jeanne
 Tinsman, Joretta
 Von Ahrens, Laverne, Karla, Karen
 Wagoner, Margaret
 Walker, William
 Ward, Alta
 Warnick, David
 Watson, Richard
 Wheeler, Barry & Gay, Steve, Kim
 Whitlock, Charles & Mary Sue
 Wiles, Burl & Dorothy, Ronnie
 Wiles, Huey & Nadine, Bart, Theresa, Kevin
 Wiles, Zelda
 Wilson, Jane Marie
 Welker, Mary Jane
 Wingard, Robert & Myrtle
 Wood, Cathy
 Yerkes, Fred
 Yerkes, Ruth

