HISTORY
OF
Evangelical United
Brethren Church
PYRMONT, INDIANA
1962
PYRMONT EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH

REVS. WM. AND RUBY BUSHEE
pastor
History of
Pyrmont Evangelical United Brethren Church

I was glad when they said unto me "Let us go into the house of the Lord."—Psalm 122

This thought was uppermost in the minds of a number of United Brethren families in the Pyrmont community in the early days, as they longed for a sanctuary of their own. True, there were several U. B. churches scattered within a radius of ten or twelve miles, but in horse and buggy days to travel ten miles in stormy zero weather several times each Sabbath and to mid-week prayer meeting was a hardship, especially if children had to make the trip alone. So it was that on September 19, 1910, nine families met together in the old school house to organize a class of the United Brethren church. The nine families mentioned in the record are: John Shullheis, Robert Newell, Bert Dickison, J. B. Dickison, John Swartz, Howard B. Cleaver, D. L. Musselman, Charles Weil and Edward T. Beard. Charles Weil was elected class leader and D. L. Musselman as Sunday School superintendent. On February 4, 1911, they became part of the Colburn Circuit which consisted of Fairview church in Adams Township; Ockley, Colburn; Buck Creek and Pyrmont.

Reverend Groves, from the Lafayette church, assumed advisory position on July 31, 1911 and assisted Reverend C. E. Davis with the preaching.

On November 17, 1911, the first quarterly conference of the newly organized class held a session with Reverend J. E. Grimes as presiding Elder. D. L. Musselman was chosen secretary of that quarterly conference. J. H. Shullheis was chosen as the new class leader and made a report from Pyrmont, Noah Rosenbarger a report on Fairview, B. F. Balser from Ockley and D. L. Musselman commented on Pyrmont. Also Charles and Bertha Gee were present from Colburn.

The pastor's salary at this time was $900.00 with Pyrmont's portion being $378.00. The Sunday School enrollment was 82, with 12 teachers. There were, however, only 37 members on the church roll.

In the fall of 1911, under the pastorate of Reverend O. L. Richart, a very successful revival was held in the school house which brought a number of converts and new members into the church. So encouraged was the new membership that they immediately began a campaign for subscriptions for a new Sanctuary.

A sum of $5,000.00 was raised and soon the hauling of gravel began on a lot which was deeded by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Weil near their home. The contract for making cement blocks was given to John Rodenbarger. The blocks were made on the church grounds. Water for the job was carried from the Frank Smeltzer well across the road. A contract for brick was let to a firm in Attica. They were hauled by the church members, some still living, to the new church site. This work was all donated and truly they "had a mind to work" for soon the excavation for the basement was complete. The contract for the masonry was given to John Jones of Ockley. Dora Connor (a man) was put in charge of the carpenter work. So well did the work progress that the building was completed by October.

The Board of Trustees as of May 6, 1912 were: J. Shullheis, R. A. Newell, John Swartz, H. B. Cleaver and J. B. Dickison. The Reverend Richart was the pastor who inspired the building of the church.

At the fall conference, Reverend S. M. Hill was assigned as pastor and began his duties October 23, 1912 and on December 8, 1912, under his pastorate the building was dedicated by Bishop Fout of Indianapolis, so the record states. For these faithful Christian brethren, it was truly a great day.

There are no church records available for the years through 1912 to 1922, but that the new church continued to grow and prosper is revealed through Sunday School records. There is also a record of a Woman's Missionary Association being formed on August 2, 1913 with Mrs. Edward Beard acting as President and Mrs. John Swartz as Secretary-Treasurer. Evidently it did not function very long as a later record states that a new W.M.A. was organized March 18, 1923 by Mrs. D. W. Zartman with Mrs. Etta Newell as President.

The first meeting of the Ladies Aid was held March 5, 1925 in the home of Mrs. Carl Buck, Lorah Stair serving as president.

In 1922, the pastor Reverend D. W. Zartman, compiled a membership roll. The membership had grown to 149. The pastor's salary was increased to $1,500.00. On September 21, 1924, the church became a station. Reverend W. E. Stanley was pastor and the membership numbered 118 individuals.

We also find a Christian Endeavor mentioned in the record for 1927 with Lorene Goslee (Shullheis) President, Blaine Campbell as Treasurer and a membership of 20. Reverend I. R. Wood was pastor then.

After the church was a reality, the membership realized a need for a parsonage, but for a number of years the pastors lived in rental properties in and around Pyrmont. In 1923, a parcel of land was purchased from Mrs. Rebecca Jones for a parsonage.
site, but for lack of funds a building was not started. Meanwhile, the Zion church and its contents were sold for $826.00 and the funds were given to Pyrmont to apply on a parsonage. It was then decided to sell the land purchased from Mrs. Jones and the sum of $161.00 was added to the parsonage. The Board of Trustees then purchased the David Wetzel property for the sum of $1,600.00 and we find the deed for the same was made March 1, 1927. With the exception of modernizing, it stands now as it did then, a home for the pastor and his family.

In 1951, the Pyrmont Church was combined with Colburn and Ockley churches to form the Colburn Circuit.

And today—The church building has been modernized, with oil heating, modern kitchen facilities, rest rooms and has been redecorated several times. An electric organ now graces the front and seven branch candelabras have been added. More class rooms have been made available by using portable partitions. New pulpit pews are being added as a Fiftieth Year memorial.

Sunday School is well conducted by regular officers and ten teachers and their assistants for the 10 classes.

A thriving Missionary Society still meets each month, and after the church merger in 1946, with the Evangelical denomination, has increased its work in Missions. In 1960, the former missionary society with a membership of 36, was divided into circles in accordance with the new general program outlined by the Conference. It now has two circles, one the Hannah circle with a membership of 23 meets in the afternoon, and the Ruth circle with 10 members meets in night sessions. Both groups carry on many activities and are faithful in the work of the Lord.

Last but not least, is a fine Youth Fellowship group numbering 18 members who are learning the work of the Church by doing things at an early age. And so, if God wills, we hope to be going along in the years to follow in such a way that our descendants may proudly celebrate the One Hundredth anniversary as we are proud to carry on the work today so nobly started 50 years ago by the faithful humble Christians in the narrative.

History Committee
Mrs. Ruth White —
Chairman of Historical Committee
Mrs. Orpha Goslee —
Writer of this Narrative
Mrs. Lorene Shultehs —
Assistant

List of Pastors Serving Through the Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pastor</th>
<th>Years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reverend C. E. Davis</td>
<td>1910 - 1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend O. L. Richart</td>
<td>1911 - 1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend S. M. Hill</td>
<td>1912 - 1916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Elmer Landon</td>
<td>1916 - 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend B. E. Chambers</td>
<td>1917 - 1920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend K. F. McCoy</td>
<td>1920 - 1922</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend D. W. Zartman</td>
<td>1922 - 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend W. E. Stanley</td>
<td>1924 - 1927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend I. R. Woods</td>
<td>1927 - 1929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend N. V. Regenos</td>
<td>1929 - 1930</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Wm. L. Eiler</td>
<td>1930 - 1931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Floyd Wilson</td>
<td>1931 - 1934</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Ethel Hollingsworth</td>
<td>1934 - 1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend G. R. Champlin</td>
<td>1935 - 1937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend J. H. Elder</td>
<td>1937 - 1939</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Gerald Geiger</td>
<td>1939 - 1947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend C. J. Roberts</td>
<td>1947 - 1949</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Richard Eisinger</td>
<td>1949 - 1951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Keith Smitley</td>
<td>1951 - 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverends Wm. and Ruby Bushee</td>
<td>1956 - 1963</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reverend Herbert LaPage</td>
<td>1963 - 1970</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Wm. Alexander</td>
<td>1971 - 1972</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Phillip Emerson</td>
<td>1973 - 1976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Emmet Ade</td>
<td>1976 -</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Pyrmont Council of Administration

TRUSTEES — Clarence Cleaver
   Alvin Newhouse
   Elwood Burkle
   Hughel Miller
   Charles Campbell

STEWARDS — Glen Bell, Chief Steward
   Francis Clymer
   Clarence Cleaver
   Elwood Burkle

LAY LEADER — Mrs. Orpha Goslee

CHURCH TREASURER — Edward Fossnock
M. & B. TREASURER — Alvin Newhouse

SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT — Dale Fossnock
SUNDAY SCHOOL TREASURER — John Burkle
DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION — Rev. Wm. Bushee
DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S WORK — Mrs. John Burkle
DIRECTOR OF YOUTH WORK — Mrs. Ruth White
DIRECTOR OF ADULT WORK — Clarence Cleaver

W.S.W.S. PRESIDENT — Mrs. Robert Neuenschwander
W.S.W.S. TREASURER — Mrs. Elwood Burkle
Y.F. PRESIDENT — Mary Higbee
Y.F. TREASURER — Ivan Burkle

OTHER CHURCH OFFICERS AND ASSISTANTS

ACOLYTES — Ivan Burkle and Robert Shullheis
ASSISTANT ACOLYTES — Pamela Fossnock and Margaret Higbee
USHERS — James Scheffee and Ronnie Allee
CHORISTER — Clarence Cleaver
ASSISTANT CHORISTER — Orpha Goslee
ORGANIST — Robert Neuenschwander
ASSISTANT ORGANIST — Elsie Smith

Church membership now stands at 104.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES AND TEACHERS

JOY WORKERS — Edna Clymer and Pauline Wilcox
HELPING HANDS — Joan McCarty
SUNSHINE MAKERS — Lenore Smith
CHRISTIAN HELPERS — Lucille Neuenschwander
CHRISTIAN FOLLOWERS — Cora Kelleher
O.Y.Y.A. — Reverend Wm. Bushee
WIN-A-COUPLE — Francie Clymer
TRUTH SEEKERS — Orpha Goslee and Ruth White
TRIED AND TRUE — Mable Fossnock
MEN'S BIBLE CLASS — Clarence Cleaver

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFICERS

SUPERINTENDENT — Dale Fossnock
ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT — Glen Bell
SECRETARY — LaRoyce Clymer
ASSISTANT SECRETARY — Roberta Scheffee
TREASURER — John Burkle
PIANIST — Orpha Goslee
ASSISTANT PIANIST — Carol Cleaver
CHORISTER — John Kelleher
ASSISTANT CHORISTER — Doreanne Campbell
LIBRARIAN — Mary Higbee
ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN — Dan Bushee
OFFICERS OF W.S.W.S.

PRESIDENT — Lucille Neuenschwander
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT — Pauline Wilcox
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT — Carolyn Burkle
SECRETARY — Opal Campbell
TREASURER — Betty Burkle
SEC. OF SPIRITUAL LIFE — Emma Felix
SEC. OF CHRISTIAN SOCIAL RELATIONS — Lorene Shultheis
SEC. OF MISSIONARY EDUCATION — Lavonne Scheffee
SEC. OF YOUTH — Ruth White
SEC. OF CHILDREN’S WORK — Joan McCarty
SEC. OF SPECIAL PROJECTS — Elsie Smith

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP OFFICERS

PRESIDENT — Mary Higbee
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT — Ruth Myers
SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT — Leona Bushee
SECRETARY — LaRoiyce Clymer
ASSISTANT SECRETARY — Leslie Schnepf
TREASURER — Ivan Burkle
RECREATION LEADER — Margaret Higbee
PIANIST — Carol Ann Cleaver
ADULT COUNSELOR — Mrs. Ruth White

Resident Membership Roll

Miss Final Allen
Ronald Alley
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Bell
Jeri Bell
Jacqueline Bell
Mrs. Doris Burkhalter
Mr. and Mrs. Elwood Burkle
Ivan Burkle
Mrs. Lena Burkle
Mr. and Mrs. John Burkle
Rev. Wm. and Ruby Bushee
John Bushee
Sarah Jane Bushee
Dan Bushee
Leona Bushee
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Campbell
Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Cleaver
Mrs. Flora Cleaver
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Cleaver
Carol Cleaver
Mr. and Mrs. Francis Clymer
LaRoiyce Clymer
Mrs. Joe DuBues
Mrs. Emma Felix
Mr. and Mrs. Dale Fosnoock
Pamela Fosnoock
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Fosnoock
Mrs. Orpha Goslee
Mr. and Mrs. Russell Harner
Nancy Harner
Richard Harner
Mr. and Mrs. Grace Higbee
Margaret Higbee
Mary Higbee
Patricia Higbee
Mr. and Mrs. John Kelleher
Mrs. Gene McCarty
Mrs. Roger McCarty
Mrs. Kenneth Mears
DIVINE WORSHIP
Sunday, October 14, 1962

Prelude and Candlelighting
* Hymn 6 — “Come, Thou Fount”.
* Call to Worship and Invocation:
M. —We desire to declare to all men everywhere our assurance that Christ is the one hope of unity for the world in face of the distractions and dissensions of this present time. We know that our witness is weakened by our divisions. Yet we are one in Christ and in the fellowship of His Spirit. We pray that everywhere, in a world divided and perplexed, men may turn to Jesus Christ our Lord, who makes us one in spite of our divisions; that He may bind in one those who by many worldly claims are set at variance; and that the world may at last find peace and unity in Him; to whom be glory forever.
C. — Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we seek the leadership of Thy Spirit that we may be one in worship and fellowship with Thee. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts always be acceptable unto Thee, we pray. Amen.

* Gloria Patri

Scripture Lesson — Responsive Reading Number 565
Special Music by the Choir
Silent Prayer of Intercession
Pastoral Prayer
Prayer Response.

Offertory Sentence:
If thou bring thy gift to the altar, and there rememberest that thy brother hath ought against thee; leave there thy gift before the altar, and go thy way; first be reconciled to thy brother, and then come and offer thy gift.

Offertory
* Doxology
* Offertory Prayer
* Dedication of the Pulpit Pews.

Sermon by Rev. V. A. Carlson, D.D.
Conference Superintendent, Logansport District, Indiana North Conference
* Hymn 217 — “Where He Leads Me I'll Follow”
* Benediction
* Postlude
Afternoon Program

2:00 P. M.

PRELUDE: Orchestra
CONGREGATIONAL HYMN
WELCOME
CHOIR NUMBERS BY:
   Zion E.U.B. Church
READING OF HISTORY
SERMON: Rev. Gerald Geiger
MUSIC: Jim Geiger
CLOSING NUMBER BY CHOIR
BENEDICTION

Reception in Church Basement