HISTORY OF CENTURY OLD SALEM M.E. CHURCH IS FEATURE OF HOMECOMING

The Salem M.E. church, located in the southeast part of the county, is one of the oldest organizations of worship in Hendricks county, having been organized one hundred and seven years ago. Last Sunday, they held their annual homecoming with the main feature the reading of a history prepared and read by Mrs. Roy Pitchard.

The history as presented by Mrs. Pitchard, is as follows:

In 1826, southern Hendricks county, in the vicinity where Salem is now located, was like any pioneer country which had lately been claimed by the white man. The government owned most of the land at this time. There was little of it cleared and the roads were mere cartways through the woods.

The people who had settled in Liberty township were Edward and Joseph Hodson, William Rushton from North Carolina, John Cook and sons, Levi, Stephen, and Jesse, Edmond Cooper, Jefferson Matlock, Rev. William Pope,(1) Thomas Irons, Judge Little, William Herron, William Townsend, Joshua Hadley, Bowater Bales, William Marshall who with his sons, Joshua and son-in-law, Evan Davis, had just arrived from North Carolina, and one or two others with their families.

These pioneers had cabins to build and ground to clear for corn and they often went five miles to help a neighbor cut and roll logs and raise a cabin which work was usually accomplished with the ax and saw as the only tools.

Religious privileges were scarce. There was at that time no church or school house in the county. But Friends had formed a society and were worshipping in a log house near Mooresville and Rev. William Pope, a Baptist minister, who lived near where Cartersburg now stands, was frequently preaching in his own house. The people of South Liberty were

(1) Rev. William Pope burried in Irons cemetery, South of Cartesburg.

glad to go there to hear preaching and get acquainted.

In the spring of 1829 Joseph Tarkington, a methodist minister, preached at the home of Edmond Cooper, where Mud Creek crosses the Terre Haute Trail ~~National road~~. Later in the spring, Joshua Marshall joined church at a meeting held in Putnam county and asked Rev. John Murser to come to his home in Hendricks county on the place now owned by Sumner Mitchell, to preach. He came at the appointed time in June and seven joined church. Three weeks later he came and seven more joined church. Thus a methodist society was formed in the settlement where Salem is located.

In August of the same year, Joshua Marshall, Evan Davis, George Crutchfield, Bowater Bales, Nathan Snodgrass, Thomas Harper, Nathan Meredith and Andrew Fultz met and decided upon a suitable place upon which to build a house of worship. Not only did they kneel then but every morning before work was begun, they humbly knelt before God in prayer, thus acknowledging the human need of the Divine Father.

Then they commenced work on a hewed log church. After the ground had been cleared and the logs hewed, the church was raised in the presence of nearly every settler near. These people recognized the building of Salem church as progress in the community. It is not known why the name of Salem was chosen for this church.

Evan Davis was appointed class leader and Joshua Marshall was assistant. The members of this class were Joshua Marshall, Bowater Bales, Nathan Snodgrass, Thomas Harper, George Crutchfield, Nathan Meredith, Andrew Fultz, Rebecca Davis, Hannah Snodgrass, Betsy Bales, Mother Cooper and her two daughters.

The first regular preacher in charge was Joseph Tarkington, followed

by Charles Bowen, E.P. Farmer, Thomas J. Brown, and others.

On the twenty-eighth day of December, 1829, Joshua Marshall and Mary, his wife, legally conveyed the three acres and four rods on which the church had been built and which had been bargained for previously to George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales and Daniel Roberts and their successors as trustees.

When this bargain was made shortly before the building of the church it was made with the understanding that the trustees erect and build or cause to be erected and built, a house and place of worship for the use of the Methodist Episcopal church of the United States of America.

Some time near 1850 the present church was built. At that time the pulpit was in the north end of the church. There were two posts in the center of the house supporting the ceiling. There were two doors in the south end of the church, the east of which the men used to reach their places on the east side of the church and the west one of which was used by the women. The seats were only benches made of planks with one plank for a back. There was a row of short benches on each side, and a row of longer ones in the middle. One of these was placed on the pulpit for the preacher. A small stand was given to Salem by a Mr. Thompson to place on the pulpit for the Bible. Two small box stoves were used to heat the house.

The labor and material for this new building was mostly donated. Thus far only names of two of the donors have been found. The list is that of Alfred Hadley who gave the large logs used as the sills and sleepers of the building, which is made of black walnut, ~~was donated~~ and Henry Franklin, who gave the wide frieze boards & other material.
There was a board fence around the church with a gate in the north end.

The first Sunday school at Salem of which we have record, was April 1, 1853. It was practically the continuance of the class meeting which

was a praise and prayer service and at which they also memorized verses of scripture. A record was not kept from Sunday to Sunday but for eight years only the names of scholars enrolled in the spring and summer, for there was no meeting during the winter months and the number of scripture versesmemorized, were given. The average enrollment for the eight years was forty-three. The different names written on the enrollment list during these eight years were Cook, Brill, Marker, McPherson, Stout, Briswald, Bales, Bray, Johnson, Mills, Demoss, Harper, Tansey, Boid, Cain, Meredith, Marley, White, Fansler, Carter, Franklin, Hadley ,Jones, Rushton, and Larimore.

It was about this time that the famous camp meetings were held. Elihu Morgan of Mooresville, remembers of having attended a camp meeting at Salem in 1859. These meetings lasted two or three weeks at a time and were held every summer for at least four or five years. They were held out doors in the woods northwest of the church. This woods contained about twenty acres and had a road running diagonally northwest through it and a man by the name of William Durbin lived on this road. Since traveling was difficult and slow the people who came from a distance brought tents and camped in the woods while the meeting lasted. These meetings were similar to our rival meetings now and then business of the church was also conducted at them.

On Saturday, April 13, 1861, we have the first record of our Sunday school convention held at Salem and Rev. F. Macey presided. Beginning with the year 1861 the style of the secretary's report was changed somewhat, probably due to a change in the Sunday morning service. Instead of giving only names of those enrolled they also recorded the minutes of each meeting every Sunday during the summer as they still discontinued their school during the winter.

By October the attendance would drop considerably and Sunday school was dismissed for the winter.

A copy of the secretary's record is as follows: "Salem, October 14, 1861. Sabbath school convened and was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. Joseph Woods. The teachers assumed their places and recitations commenced. Total number present, 29. After recitations some very appropriate remarks were made by Rev. Joseph Wood and then the school was closed, dismissed and went into winter quarters. God bless and keep the children through the winter. John E. Jones."

The enrollment for that summer was eighty-five and the average attendance, forty-seven.

The names of three preachers were given during the next five years, Joseph Woods, John E. Jones and Rev. S. Bowers, John E. Jones ~~is~~ was the preacher who ran a saw mill, which was located in the hollow west of Salem.

A copy of the secretary's report for Sunday, May3,1863, is as follows: "Number present, fifty-nine. After recitations the Sunday school was organized into a missionary society. Albert Mills was elected secretary and Julian Jones, treasurer. It was also elected that the subscription be taken every two weeks.

On April 29, 1866, we have the first mention of the State Sunday School Convention. On the following Sunday, William J. Morgan and Joshua M. Davis were elected delegates and they made their report of the convention to the Sunday school on June 17, 1866.

Either in the year 1882 1883 the church was remodeled while Rev. Woodruff was pastor. The pulpit was removed from the north end to the south end of the church and double doors cut in the north end and one of the south doors closed. The posts supporting the ceiling were removed at

this time or later. and stored in the attic in case they were ever needed.

The secretary's reports for the years between 1871 and 1888 have been lost if there were reports kept.

The copy of the secretary's report of Salem Methodist Episcopal Sunday school at this time is as follows. "Salem Sunday, July 8, 1888, hymn sung, prayer by Brother James Carter, Lesson found in Exodus, thirty-second chapter from fifteenth verse to twenty-sixth. Total number present, fifty-four and collection, twenty-five cents. Weather fine, school closed by singing.

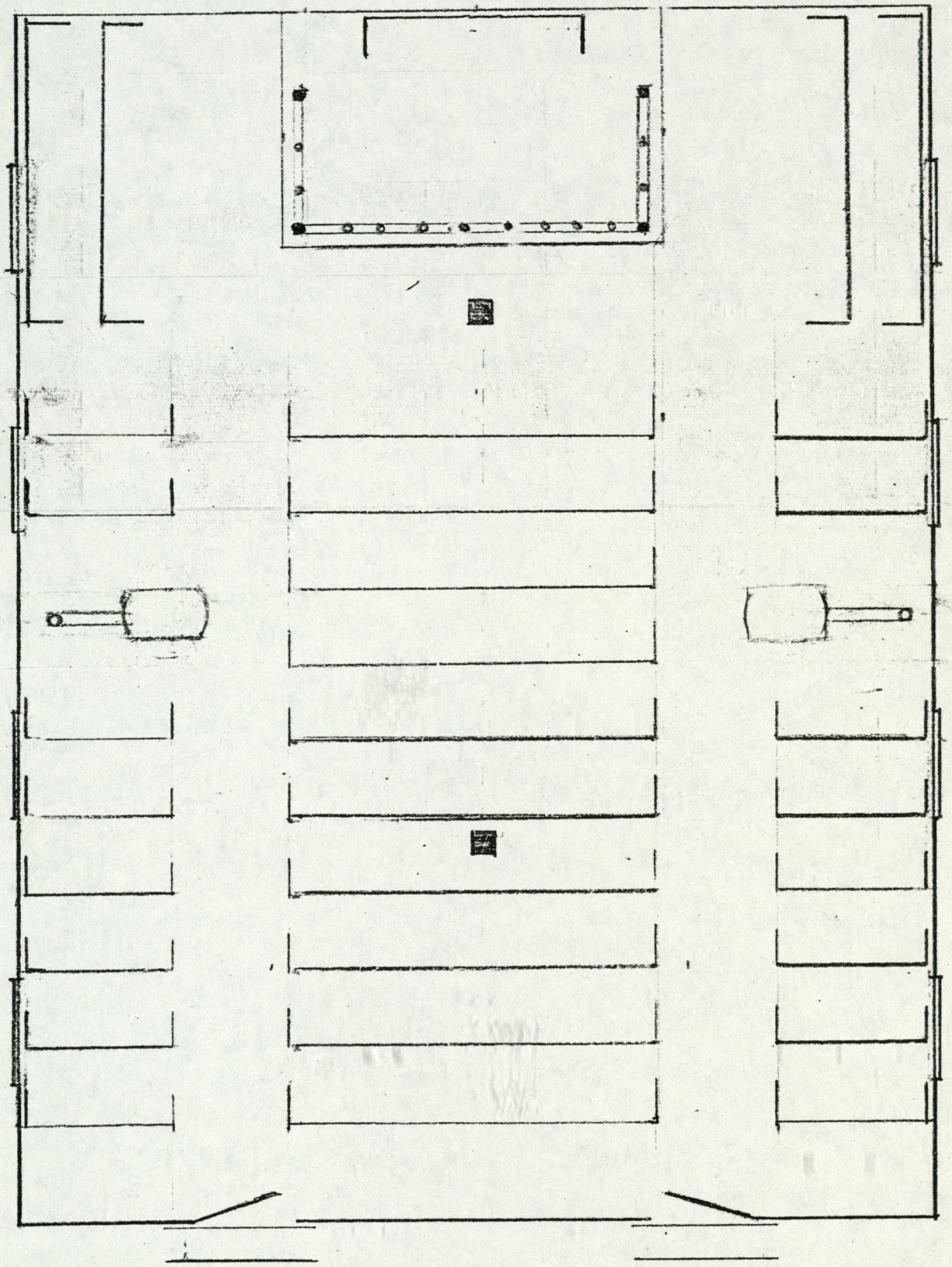
In July, 1888 an organ was purchased for the sum of one hundred dollars. This organ and one other, which was purchased later, served the church until a piano was bought in the year of 1923.

Also in the year of 1925 a Ladies Aid society was organized. This society has done much toward supporting the church. A few of the things which they have done are buying a furnace, building a chimney and papering the church.

Church members and people interested in the church subscribed money which was used in building the basement which was completed in 1927.

Salem now is an active rural church and with the help of our Creator to whom the founders of the church prayed during the raising of the first log church, may it continue to fulfill its purpose.

North



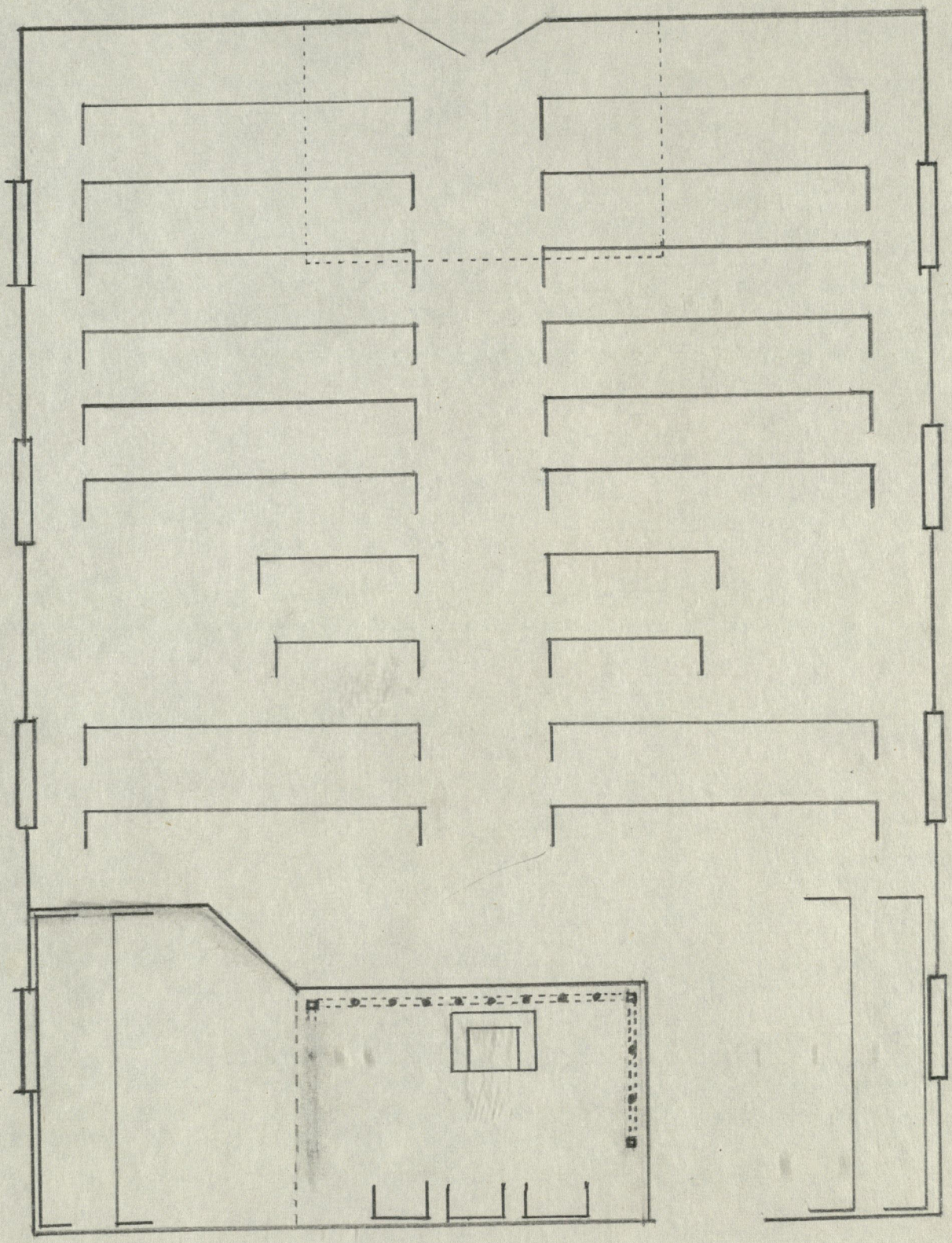
West

East

South

From date of erection to 1883.

North

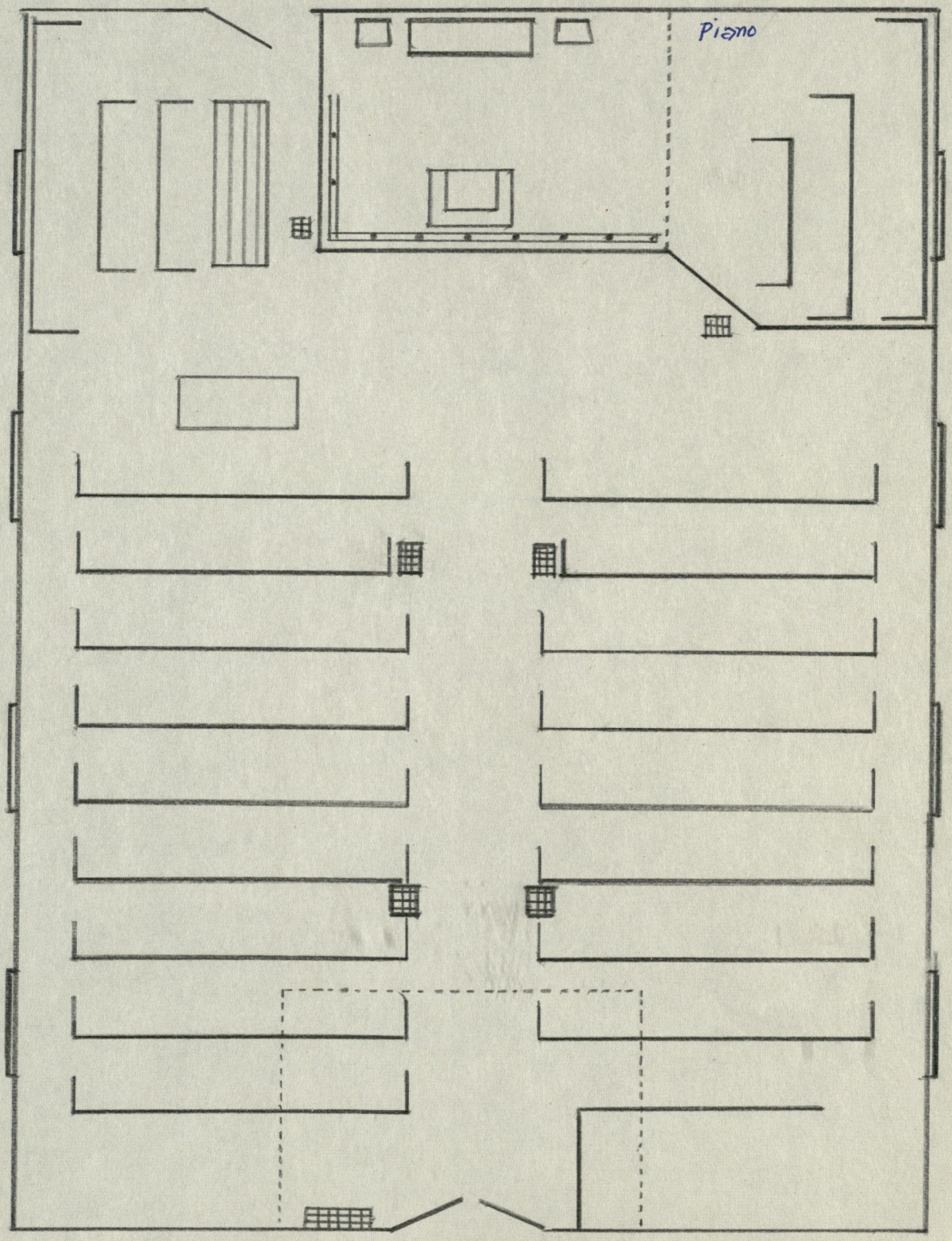


West

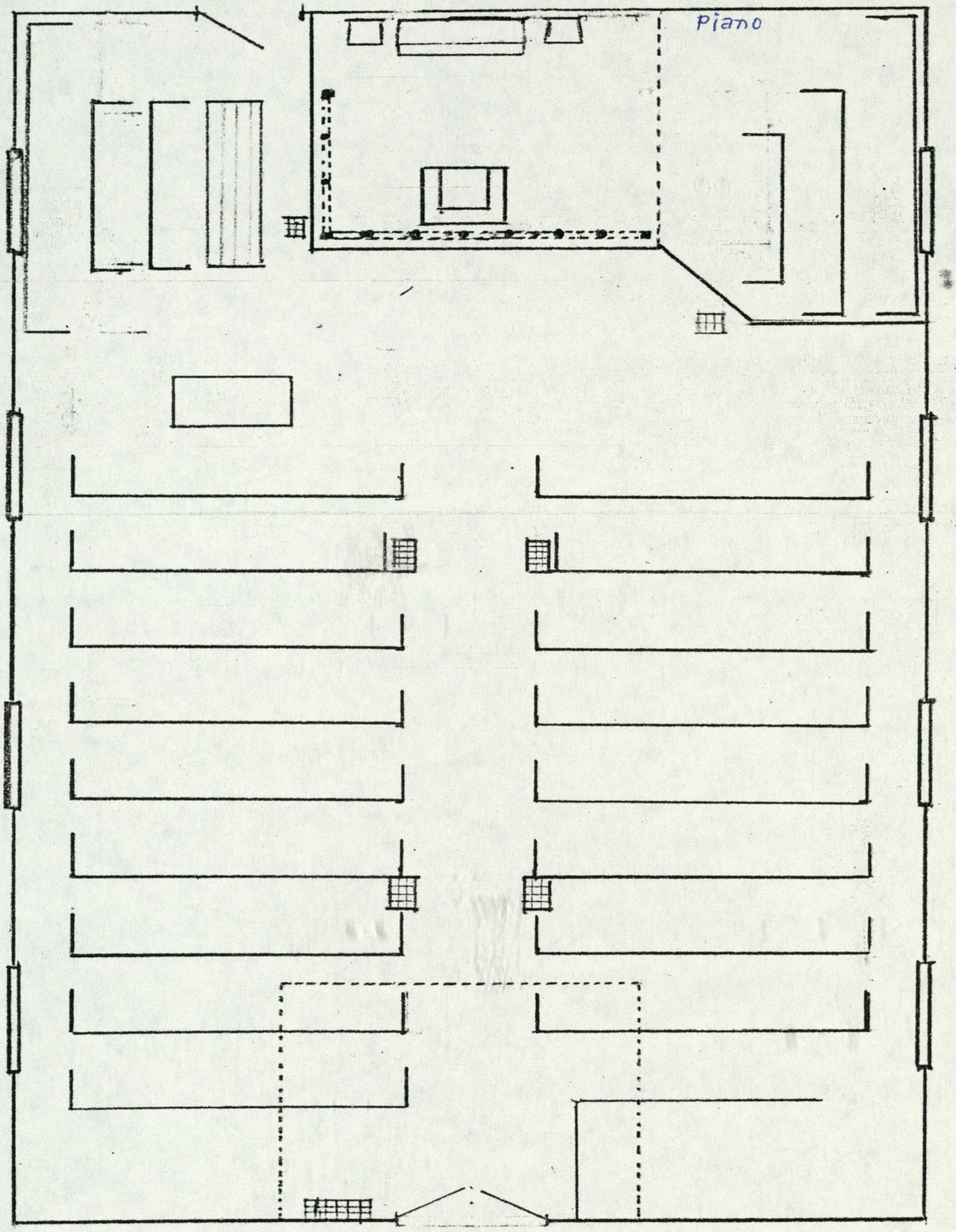
East

South

From 1907 to 1927
Basement put under


Piano

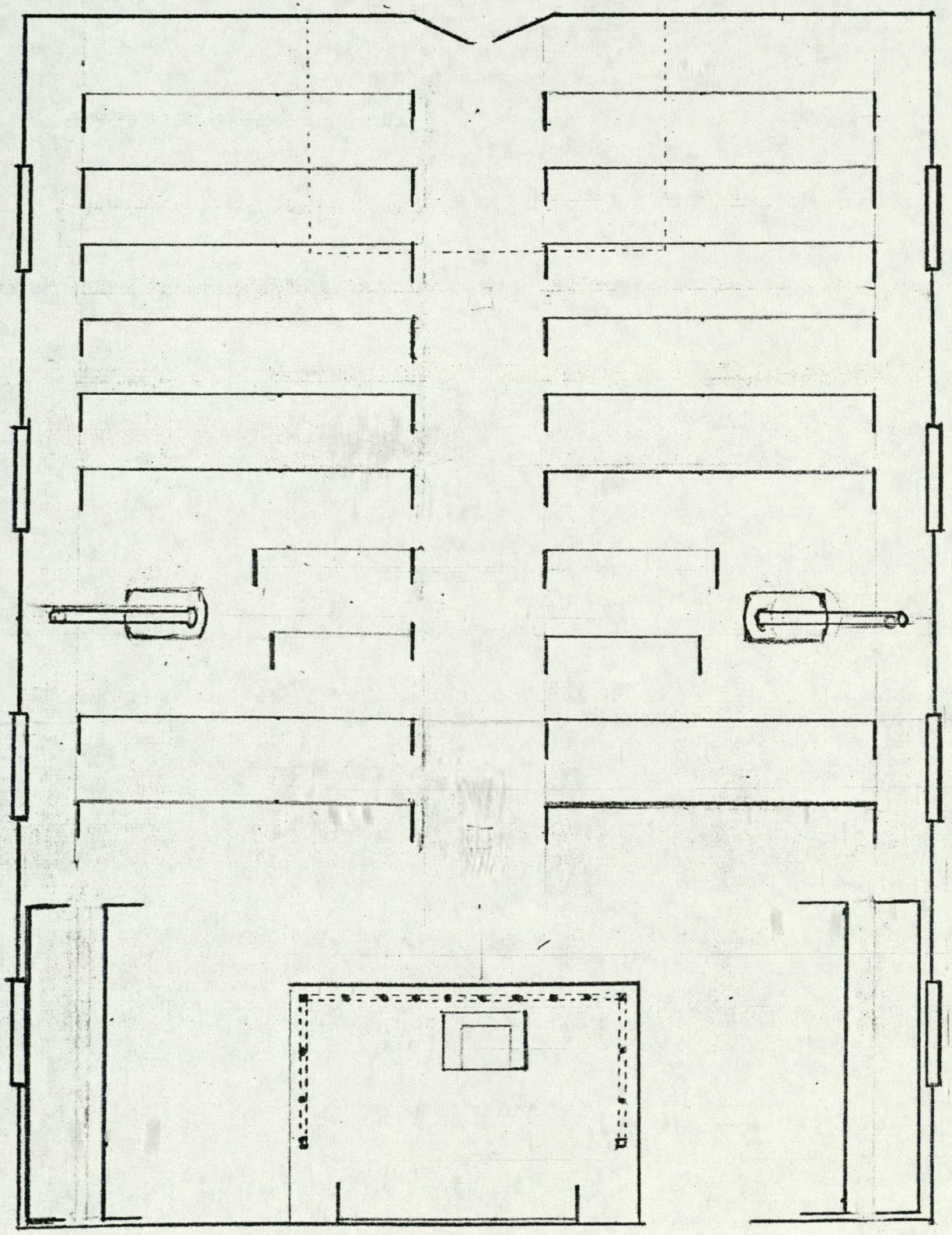
South



North

Floor arrangement after furnace was installed in the 1930s

North



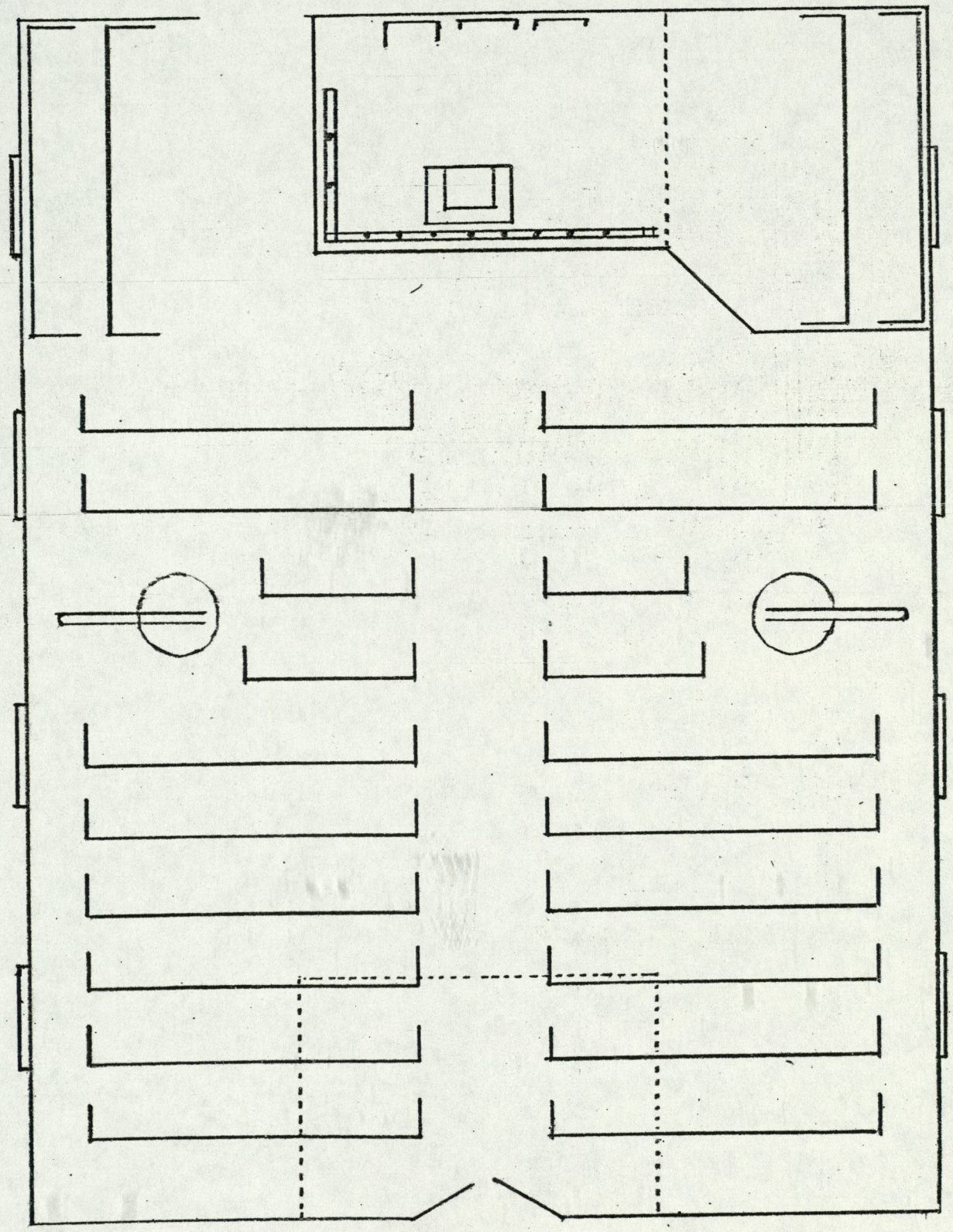
West

East

South

From 1883 - 1907

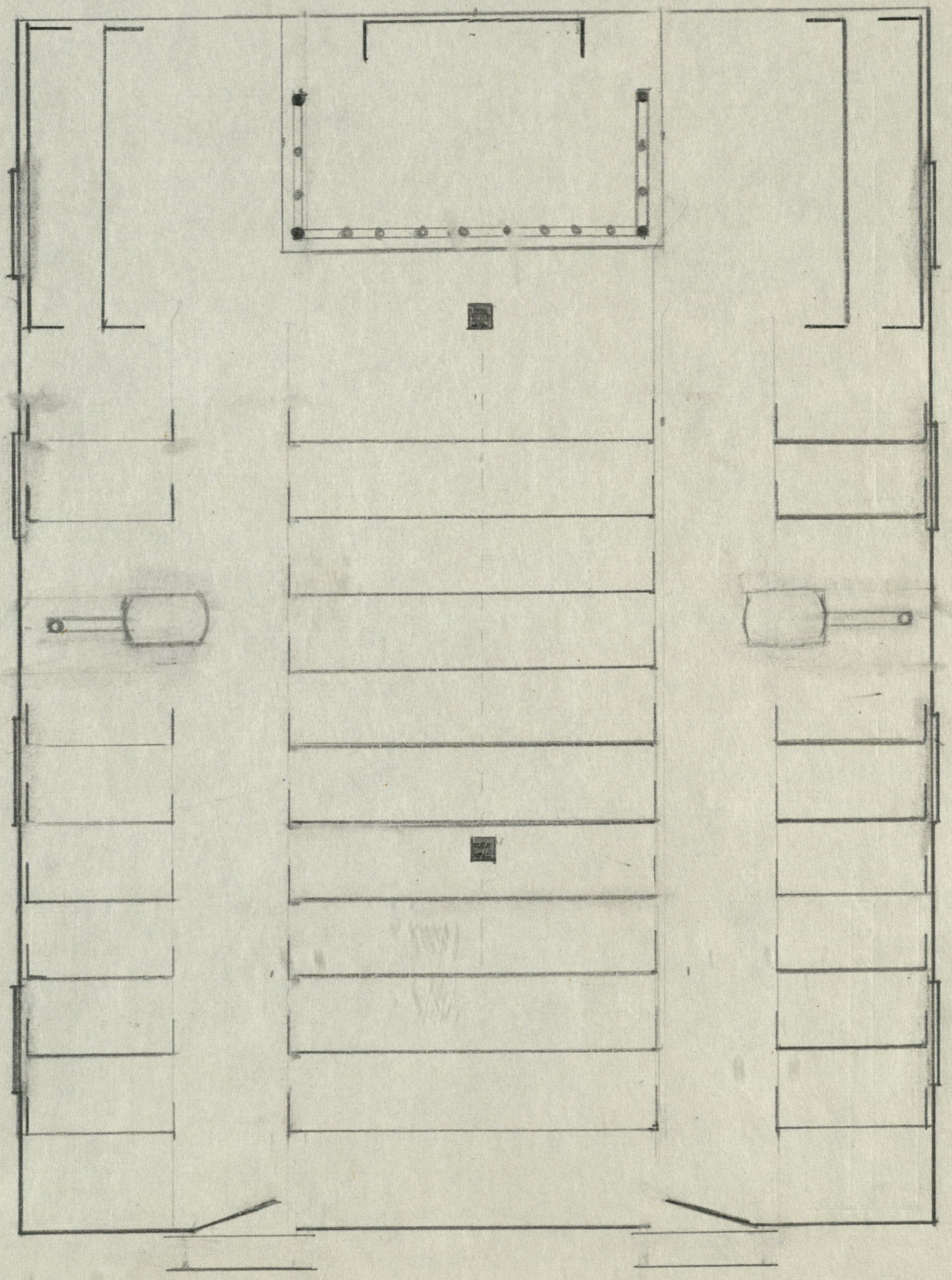
South



Floor plan after remodeling in 1907-08 (pulpit)

North

North



West

East

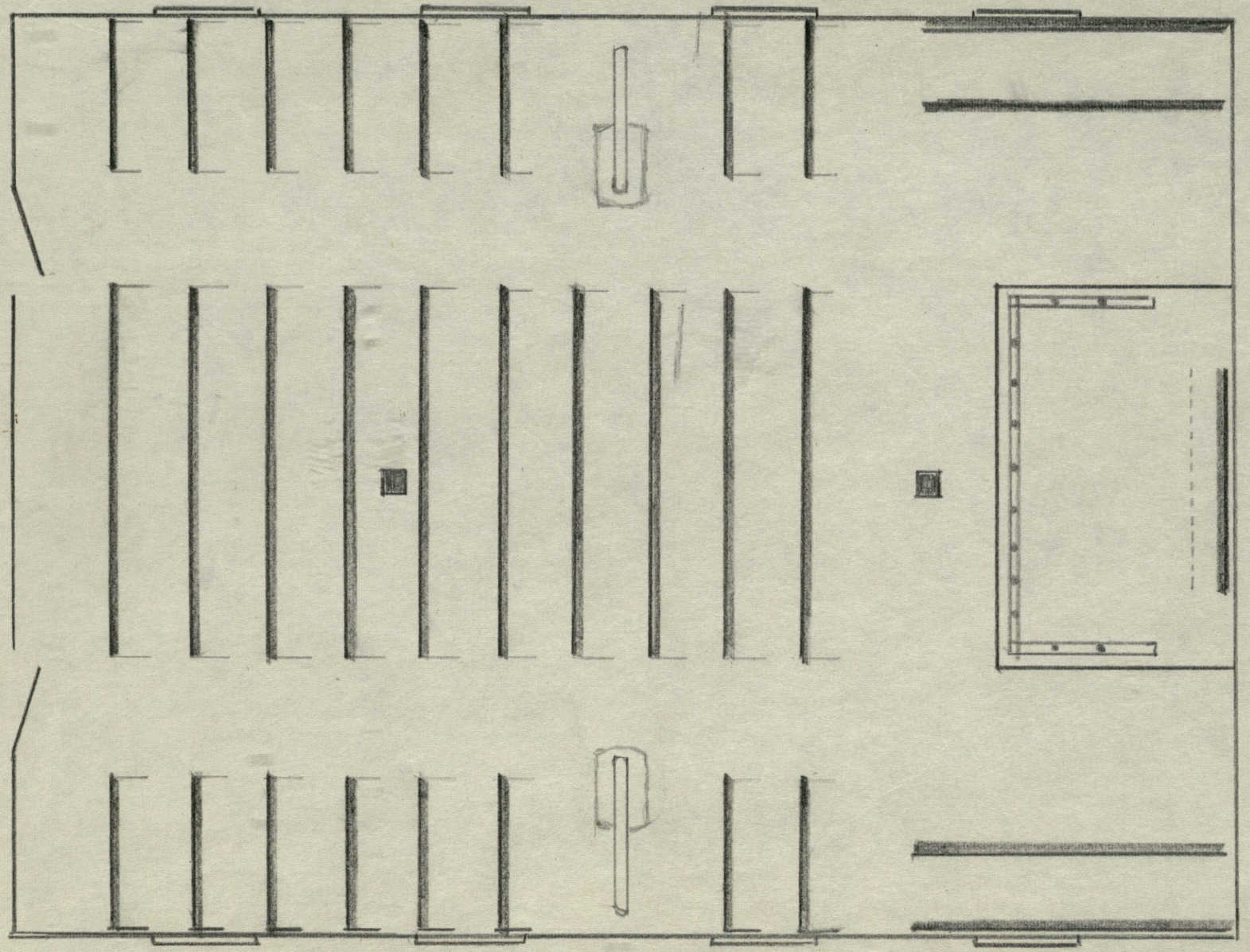
South

From date of erection to 1883.

West

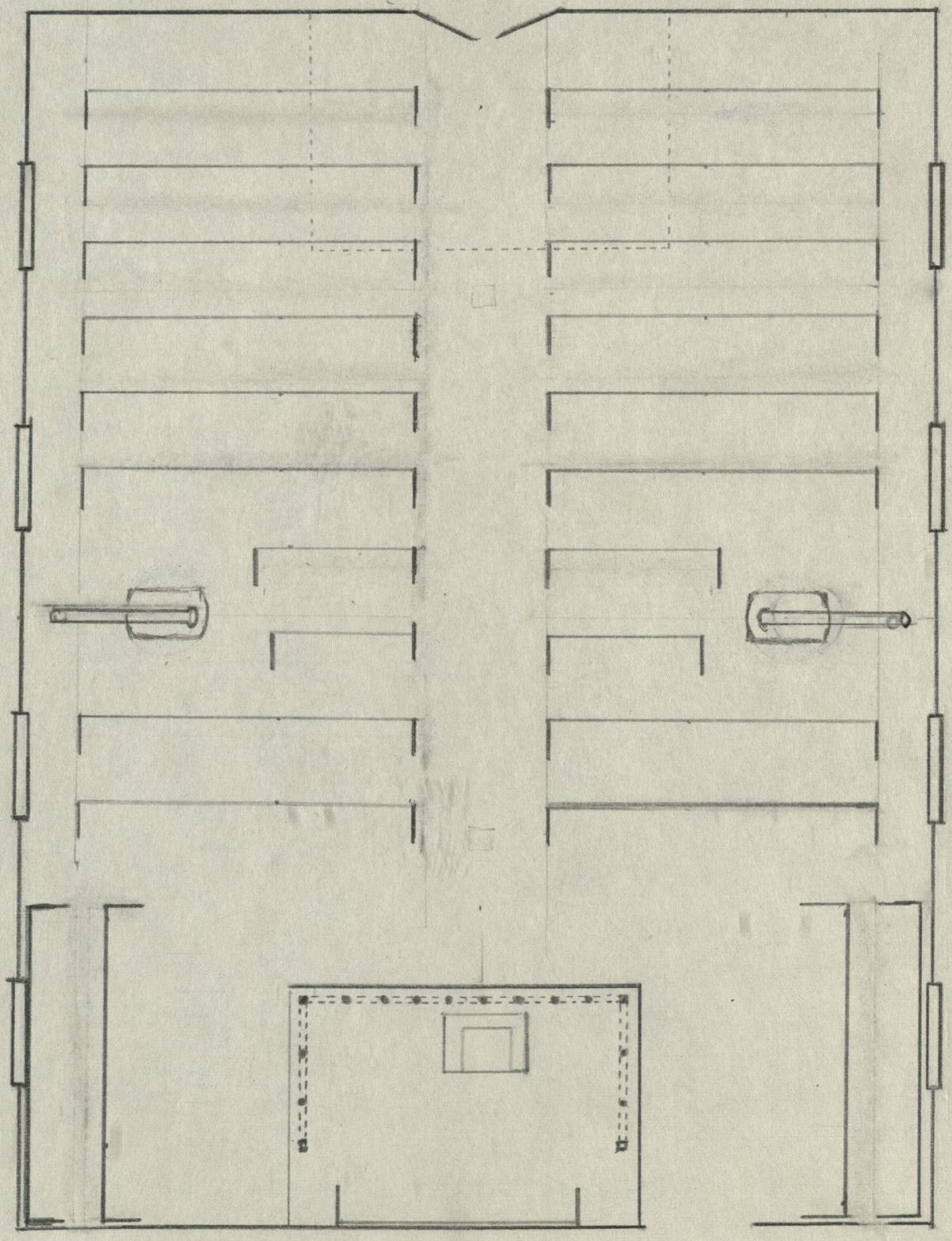
South

North



East

North

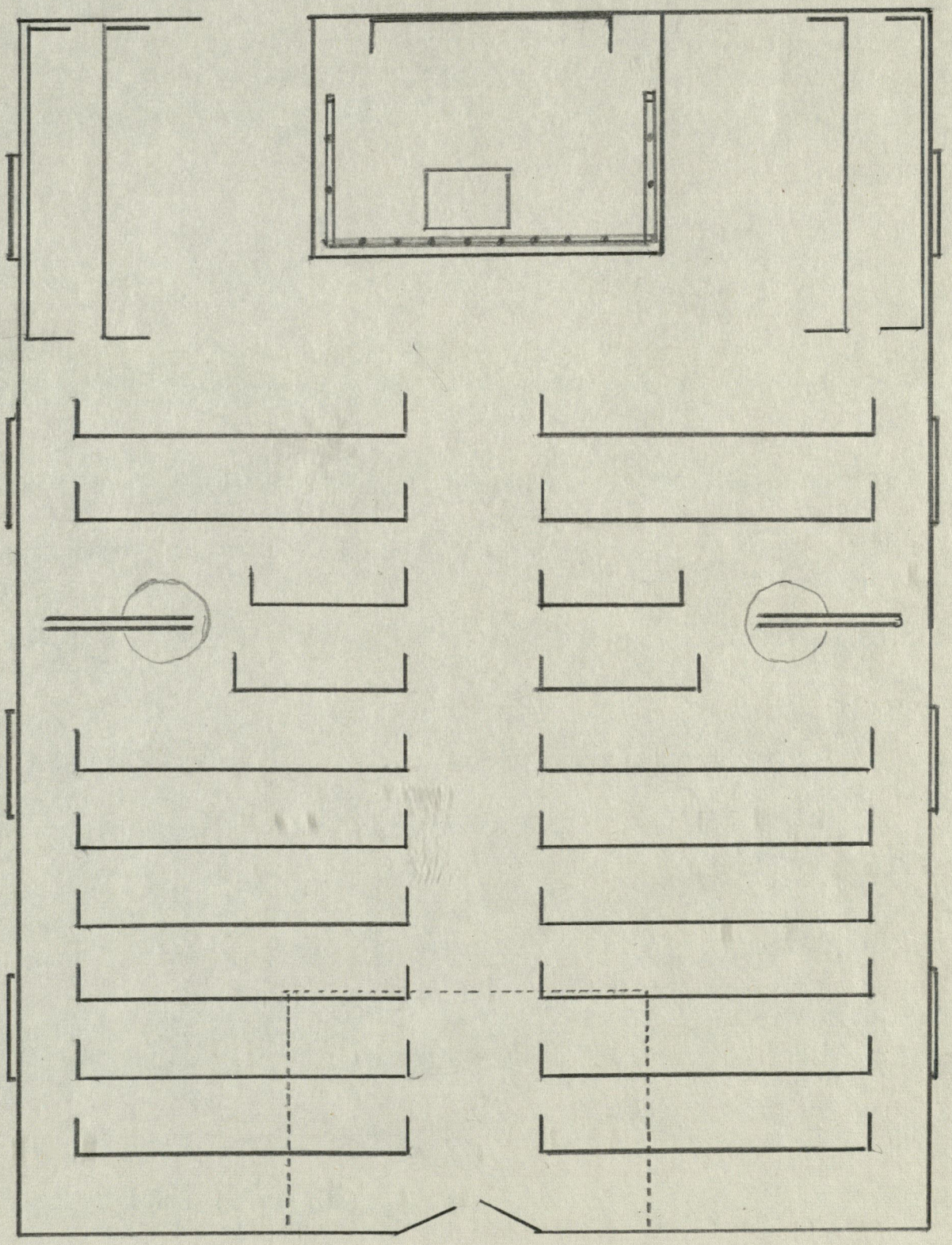


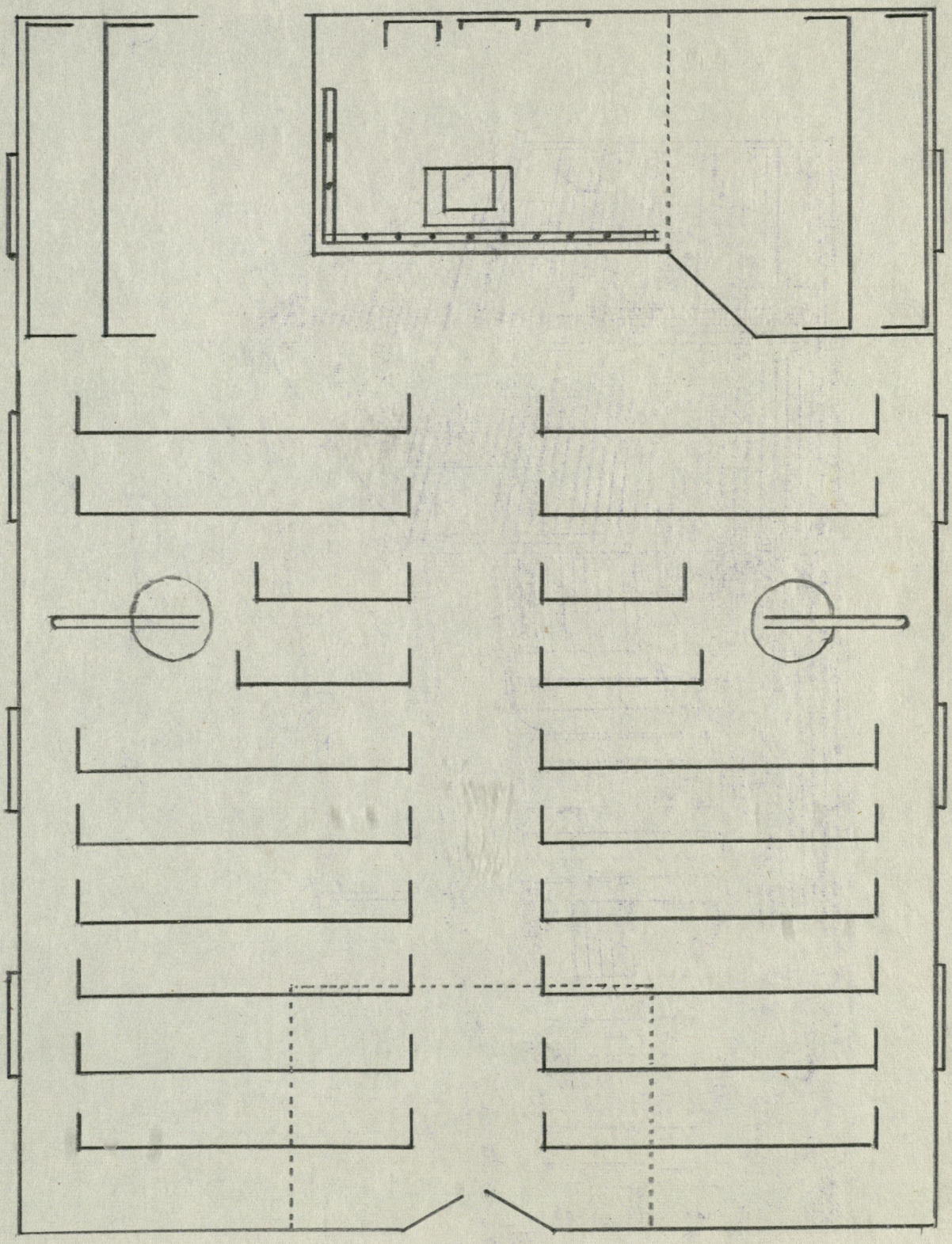
West

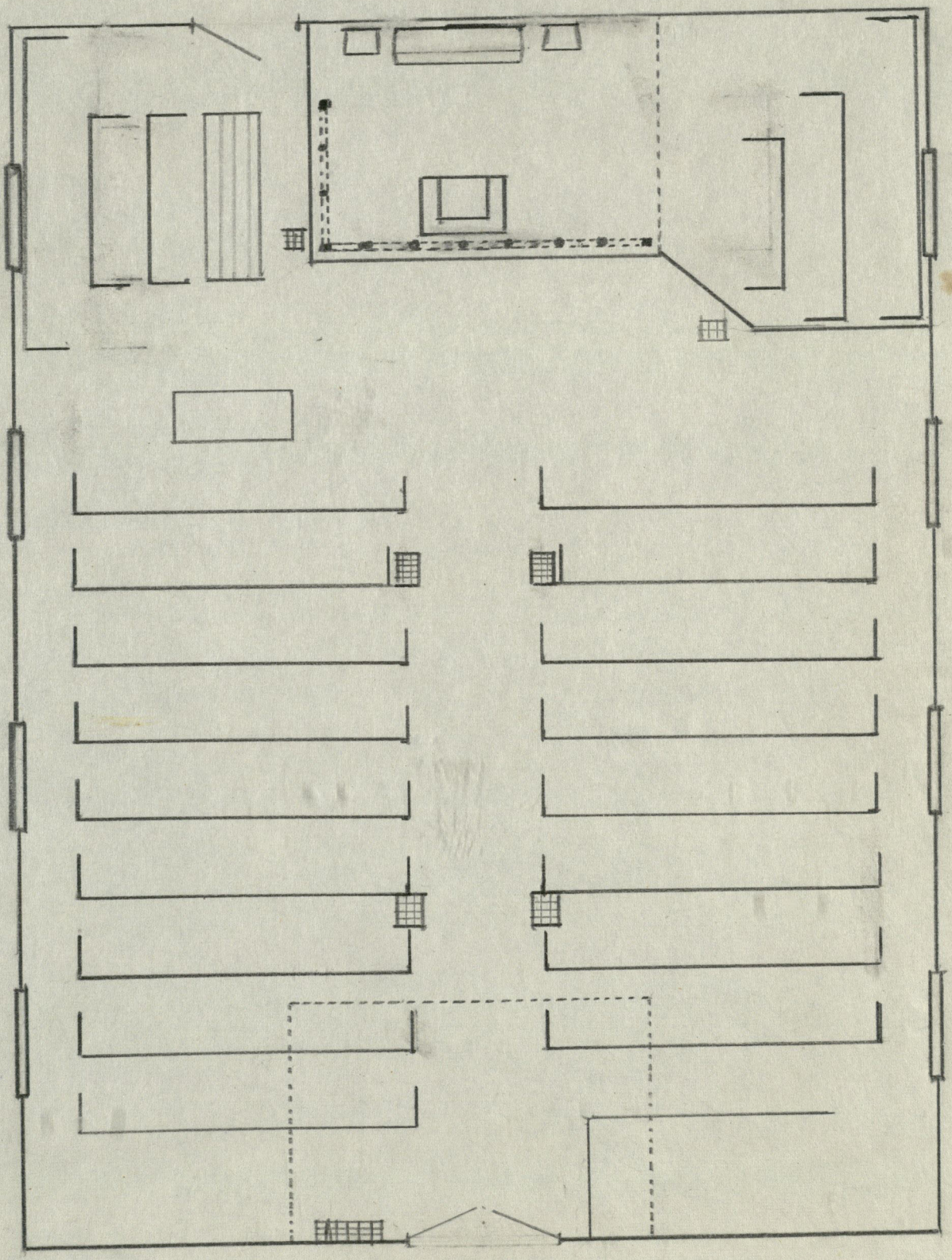
East

South

From 1883 - 1907







The Little Church at Huron City
by Edgar A. Guest

I wonder if God sees today
This little church wherein we pray?
I wonder if His eye detects
Amoung the churches man erects
With gilded domes and brazen spires:
With in the pomp of vested choirs
And marble altars; holy glass
Through which the rays of sunlight pass
This very small and humble place
To which we come to seek His grace?

I fancy often, sitting here
That God to us draws very near.
That He, too, sometimes steps aside
From all the larger things of pride
And Like us, slips away to be
Refreshed by cäämmsimplicity,
And comes to share the lovely boon
Of this our Sunday afternoon,
I've felt in some strange way God sees
Our little church amoung the trees.

I'm sure that God must like this spot
Where wealth and fame are boasted not;
Where wealth and fame are boasted not;
Where some of us long journeys make
To worship here for worship's sake:
Where faith is not a sham, and trust
Not something done because we must,
But all is simple and sincere
And all find strength and comfort here.
I'm very sure that God must see
This church and love it, as do we.

"Country Churches"
by
Alda B. White

The little country churches
That dot the rustic view--
Though small and unpretentious
Are peaceful havens, too.

The week of care and worry,
The burden, too, of sin,
Are left outside their portals,
For peace and rest within.

No dome or spire imposing,
Nor light from stained glass tall,
But bright and pure the sunbeams
Through plain glass windows fall.

No voice of hired singer
Is bourne upon the air,
But grateful hearts express the joy
Of those who gather there.

Oh, little country churches--
Like pure, white sails are seen,
Upon the oceans billows
Sailing in seas of green!

"Horse and Buggy Days"---E. Isenhour

Back in the horse and buggy days--
The days of long ago--
When people had old-fashioned ways
And things moved on quite slow,
It seems we had more time to pray,
More time God's word to search,
And quite a bit more time to stay,
In Sunday-school and church.

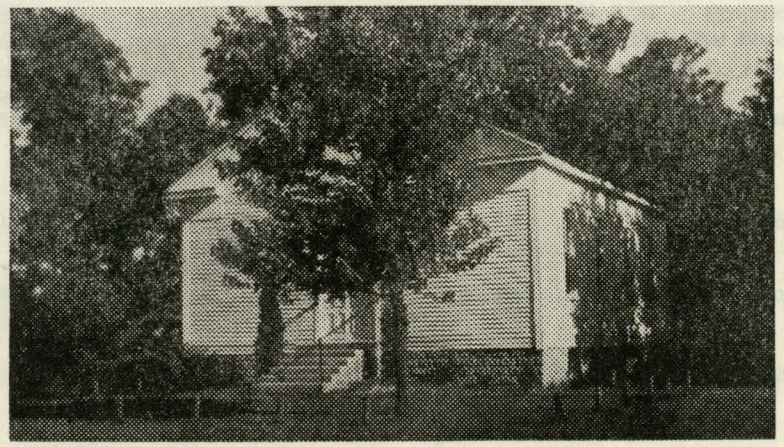
We had a lot of time to spend
In study, song, and praise;
A lot of precious time to lend
A helping hand to raise
Our sons and daughters in the right,
And settle them in truth,
That they might shun the things that blight,
And be a noble youth.

Back then the neighbors went about
To prove their love and grace;
They blessed and helped each other out
Along life's Christian race.
They visited from home to home
In sickness and in health,
And never sought so much to roam,
Or work or scheme for wealth.

Those far off days, we know, are gone
And things have changed around,
But God's good grace continues on
In spite of sight and sound;
Therefore, in spite of all the rush
Let's tarry, pray, and wait,
And when there is a blessed hush,
Hear God from heaven's gate.

33 rd. Annual Home - Coming
of
SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 1953



Rev. H. J. Propheter, Pastor

Mrs. Robert Low, President

Mrs. Rowena Cook, Secretary, Treasurer

Program

Song ..... "Faith of Our Fathers"

Congregation

Welcome ..... By President
Devotions ..... Rev. H. J. Propheter
Vocal Solo ..... "Oh, Pray For Peace"

Noritta Mitchell

Guitar Selections ..... Lannie Smoot, David Barker,
Roberta Rushton, Katie Rushton, John Martin, Judy Martin

Business Session

Piano Duet ..... "Flaming Stars"

Mary Belle Shuler and Janice Wells

Reading ..... "The Touch of the Master's Hand"

Betsey Devore

Vocal Solo ..... "My Task"

Noritta Mitchell

Accordion Selections ..... James N. Winkel of
Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music

Guest Speaker ..... Rev. Robert R. Rowland

Closing Song ..... "Blest Be the Tie"

Congregation

Benediction

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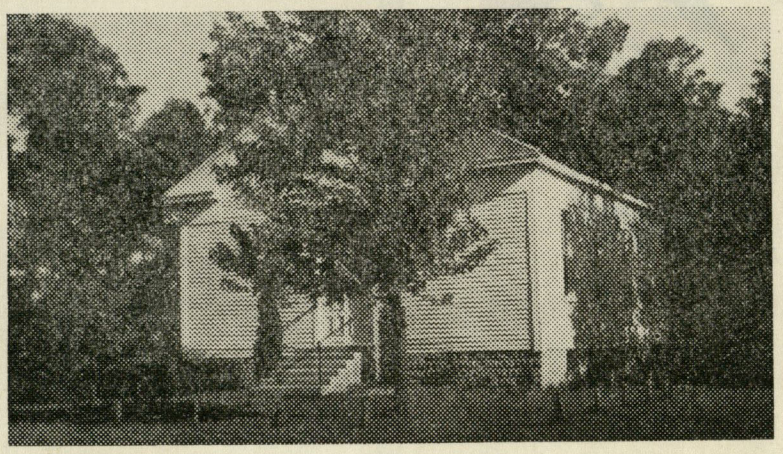

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SALEM CHURCH GROUP VISITS "OLD BETHEL"

1953

Sunday afternoon, November 21, Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie and members of the Salem congregation made a pilgrimage to the Old Bethel meeting house, now located on the grounds of the Gobin Memorial Methodist church in Greencastle, Indiana.

This historic meeting-house was an appropriate setting for the short Thanksgiving service held by the Salem group from two to three o'clock. Program and place, past and present blended, as the hewn log church brought to mind deeds and courage of early circuit riders, those indomitable religious leaders, that ever kept pace with the advancing frontier of pioneer days.

Within these brown log walls, that doubtlessly have witnessed much of Christmas fellowship and worship, the hymn "Faith of Our Fathers", by the congregation and the reading of the Psalm 100, by the pastor, Rev. McCallie, seemed especially significant.

Other features of this program were by Rev. William Hargrave and Rev. McCallie. Rev. Hargrave gave the history of the Old Bethel meeting-house from the time it was erected on the land of Nathan Robertson, by him and his four sons in 1807, in Southern Indiana, until the present time.

Rev. McCallie preached a challenging sermon, using as a text, the first verse of the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Joshua. Only those who have heard Rev. James D. McCallie preach, can know how ably and concisely he proclaims the Word of God.

There have been other individuals visit this Methodist Shrine, but the Salem group has been the first to make the pilgrimage. With considerable interest this one hundred forty-seven year old church was examined, for the first church at Salem must have been very similar.

One of the founders of the Salem Church was Evan Davis, great-grandfather of Wesley Davis, who lives a short distance north of Salem.

The Plainfield

Messenger Thursday, June 18, 1953

Salem Church Home - Coming Is Noteworthy

With almost perfect weather, old friends and members of the Salem church enjoyed their 33rd Home-Coming Sunday.

Guests were present from Amo, Clayton, Cartersburg, Monrovia, Mooresville, Indianapolis, Plainfield, North Vernon and the surrounding community.

An interesting feature of the day was a record of all but a few of the preachers and presiding elders who have served since the founding of the church in 1829. Mrs. Roy Pritchard of Amo compiled this record.

The wonderful program was climaxed by the timely message of Rev. Robert Rowland, pastor of North Vernon Methodist church. It was at Salem where he preached his first sermon and since that day it has been a shrine to him.

All present expressed an appreciation of the program and are looking forward to the 1954 Home-Coming.

New officers elected are as follows:

Pres. ..... Mrs. Albert Sheets
Vice Pres. ..... Mrs. Herbert Beck
Sec-Treas. .... Mrs. Ralph Coster

Program committee was Mrs. Robert Low, Mrs. Charles Rose, and Mrs. Lee Voorhis.

One who attended gave the following report of the affair: "Our Creator planted a church in the wilderness 124 years ago. At this church humanity has worshipped sorrowed, rejoiced and grown in Christian grace through the years; Sunday, June 14, we gathered again in His presence at the 33rd annual home-coming; His presence in the beautiful flowers, spoke peace and calm to every listening soul; music, one of God's greatest instruments, stirred every responsive heart; as the Rev. Rowland brought the inspiring message, our whole beings shifted anew to a higher plane of Christian experience and out of this meeting, two songs, especially, seem to be ringing, "He Lives" and "Whosoever Will, May Come."

Program

Song ..... "Faith of Our Fathers"

Congregation

Welcome ..... By President
Devotions ..... Rev. H. J. Propheter
Vocal Solo ..... "Oh, Pray For Peace"

Noritta Mitchell

Guitar Selections ..... Lannie Smoot, David Barker, Roberta Rushton, Katie Rushton, John Martin, Judy Martin

Business Session

Piano Duet ..... "Flaming Stars"

Mary Belle Shuler and Janice Wells

Reading ..... "The Touch of the Master's Hand"

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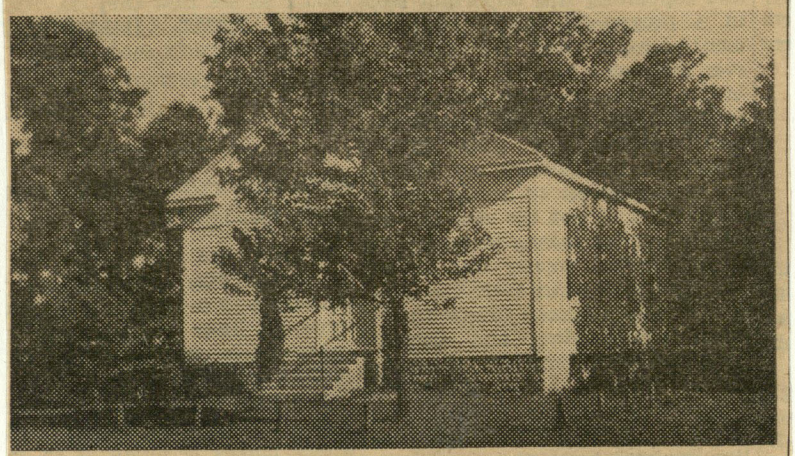
The Plainfield Messenger Thursday, June 11, 1953

Salem Church, Organized 1829, Home-Coming Sunday, June 14



The Salem Methodist church, organized 1829, will celebrate its 124th anniversary at its thirty-third annual Home-Coming next Sunday, June 14. A basket dinner will be served at noon following Sunday School and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the program will begin. Rev. Robert Rowland, pastor of the North Vernon Methodist church, former minister at Salem, will be the principal speaker.

Another outstanding feature of the program will be several accordion numbers by James N. Winkel, teacher of accordion at Arthur Jordan College of Music. Other numbers will have a place on the program, which has been arranged by a program committee, composed of Mrs. Herbert Beck, Mrs. Charles Rose and Mrs. Kenneth Devore. Mrs. Robert Low is president and Miss Rowena Cook, secretary of the Home-Coming organization.

Salem church is located south west of Plainfield about seven miles. It is one of Hendricks' County's oldest organizations of worship.

The Salem church had its beginning when Joshua Marshall, who owned and lived on the farm now owned by Guy Bresneham and formerly by Sumner Mitchell, was converted during a revival meeting in Putnam county in the spring of 1829. He then asked Rev. John Murser to come to his house in Hendricks County to preach in June of the same year. Seven joined the church at this meeting. Three weeks later he came and seven more joined the church. This a Methodist society was formed in the settlement where Salem is now located.

In August of the same year eight men met and decided upon a suitable place upon which to build a house of worship. In this undertaking they acknowledged their need of divine help and humbly knelt in prayer before God every morning before beginning the day's work.

On the 28th day of December 1829 Joshua Marshall and Mary, his wife, legally conveyed the three acres and four rods for the consideration of $6.00.

The first building was made of hewed logs. Some time near 1850 the present church was built, most of labor and material being donated. The first Sunday School of which there is a record was April 1,1853. Either in the year 1882 or 1883 the church was remodeled. A basement was completed in 1927.

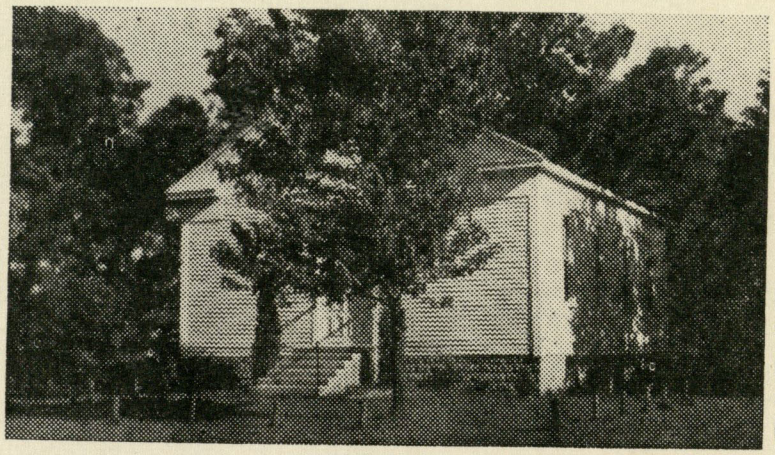
It is the hope of the present congregation that this little white church on the hill will continue in its worship services and so honor those who built that first log building and pay tribute to all who have faithfully kept it alive through the years.

34th Annual Home-Coming

of

Salem Methodist Church

SUNDAY, JUNE 13, 1954



Rev. James McCallie, Pastor

Mrs. Albert Sheets, President

Mrs Ralph Coster, Secretary

Program

Song ---------- "There Is A Fountain"
Congregation

Welcome ---------- By President
Devotions ---------- Rev. James McCallie
Vocal Duet ---------- "Rock of Ages"

Bernard Mayo
Virginia Swift

"BUSINESS SESSION"

Instrumental Selections ---------- Brass Trio
Rev. Leroy Rusher
Rev. James McCallie
David Stout

Reading ---------- "Country Church"
Mrs. Ralph Coster

Accordion Selections ---------- Tressia Secrest
Vocal Solo ---------- "How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings"
Noritta Mitchell

Reading ---------- Jane Newlin
Vocal Duet ---------- "On Lifes Highway
"Memory Lane"

Bernard Mayo
Virginia Swift

Guest Speaker ---------- Rev. H. W. Criswell
Pastor of Mooresville First Methodist Church

Instrumental Selections ---------- Brass Trio
Rev. Leroy Rusher
Rev. James McCallie
David Stout

Closing Song ---------- "Faith of Our Fathers"
Congregation

Benediction

BRIEF HISTORY 1954

The Salem church had its beginning when Joshua Marshall, who owned and lived on the farm now owned by Guy Bresneham and formerly by Sumner Mitchell, was converted during a revival meeting in Putnam county in the spring of 1829. He then asked Rev. John Murser to come to his house in Hendricks County to preach in June of the same year. Seven joined the church at this meeting. Three weeks later he came and seven more joined the church. Thus a Methodist society was formed in the settlement where Salem is now located.

In August of the same year eight men met and decided upon a suitable place upon which to build a house of worship. In this undertaking they acknowledged their need of divine help and humbly knelt in prayer before God every morning before beginning the day's work.

On the 28th day of December 1829 Joshua Marshall and Mary, his wife, legally conveyed the three acres and four rods for the consideration of $6.00.

The first building was made of hewed logs. Some time near 1850 the present church was built, most of labor and material being donated. The first Sunday School of which there is a record was April 1,1853. Either in the year 1882 or 1883 the church was remodeled. A basement was completed in 1927.

It is the hope of the present congregation that this little white church on the hill will continue in its worship services and so honor those who built that first log building and pay tribute to all who have faithfully kept it alive through the years.

BRIEF HISTORY

The Salem Methodist Church was organized in 1829 and the first church, a log one, was built that same year, at the present location

It was organized in "Circuit Rider" days and experienced the substantial growth usual during the "Camp Meeting" years, and has continued to survive and serve throughout the one hundred thirty years of its existence.

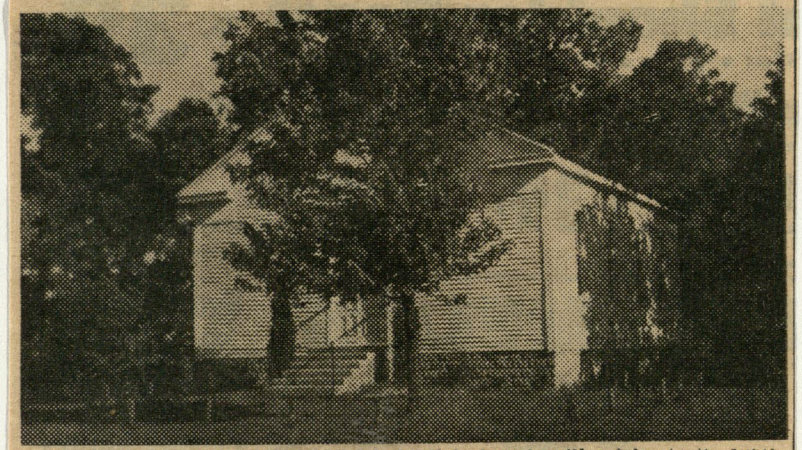
One hundred seven preachers have been assigned as pastors. Salem has been in six different districts, with thirteen changes from one to another district. It has been attached to seven different circuits with sixteen changes. Forty district superintendents have had charge of the districts to which Salem has belonged.

Salem's influence through the years cannot be measured. Neither can its potential, for the future, be gauged.

George Johnson, President
Mrs. Roy Pritchard, Secretary

1954

Salem Church Celebrates 125th Anniversary and Thirty-fourth Homecoming Sunday June 13



Organized in 1829, the Salem Methodist church will celebrate its 125th anniversary at its thirty-fourth annual home coming on Sunday, June 13, according to announcement made this week by Myrtle Sheets, president and Sarah J. Coster, secretary of the Home coming organization. Following the morning worship service and Sunday School a basket dinner will be served and at 2 o'clock in the afternoon a program will be presented with the Rev. H. W. Criswell as the guest speaker. The worship service is at 9:00, Sunday School at 10:00 A. M. DST.

Salem church is located southwest of Plainfield about seven miles and is one of Hendricks County's oldest churches. It had its beginning in 1829 when Joshua Marshall, who then owned the farm on which the church is located, was converted in a revival meeting in Putnam County. Following his conversion he asked the Rev. John Murser to come to his home in Hendricks County to preach. That was in June of the same year. Seven joined the church during that meeting and three weeks later when he returned another seven joined the group and thus a Methodist Society was formed in the community.

In August of the same year eight men met and decided on a location for a church building. In this undertaking they acknowledged their need of divine help and each morning knelt in prayer before God before beginning the day's work. On

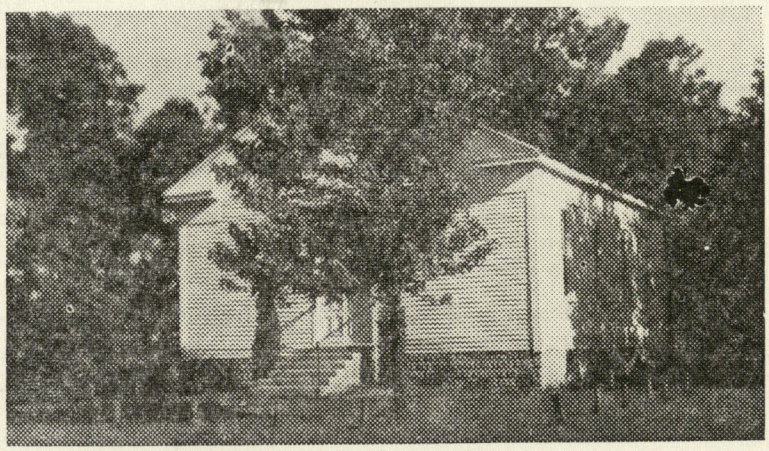
(Continued on page 5)

35th Annual Home-Coming

of

Salem Methodist Church

Sunday, June, 12, 1955



Rev. James McCallie, Pastor

Claire J. Sellars, President

Mrs. Berneice Mitchell, Secretary

GREETINGS FROM BISHOP RAINES

To The Members of The Salem Methodist Church

Dear Friends:

My warmest congratulations and best wishes to you today on your Homecoming Celebration. Today your hearts should be filled to overflowing with joy, and with the deep satisfaction that comes from a work well done.

As old friendships are renewed by the coming of former pastors and members, the Methodists of your Conference, and from over the Indiana Area, send, through me, cordial greetings, congratulations, and the earnest hope that your Church may have an even more fruitful ministry for Christ than the splendid yesterdays provided.

I am sure that all who have sacrificed, given and labored, and who have knelt in prayer in behalf of the Salem Methodist Church in the past have already received in their hearts the commendation of Christ.

May June 12th be a great and glorious day for you all—the beginning of even greater, and finer days ahead.

I wish it were possible for Mrs. Raines and me to be with you personally.

Most cordially yours,

Richard C. Raines

PROGRAM

Song ---------- "When The Roll is Called" — 145

Congregation

Welcome ---------- President, Claire Sellars

Piano Solo ---------- Grenda Hobson

Devotional ---------- Rev. James D. McCallie

Solo ---------- Norrita Mitchell

BUSINESS SESSION

Solo ---------- Howard Pritchard

Instrumental Trio ---------- Brass Trio

Rev Leroy Rusher

Rev. James McCallie

David Stout

Sermon ---------- Dr. John W. Goodpasture

Solo ---------- Howard Pritchard

REMINISCENCES

Closing Song ---------- "Bless Be The Tie" — 65

Congregation

Benediction

BRIEF HISTORY

In the year 1829, as the result of Methodist Preaching, and subsequent conversions, there was a Methodist class formed, in the community now known as Salem. This class met in the cabin of Joshua and Mary Marshall.

In August of that year, by appointment, Joshua Marshall, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Nathan Meridith, Thomas Harper, Nathan Snodgrass, and Andrew Fultz, met to select a spot, upon which to build a "meeting-house".

The site of the present church was chosen, probably, partly due to its central location to the cabins of the members. Having made their decision, these eight pioneer men stood in the virgin forest on that day in August almost a hundred twenty-six years ago, and Joshua Marshall said, "As we are about to build a church, we had better kneel and pray".

Evan Davis answered, "Agreed. Brother Marshall will pray." And this they did, every morning before beginning their day's work on the meeting-house.

Finally, when they had their logs hewn and on the ground they gave out word that a church was to be raised on a certain day—with a general invitation for assistance.

This was done in the presence of an "assembled multitude", for the settlers of the surrounding country, whether Methodists, Quakers or Baptists, came to raise the meeting-house, and put on the clapboard roof.

About this time Evan Davis built a saw mill on White Lick, and sawed the lumber for seating and flooring.

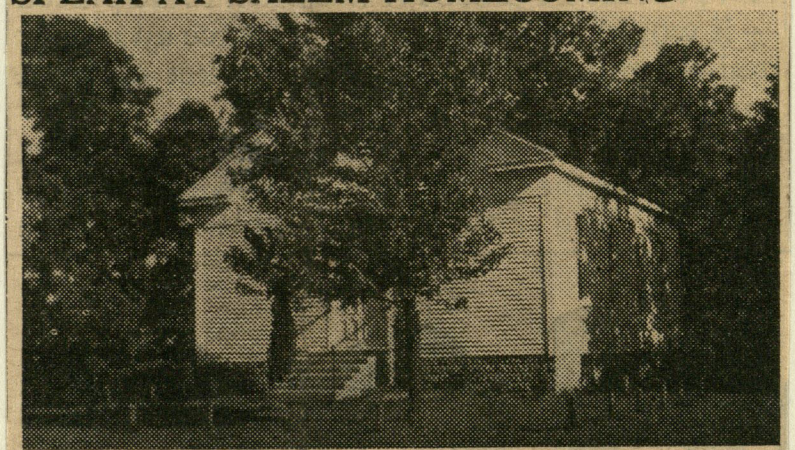
By Christmas there were seventy-five members in this Methodist Society. On December the twenty-eighth, Joshua Marshall and Mary, his wife deeded the three acres and four rods, upon which the meeting-house was built, to the first trustees, namely: George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, and Daniel Roberts.

Rev. Joseph Tarkington was the first circuit rider appointed to the White Lick circuit after the Salem Society was organized and the log meeting house built, and he headed a long list of over one hundred itinerant preachers who have served the church through its days, in the log meeting-house, and from about 1850 on, in the present frame building. Through these one hundred twenty-six years, these preachers have come, have served—one, two, or three years, and have been sent on to work elsewhere.

But the church remains; its effectiveness is measured, to some degree, by the loyalty, co-operation and earnestness of the people of the congregation and community, where it's "meeting-house" sits by the side of the road, reminding any and all, of Christ's message, "Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

The Plainfield Messenger, Thursday June 9, 1955

DR. JOHN W. GOODPASTURE WILL SPEAK AT SALEM HOMECOMING



The 126-year-old Salem Methodist church will hold its thirty-fifth annual home-coming next Sunday, June 12 with morning and afternoon services with a basket dinner at noon.

The pastor, Rev. James D. McCallie, will bring the morning message and Dr. John W. Goodpasture of Gary, who was pastor three years, will preach the afternoon sermon. Among other special numbers will be vocal solos by Miss Norrita Mitchell and Howard L. Pritchard.

Beginning in September, 1928, Dr. John Goodpasture was pastor of the Salem church three years, and indelibly impressed both young and old of his congregation with his remarkably strong Christian characteristics of compassion, humbleness, dignity and humor.

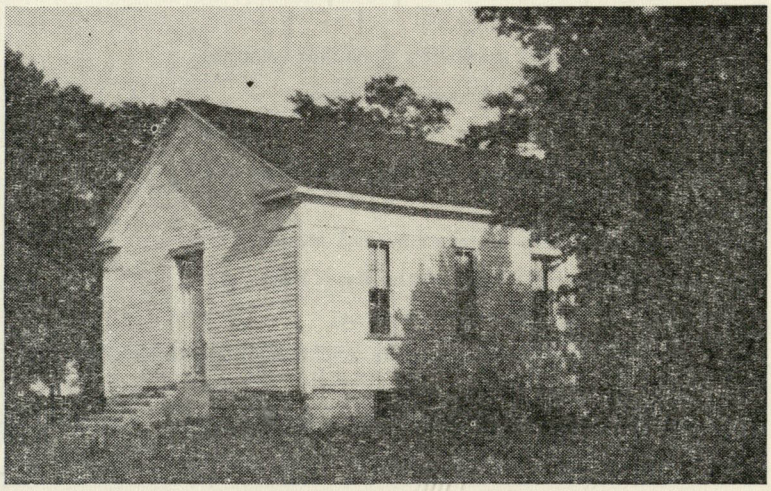
During his pastorate at Salem, Dr. Goodpasture was a student at Central Normal College at Danville and later attended Garrett Biblical Institute at Evanston, Illinois.

36th Annual Homecoming

of

Salem Methodist Church

Sunday, June 10, 1956



Rev. Judge Watson, Pastor

Mrs. Claire J. Sellars, Secretary

"The Country Church"

by Helena Kay

This is no moss-grown sanctuary here,
That cowers underneath the tree and vine
As though the lashing of the rain to fear,
And white-faced tremble at the mild wind's whine.

Aloof it stands, its sturdy shoulders squared,
Courageous as the pioneering hand
That felled the wood, the swampy woodland bared
And wrought a harvest from unyielding land.

No marvel here of masonry and stone,
No beauty that could set the heart afire.
Upon a little hill it rests alone
And God-ward reaches with a cloud-brushed spire.

Yet he that toils in the fields without surcease
Lifts up his eyes, and seeing—there finds peace.

—Christian Herald, June 1948

Program

Song ---------- Congregation

Welcome ---------- Vice President

Devotional ---------- Rev. Judge Watson

Solo ---------- Norrita Mitchell

BUSINESS SESSION

Piano Solo ---------- Grenda Hobson

Sermon ---------- Rev. John Suttenfield

Solo ---------- Howard Pritchard

Selected ---------- W. A. Rushton

REMARKS — REMINISCENCES — OBSERVATIONS

Special Music ---------- Selected

Closing Song ---------- Congregation

Benediction ---------- Pastor

RINGSIDE IN HOOSIERLAND

Indianapolis News June 6, 1956

Salem Church to Pay Tribute to Founders

By WAYNE GUTHRIE

When the "Little White Church On the Hill" holds its 36th annual home-coming Sunday its members will review with pride its enviable record of 127 years of service to the spiritual needs of that community.

It is the Salem Methodist Church, located in Liberty Township, southeastern Hendricks County.

What a heritage it has established! Among those who have worshipped and worked there are some persons who have contributed so valiantly and so unselfishly to the development and growth of that region.

Guthrie

Those early homesteaders, in common with others of all faiths who migrated to Hoosier spots, brought with them something more than sheer hope and intrepid ambition.

They had an unshakable religious faith, a staunch conviction. One of their first acts was to provide for a place to worship.

I am told, for example, that when the Methodist Society was formed there is 1829 the founders as a whole had lived there only about 2½ years.

Formation of that society took place at the home of Joshua Marshall, who had joined the Methodist church earlier that year at a meeting held by Rev. John Murser in Putnam County. Marshall had requested Rev. Murser to come and preach at his Hendricks County home.

The minister accepted and made two visits, the ultimate result being the society.

The eight organizers met and selected as the site for the first house of worship—a log church — the pleasing knoll where the present white frame church has stood since it replaced the log structure about 1850.

In the case of both most of the labor and material were donated.

Indicative of the faith those men possessed Marshall said as they prepared to build the log church:

"As we are about to build a church we had better kneel and pray."

"Agreed," replied Evan Davis, one of the group, "Bro. Marshall will pray."

And, so they prayed, just as they did at the beginning of each day during the construction of the building. When time came for the church to be raised and with the logs hewn and lying around on the ground, a "general invitation of assistance" was issued.

Baptists and Friends (Quakers) as well as Methodist answered that invitation and representatives of all those faiths joined hands to erect the church.

SITE FOR CHURCH ACQUIRED FOR $4

For the paltry sum of $4 Marshall and his wife on December 28, 1829, conveyed the 3-acre-plus tract to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

As far as known records go, the first Sunday school was held April 1, 1853. The first remodeling of the present church occurred in 1882 or 1883. Then in 1927 a basement was added.

Mrs. Roy Pritchard, Amo, who has prepared an interesting history of that congregation, said the probable reason for the church being called Salem instead of being named for some family or individual, as some were, was that it was built so promptly after the society's organization.

For some 30 years camp meetings, held on a 5-acre wooded tract north of and across the road from the church, were unforgettable events for some 30 years, before 1837 and even after 1859. This religious encampment, which lasted several days, was held for all the churches in that circuit and attracted people from great distances.

Nearby is the cemetery where sleep many of those who have played such prominent roles in the church's history, including some of the founders and six soldiers.

So, an interesting saga in Indiana religious service in general and Methodism activity in particular can be reviewed by those who travel back Sunday to help observe the annual home-coming of the "Little White Church on the Hill."

36TH ANNUAL HOMECOMING AT SALEM CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY

Messenger June 1956

Next Sunday the congregation of the Salem Methodist church will be host to the thirty-sixth annual home-coming of one of the oldest Methodist churches in Hendricks County and the pastor, Rev. Judge Watson, and members of the congregation are looking forward to a red letter occasion. The guest speaker will be Rev. John Suttenfield of the Mooresville Christian church and special music will be provided by Miss Norritta Mitchell, Miss Grenda Hobson and Howard Pritchard. There will be time for special remarks, reminiscences and observations concerning the work of the church, past, present and future.

The day's program will begin with the Sunday School at 9:30 a.m. followed by a worship service at 10:30, a basket dinner at noon and a program of remembrance at 2 o'clock. The public will find a warm welcome at the doors of the Salem church.

HOME COMING AT SALEM CHURCH IS HAPPY ONE

The thirty-sixth annual home coming at the Salem Methodist church southeast of Plainfield was a happy one as present and former members and pastors gathered to worship, eat together and recall happenings of the past. The pastor, Rev. Judge Watson, preached the morning sermon and the afternoon address was given by Rev. John Suttenfield of the Mooresville Christian church. Special music was given by Norrita Mitchell, Howard Pritchard and Grenda Hobson and brief talks were made by former members including remarks by W. A. Rushton of Plainfield.

The Salem church has an interesting history which began in 1829 when a convert from Terre Haute conducted services and several conversions were made. As a result of his preaching a Methodist class was formed, which met in the cabin of Josephua and Mary Marshall. In August of the same year, by appointment, Josephua Marshall, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Nathan Meridith Thomas Harper, Nathan Snodgrass and Andrew Fultz, met to select a site upon which to build a "meeting house". The site of the present church was chosen and there its worshippers have gathered for 127 years. Having reached a decision, these eight pioneer men stood in the virgin forest and at the suggestion of Mr. Marshall, knelt and prayed on that day in August before they hewed the first log for the original structure. Each morning they held a prayer service before they started work and finally, when all the logs were hewn they announced the day for the church to be "raised" with an invitation to all in the community to assist.

The records say that "This was done in the presence of an 'assembled Multitude' for the settlers of the surrounding country, whether Methodists, Quakers or Baptist, came to raise the meeting-house and put on the clapboard roof". About this same time Evan Davis built a sawmill on White Lick and sawed the lumber for the seating and flooring. By Christmas there were 75 members in the Methodist Society and on December 28, 1829, Josephua Marshall and his wife, Mary, executed a deed for three acres and four rods upon which the meeting-house was built to the first trustees, George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales and Daniel Roberts.

Rev. Joseph Tarkington was the first cirsuit rider appionted to the White Lick circuit after the Salem Society was organized and the log house meeting-house built. He was the first of over one hundred itinerant preachers who served the church in the early days with the present frame structure being erected in about 1830.

Today's congregation is proud of its heritage and keeps the church property in excellent condition and carries on the work faithfully as their ancestors were wont to do.

Judge Watson 1954
1955

Rev. Judge Watson

New Pastor Takes Over at Calvary Methodist Church

The Calvary Methodist Church recently welcomed a new pastor, the Rev. Judge Watson, who formerly was pastor of the Arlinton Methodist Church near Bloomington. Rev. Watson, originally from Tip Top, Kentucky, is 29 years of age, married, and has a sixteen month old boy, David Lee. Both Rev. and Mrs. Watson are graduated from Asbury College in Wilmore, Kentucky; and the former is also a graduate of the Kentucky Mountain Bible Institute.

Besides serving as pastor of the Calvary Church, Rev. Watson is planning to return to school at Indiana University this fall where he will continue his study; and Mrs. Watson, whose home town is in Jay, Florida, is tentatively planning to teach in the local school.

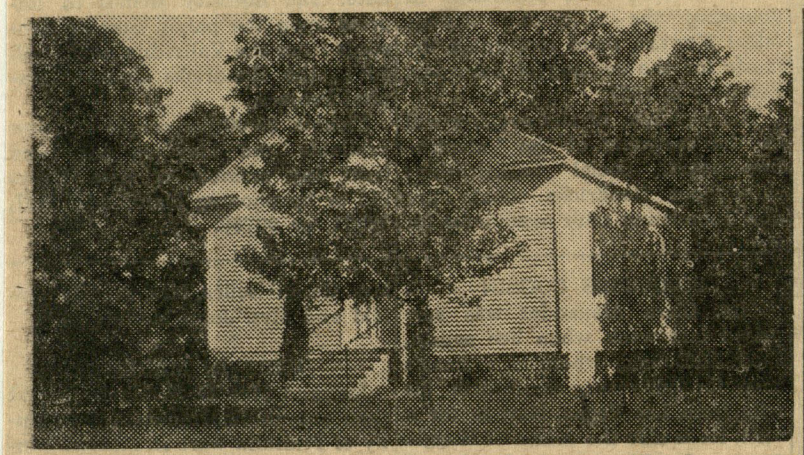
Rev. Watson replaces the Rev. James D. McCallie, who is now pastor of the Methodist Church in Clay City.

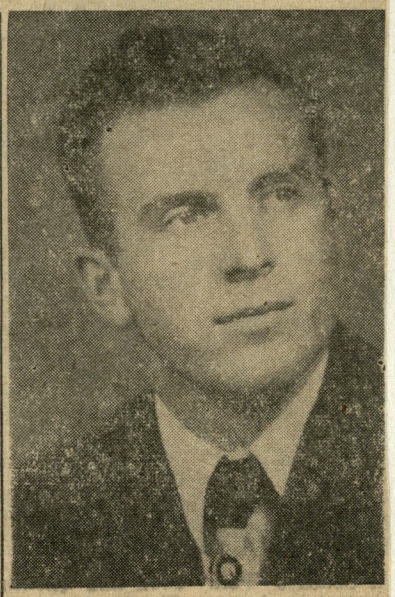
With the outset of the new conference year in the Methodist Church, the Calvary Church is advancing to the effect that it is now on a two-church instead of a four-church charge, under which plan it has operated for the past two years. The Poplar Grove and Mt. Olive Churches are now on one circuit, and the Calvary and Salem Churches are on another, with a pastor serving each of the respective circuits. With these changes it is now possible for the local church to have a Sunday morning and also an evening worship service. The pastor and his congregation cordially invite you to attend these services. Following is the schedule of services for the Calvary Church:

Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Junior MYF	7:00 p.m.
Evening Worship	7:30 p.m.
Prayer & Bible Study-Thurs.	7:30 p.m.

The Plainfield Messenger, Thursday, November 22, 1956

Salem Methodist Church Has Felt Quaker Influence Throughout Its Long and Useful Life In This Locale





REV. JUDGE WATSON

(The following is the seventh in a series of articles on the history of the rural churches of Henridcks County appearing in the Messenger —Editor

Organized in 1829 the Salem church is one of the pioneer churches of Hendricks County and for more than thirty-five years has annually welcomed former members to a homecoming service early in June.

The church is located seven miles southwest of Plainfield and is one of the oldest churches in Hendricks County. It had its beginning when Joshua Marshall, who then owned the farm on which the church is located, was converted in a revival meeting in Putnam County Following his conversion he asked the Rev. John Murser to come to his home in Hendricks County to preach. That was in June of the same year. Seven joined the church during that meeting and three weeks later when he returned another seven joined the group and thus a Methodist Society was formed in the community.

In August of the same year eight men met and decided on a location for a church building. In this undertaking they acknowledged their need for divine help and each morning knelt in prayer before God as a prelude to their day's work. On the 28th day of December, 1829 Joshua Marshall and his wife Mary legally conveyed the three acres and four rods of land out of their farm to the church for a consideration of $6.00. Thus it was that the ground on which the present church stands became the site of a house of worship.

The first building was made of logs, hand hewn. Some time near 1850, the present church was built, most of the work and material being donated. The first Sunday School of which there is a record was April 1, 1853. The church was remodeled either in the years 1882 or 1883 and in 1927 a basement was constructed. Some of the original timbers may still be found in the building.

Throughout the year the rescendants of the first families who worshiped there, have maintained the church as a house of worship and a memorial to those first Christians who so wisely planned for those who were to come after them.

Not all the founders of the church were Methodists, although it has been affiliated with that brotherhood throughout the years. Some of the founders were Quakers with Quaker family backgrounds of several generations, whose records were contained in William Wade Hinshaw's "Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy" Volume I. North Carolina.

Bowater Bales was a descendant of two Quaker lines, at least, the families of Bowater (sometimes spelled Bowter) and of Bales (also spelled Beales).

The William Marshall family were Quakers previous to their removal to Indiana from North Carolina. William Marshall was the father of Rebecca, who married Evan Davis; of Elizabeth, wife of Bowater Bales; and of Joshua Marshall, who deeded the ground to the Methodist church (named Salem) in 1829, after the first log meeting house had been built on that ground.

Not only at the beginning were Quakers a part of this worship center, but also through the many decades since.

Frank Morgan, a member of the Society of Friends told of the joining the Salem church of his Quaker parents, William Morgan and wife and how, while they at the altar were taking the vows of the Methodist Society, Mrs. Morgan's Quaker bonnet rested upon the pew from which she had arisen for the ritual of ceremony. William Morgan was twice elected a trustee of the Salem church, 1866 and 1868.

The late Frank A. Mitchell, of a Quaker family and himself a Quaker by faith and membership, contributed to the support of this religious society, in various ways during his thirty-seven years residence on his farm east of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil B. Mills and the latter's sister, Miss Edna Nowland residing north of the church are exceedingly faithful in their support of the church. Mr. Mills con-

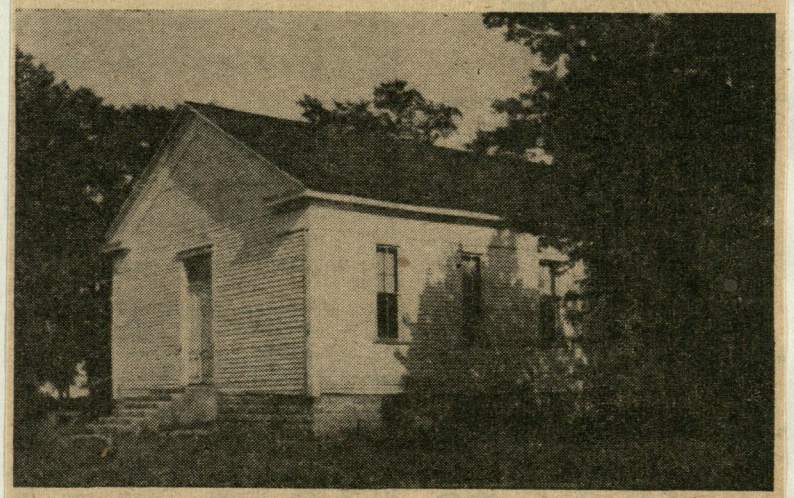
tribution through his splendid voice is greatly appreciated.

The Ralph Costers are members of the First Methodist church in Mooresville but are unsurpassed in their dependability in attendance and service, she as teacher and he as assistant superintendent now, but for several years, the superintendent. Other denominations are represented also.

Wesley Davis of the Davis Orchards and his children are the only desendants, still residing in the community, of any of the original founders. The land he owns was entered by Evan Davis, one of the eight founders, according to the Family History in Hadley's "History of Hendricks County", 1914.

Rev. Judge Watson, Mooresville, is the present pastor of the church, which is a virile and strong congregation among the churches of this area.

37TH ANNUAL HOMECOMING AT SALEM CHURCH NEXT SUNDAY



The thirty-seventh annual Homecoming of the Salem Methodist church will be held next Sunday at the church which is located seven miles southwest of Plainfield.

Sunday School will convene at 9:30 followed by a morning worship service at 10:30 and a basket dinner at noon in the basement of the church, where members and guests may have opportunity to enjoy two hours of fellowship before the afternoon program begins at 2 o'clock.

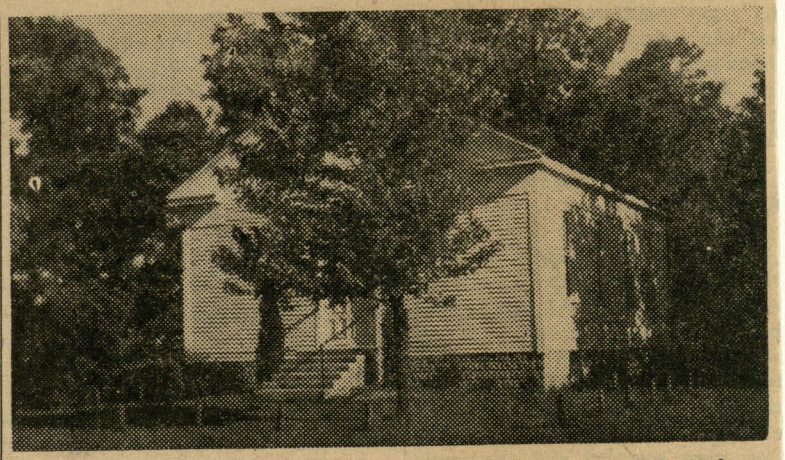
The guest speaker for the afternoon program will be the former pastor, Rev. James D. McCallie, now at Clay City, Indiana. Special music will be provided by Mr. and Mrs. Don Small, Howard Pritchard and possibly others.

The present pastor, is the Rev. Judge Watson, native of Magoffin County, Kentucky, a graduate of K. M. B. I., Asbury College, who holds a Master's degree in history from Indiana University and is at present working on a Ph.D degree in History at I. U.

The Salem church is one of the oldest Methodist churches in Hendricks County and has had an interesting and glowing history throughout its more than one hundred years of guiding people of that community in the spiritual life.

Salem Church History More Interesting With Second Installment

In the history of the rural churches of the county last week's Messenger carried a story of the Salem church but a history written by Mrs. Roy Pritchard of Amo last May is so much more informative and contains so many fascinating incidents, it seems appropriate that a second installment be carried. Therefore, the following is added to that which appeared last week:



Way back in 1829, the year in which Andrew Jackson was inaugurated to his first term of office as the seventh president of the United States, increasing numbers of people were coming to Indiana and Hendricks County. A large percent were from North Carolina, several from Kentucky and Pennsylvania; some from Virginia and other eastern states, but few from the New England section. Indiana as a state was then thirteen years old and Hendricks County only five. Danville had been laid out as the county-seat and a few cabins were being built. The Survey for the National Road was being made through Guilford, Liberty and Franklin Townships. Mainly the settlers were using trails made through the forests by the Indians or animals.

Immediately after arrival the homesteaders began the gigantic task of clearing land and building homes; but exhaustive toil to supply material necessities and physical requisites, did not prevent them from recognizing and providing for their spiritual needs. Religious privileges and advantages were few; the only meeting places these pioneers had, at first, for worship, were their own cabins. But, more important, they had religious convictions and faith, impelling them toward demonstration of their belief.

As a whole, the founders of the Salem Methodist church averaged approximately two and one-half years residence in the vicinity when the Methodist Society was organized at the home of Joshua Marshall. What happen then has been related.

The Salem church seems never to have been called by some man's name, for a period, as some churches were in the early days of Methodism. The Camp Meetings at Salem were memorable occasions for approximately 30 years as they were being held before 1837 and were still being conducted in 1859 and later. Elihu Morgan stated that the first one he remembered of attending was in 1859 and it made a more lasting impression on him than those attended subsequently. The camp ground wa five acres of the "woods" to the north of and across the road from the church. This annual religious encampment, for the benefit of all churches on the circuit to which Salem belonged was widely known and greatly attended. People came, in wagons, from considerable distances and camped for the duration of the meeting, which lasted several days.

It was the custom to call to order the seperate sessions of the meeting by the use of a bugle, as it could be easily heard through the woods reminding all campers of the time. On one occasion, the bugler could not find his horn when time came to sound the announcement of the next session. After a hurried and puzzled but unsuccessful search, the morning's proceedings began anyway. Long after the session was in progress, sounds from the bugle came floating through the trees, provoking varied reactions upon the hearers.

Mrs. Ona Scotten also supplied a bit of interesting information regarding the origin of the locust trees in the Salem church yard. She

Book 2 - 221

February 6 1844

Issued a marriage license to Alfred Hartman and Eliza Ann Day citizens of Hendricks County Indiana who have since been joined in marriage as appears from the following Certificate to wit

I James L. Adell a Justice of the Peace do hereby certify that I solomized a marriage between Alfred Hartman and Eliza Ann Day on the 11th of February 1844.

related that one woman, who regularly attended Camp Meeting suffered from asthma and friends thinking a shaded cabin would be much better for her than ordinary camping facilities, erected a small log cabin not far from the church and planted some fast growing locust trees by it. Whether or not the asthma afflisted camper enjoyed relief, the trees grew and by their profigious spread made quite a sizeable grove.

For some years there was a saw mill in the hollow west of the church, which was powered by water from the stream which is now quite small. It is altogether possible that the mill was in existence when the present church was built about 1850. A preacher, Rev. Jon E. Jones was living in the house nearby and operating that saw mill in the 1860's.

Near the southwest corner of the grave-yard is a very faint trace of the old road where it desended into the hollow farther south than where it does now. Fenton Scotten is remembered by more than one person, walking to Salem for the Sunday service and coming up the hill to the south door, by way of the old roadway.

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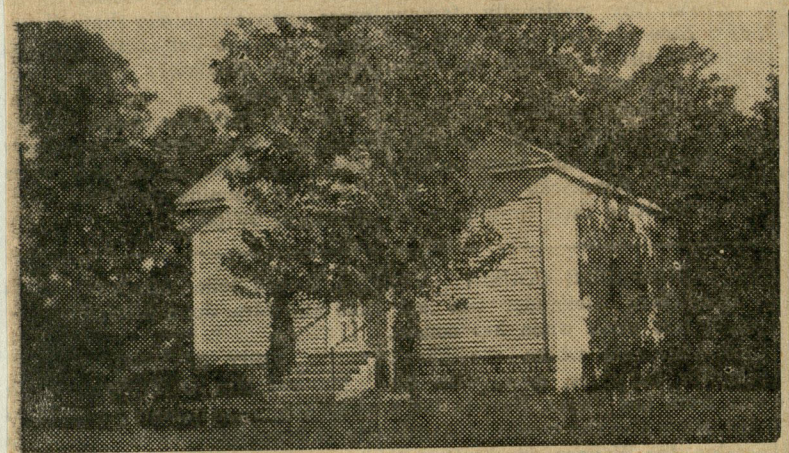
And for joy she folds her wings
And her celestial sonnet sings
I'm safe at home

Salem Methodist Church Has Felt Quaker Influence Throughout Its Long and Useful Life In This Locale



REV. JUDGE WATSON

(The following is the seventh in a series of articles on the history of the rural churches of Henridcks County appearing in the Messenger —Editor

Organized in 1829 the Salem church is one of the pioneer churches of Hendricks County and for more than thirty-five years has annually welcomed former members to a homecoming service early in June.

The church is located seven miles southwest of Plainfield and is one of the oldest churches in Hendricks County. It had its beginning when Joshua Marshall, who then owned the farm on which the church is located, was converted in a revival meeting in Putnam County Following his conversion he asked the Rev. John Murser to come to his home in Hendricks County to preach. That was in June of the same year. Seven joined the church during that meeting and three weeks later when he returned another seven joined the group and thus a Methodist Society was formed in the community.

In August of the same year eight men met and decided on a location for a church building. In this undertaking they acknowledged their need for divine help and each morning knelt in prayer before God as a prelude to their day's work. On the 28th day of December, 1829 Joshua Marshall and his wife Mary legally conveyed the three acres and four rods of land out of their farm to the church for a consideration of $6.00. Thus it was that the ground on which the present church stands became the site of a house of worship.

The first building was made of logs, hand hewn. Some time near 1850, the present church was built, most of the work and material being donated. The first Sunday School of which there is a record was April 1, 1853. The church was remodeled either in the years 1882 or 1883 and in 1927 a basement was constructed. Some of the original timbers may still be found in the building.

Throughout the year the rescendants of the first families who worshiped there, have maintained the church as a house of worship and a memorial to those first Christians who so wisely planned for those who were to come after them.

Not all the founders of the church were Methodists, although it has been affiliated with that brotherhood throughout the years. Some of the founders were Quakers with Quaker family backgrounds of several generations, whose records were contained in William Wade Hinshaw's "Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy" Volume I. North Carolina.

Bowater Bales was a descendant of two Quaker lines, at least, the families of Bowater (sometimes spelled Bowiter) and of Bales (also spelled Beales).

The William Marshall family were Quakers previous to their removal to Indiana from North Carolina. William Marshall was the father of Rebecca, who married Evan Davis; of Elizabeth, wife of Bowater Bales; and of Joshua Marshall, who deeded the ground to the Methodist church (named Salem) in 1829, after the first log meeting house had been built on that ground.

Not only at the beginning were Quakers a part of this worship center, but also through the many decades since.

Frank Morgan, a member of the Society of Friends told of the joining the Salem church of his Quaker parents, William Morgan and wife and how, while they at the altar were taking the vows of the Methodist Society, Mrs. Morgan's Quaker bonnet rested upon the pew from which she had arisen for the ritual of ceremony. William Morgan was twice elected a trustee of the Salem church, 1866 and 1868.

The late Frank A. Mitchell, a Quaker family and himself a Quaker by faith and membership, contributed to the support of this religious society, in various ways during his thirty-seven years residence on his farm east of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Emil B. Mills and the latter's sister, Miss Edna Nowland residing north of the church are exceedingly faithful in their support of the church. Mr. Mills con-

The Plainfield Messenger, Thursday, November 29, 1956

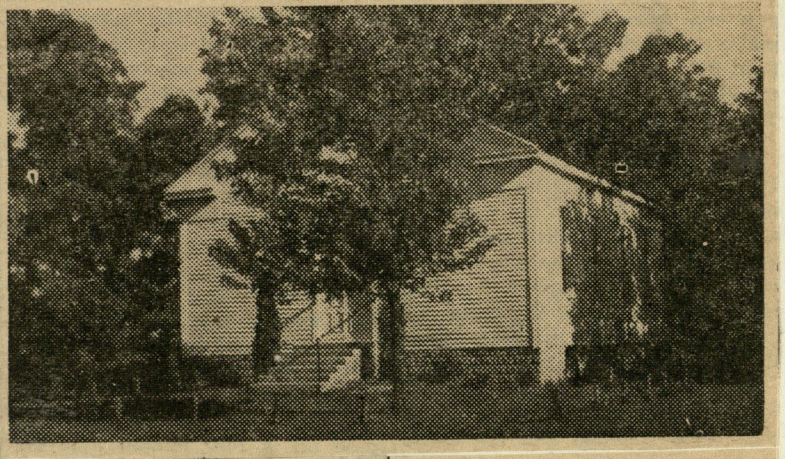
Salem Church History More Interesting With Second Installment

In the history of the rural churches of the county last week's Messenger carried a story of the Salem church but a history written by Mrs. Roy Pritchard of Amo last May is so much more informative and contains so many fascinating incidents, it seems appropriate that a second installment be carried. Therefore, the following is added to that which appeared last week:

Way back in 1829, the year in which Andrew Jackson was inaugurated to his first term of office as the seventh president of the United States, increasing numbers of people were coming to Indiana and Hendricks County. A large percent were from North Carolina, several from Kentucky and Pennsylvania; some from Virginia and other eastern states, but few from the New England section. Indiana as a state was then thirteen years old and Hendricks County only five. Danville had been laid out as the county-seat and a few cabins were being built. The Survey for the National Road was being made through Guilford, Liberty and Franklin Townships. Mainly the settlers were using trails made through the forests by the Indians or animals.

Immediately after arrival the homesteaders began the gigantic task of clearing land and building homes; but exhaustive toil to supply material necessities and physical requisites, did not prevent them from recognizing and providing for their spiritual needs. Religious privileges and advantages were few; the only meeting places these pioneers had, at first, for worship, were their own cabins. But, more important, they had religious convictions and faith, impelling them toward demonstration of their belief.

As a whole, the founders of the Salem Methodist church averaged approximately two and one-half years residence in the vicinity when the Methodist Society was organized at the home of Joshua Marshall. What happen then has been related.



The Salem church seems never to have been called by some man's name, for a period, as some churches were in the early days of Methodism. The Camp Meetings at Salem were memorable occasions for approximately 30 years as they were being held before 1837 and were still being conducted in 1859 and later. Elihu Morgan stated that the first one he remembered of attending was in 1859 and it made a more lasting impression on him than those attended subsequently. The camp ground was five acres of the "woods" to the north of and across the road from the church. This annual religious encampment, for the benefit of all churches on the circuit to which Salem belonged was widely known and greatly attended. People came, in wagons, from considerable distances and camped for the duration of the meeting, which lasted several days.

It was the custom to call to order the seperate sessions of the meeting by the use of a bugle, as it could be easily heard through the woods reminding all campers of the time. On one occasion, the bugler could not find his horn when time came to sound the announcement of the next session. After a hurried and puzzled but unsuccessful search, the morning's proceedings began anyway. Long after the session was in progress, sounds from the bugle came floating through the trees, provoking varied reactions upon the hearers.

Mrs. Ona Scotten also supplied a bit of interesting information regarding the origin of the locust trees in the Salem church yard. She related that one woman, who regularly attended Camp Meeting suffered from asthma and friends thinking a shaded cabin would be much better for her than ordinary camping facilities, erected a small log cabin not far from the church and planted some fast growing locust trees by it. Whether or not the asthma afflicted camper enjoyed relief, the trees grew and by their profigious spread made quite a sizeable grove.

For some years there was a saw mill in the hollow west of the church, which was powered by water from the stream which is now quite small. It is altogether possible that the mill was in existence when the present church was built about 1850. A preacher, Rev. Jon E. Jones was living in the house nearby and operating that saw mill in the 1860's.

Near the southwest corner of the grave-yard is a very faint trace of the old road where it desended into the hollow farther south than where it does now. Fenton Scotten is remembered by more than one person, walking to Salem for the Sunday service and coming up the hill to the south door, by way of the old roadway.

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And for joy she folds her wings
And her celestial sonnet sings
I'm safe at home

SALEM CHURCH GROUP VISITS "OLD BETHEL"

Sunday afternoon, November 21, Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie and members of the Salem congregation made a pilgrimage to the Old Bethel meeting house, now located on the grounds of the Gobin Memorial Methodist church in Greencastle, Indiana.

This historic meeting-house was an appropriate setting for the short Thanksgiving service held by the Salem group from two to three o'clock. Program and place, past and present blended, as the hewn log church brought to mind deeds and courage of early circuit riders, those indomitable religious leaders, that ever kept pace with the advancing frontier of pioneer days.

Within these brown log walls, that doubtlessly have witnessed much of Christmas fellowship and worship, the hymn "Faith of Our Fathers", by the congregation and the reading of the Psalm 100, by the pastor, Rev. McCallie, seemed especially significant.

Other features of this program were by Rev. William Hargrave and Rev. McCallie. Rev. Hargrave gave the history of the Old Bethel meeting-house from the time it was erected on the land of Nathan Robertson, by him and his four sons in 1807, in Southern Indiana, until the present time.

Rev. McCallie preached a challenging sermon, using as a text, the first verse of the thirteenth chapter of the Book of Joshua. Only those who have heard Rev. James D. McCallie preach, can know how ably and concisely he proclaims the Word of God.

There have been other individuals visit this Methodist Shrine, but the Salem group has been the first to make the pilgrimage. With considerable interest this one hundred forty-seven year old church was examined, for the first church at Salem must have been very similar.

One of the founders of the Salem Church was Evan Davis, great-grandfather of Wesley Davis, who lives a short distance north of Salem.

37th HOME-COMING

OF

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Judge Watson, Pastor

Mr. Robert Low, President

Mrs. Charles Rose, Secretary

"Country Churches"
by
Alda B. White

The little country churches
That dot the rustic view--
Though small and unpretentious
Are peaceful havens, too.

The week of care and worry,
The burden, too, of sin,
Are left outside their portals,
For peace and rest within.

No dome or spire imposing,
Nor light from stained glass tall,
But bright and pure the sunbeams
Through plain glass windows fall.

No voice of hired singer
Is bourne upon the air,
But grateful hearts express the joy
Of those who gather there.

Oh, little country churches--
Like pure, white sails are seen,
Upon the oceans billows
Sailing in seas of green!

Program

"Revive us again".....Congregation

Welcome.....President

Devotions.....Pastor

"The Lord's Prayer".....Norrita Mitchell

Trombone Solo.....Rev. James McCallie

Vocal Solo.....Mr. or Mrs. Small

Business Session.....

Piano Solo.....Grenda Hobson

"Prayer".....Howard Pritchard

Address.....Rev. James McCallie

Piano Solo.....Grenda Hobson

Remarks.....

Benediction.....Pastor

Joshua Marshall To William C Mills Page 387

This Indenture, made this the twenty third day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty seven Between Joshua Marshall and Mary Marshall his wife of the County of Hendricks and State of Indiana of the first part and William C Mills of the county of Hendricks and State of Indiana of the second part Witnesseth, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty two hundred and fifty Dollars, lawful money of the United States, to the said party of the first part by the party of the second part in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm, unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever, all the following described pieces or parcels of Land, to wit: The North fraction of the South Fractional half ~~quarter~~ of Section nineteen in Township Fourteen North of Range One East in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing Eighty three acres and forty hundredths of an acre, Also the South fraction of the North half of Section nineteen in Township Fourteen North of Range One East in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville, Indiana containing Eighty three acres and thirty four hundredths of an acre, with the exception of three acres and four Poles, deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, See deed. Also East half of the North East quarter of Section Twenty four in Township Fourteen, North of Range One West in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing Eighty acres, Also the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section twenty four Township Fourteen North of Range One West, in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing forty acres, be the same more or Less. To Have and

Joshua Marshall to William C. Mills Book 11, Page 387

day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty seven Between Joshua Marshall and Mary Marshall his wife of the County of Hendricks and State of Indiana of the first part and William C Mills of the county of Hendricks and State of Indiana of the second part Witnesseth, that the said party of the first part, for and in consideration of the sum of Thirty two hundred and fifty Dollars, lawful money of the United States, to the said party of the first part by the party of the second part in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, hath granted, bargained and sold, and by these presents doth grant, bargain, sell, convey and confirm, unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns forever, all the following described pieces or parcels of Land, to wit: The North fraction of the South Fractional half quarter of Section nineteen in Township Fourteen North of Range One East, in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing Eighty three acres and forty hundredths of an acre, Also the South fraction of the North half of Section nineteen in Township Fourteen North of Range One East, in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville, Indiana containing Eighty three acres and thirty four hundredths of an acre, with the exception of three acres and four Poles, deeded to the Methodist Episcopal Church, See deed. Also East half of the North East quarter of Section Twenty four in Township Fourteen, North of Range One West in the distrent of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing Eighty acres, Also the North East quarter of the South East quarter of Section twenty four Township Fourteen North of Range One West, in the district of Lands offered for sale at Crawfordsville Indiana, containing forty acres, be the same more or Less. To Have and to hold the above described premises with all the improvements and appurtenances to the same belonging to the said party of the second part, his heirs and assigns forever; and the said Party of the first part for themselves and their heirs do hereby Covenant with the said party of the second part and his heirs that they are lawfully seized in fee of the premises

Joshua Marshall to William C. Mills Book 11 page 387

said party of the first part for themselves and their heirs do hereby Covenant with the said party of the second part and his heirs that they are lawfully seized in fee of the premises aforesaid, that the premises are free and clear from all incumbrances whatsoever, and that they will forever warrant and defend the same and the quiet and peaceable possession thereof, together with the appurtenances to the same belonging unto the said party of the second part and his heirs and assigns against the Lawful claims of all persons whomsoever In Witness whereof the said Joshua Marshall and Mary Marshall his wife who hereby relinquishes her right of dower to the above described premises have hereunto set their hands and seals the day and year first above written

Signed sealed and delivered in presence of

Joshua Marshall (Seal)

Mary her + mark Marshall (Seal)

State of Indiana Hendricks County ss.

I Nathan Meredith one of the Justices of the Peace of said County do hereby Certify that the above named Joshua Marshall and Mary Marshall his wife came personally before me and acknowledged the foregoing instrument of writing to be their voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein mentioned, also Mary Marshall above named the wife of the said Joshua Marshall who being by me examined privately & separate and apart from and without the hearing of her said husband, and the full contents and purport of the said deed being by me made known to her she acknowledged that she voluntarily executed the same of her own free will and accord & without any coercion and compulsion from her said husband

In Witness of which I hereunto set my hand and seal at my office this 23rd day of August A.D. 1847

Nathan Meredith (Seal)

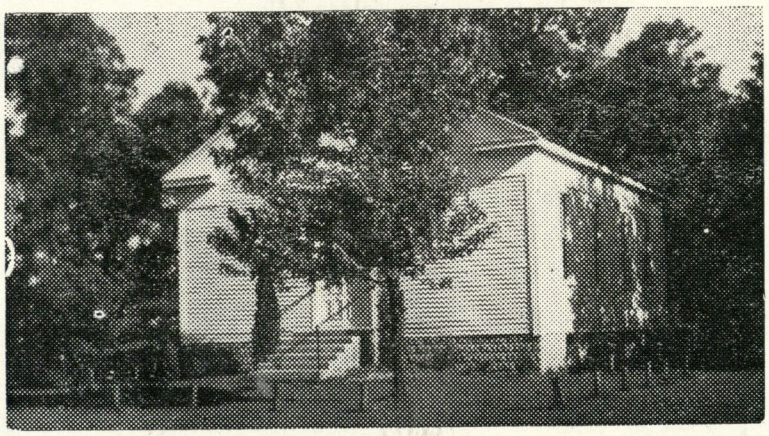
(The above deed Recorded Dec. 24th 1847) Justice of the Peace

38th Annual Homecoming

of

Salem Methodist Church

Sunday, June 8, 1958



REV. JUDGE WATSON, Pastor

Mr. Ralph Coster, President

Mrs. Robert Low, Secretary

"The Church In The Wildwood"

There's a church in the Valley by the Wildwood,
No lovelier place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning
To list to the clear ringing bell;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

From the church in the valley by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to the mansions of light.

Chorus

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

Program

Song, "The Church in the Wildwood" ..... Congregation

Welcome ..... By President

Devotional ..... Rev. Judge Watson

Vocal Sole, "I Heard A Forest Praying" ..... Howard Pritchard

BUSINESS SESSION

Piano Solo, "Nocturne in D Flat" ..... Grenda Hobson

Showing of Pictures, "The Youth Caravan" ..... Mark Hampton, Jr.

Vocal Solo, "The Lord's Prayer" ..... Howard Pritchard

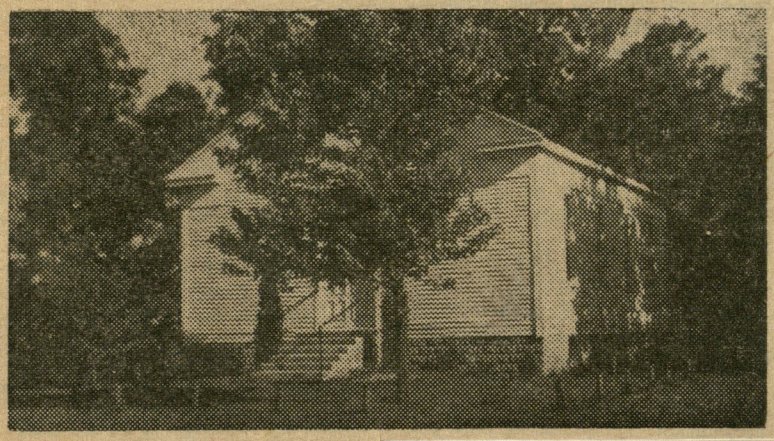
REMARKS — REMINISCENCES — OBSERVATIONS

Closing Song, "Faith of Our Fathers" ..... Congregation

Benediction ..... Rev. Watson

Plainfield Messenger Thursday June 5, 1958

38th Annual Homecoming Of Salem Church Sunday



Members and friends of the Salem church, located seven miles southwest of Plainfield, are looking forward to the 38th annual homecoming which will be held next Sunday and will be an all-day affair with worship services in the morning, a basket dinner at noon and a program in the afternoon with former members and pastors participating in "Remarks—Reminiscences—Observations".

Rev. Judge Watson is the pastor of the 129-year-old church and president of the Homecoming organization is Ralph Coster with Mrs. Robert Low, secretary. The regular Sunday School and worship services will be held in the morning and the program will follow the basket dinner and fellowship hours.

The program as announced is as follows:

Song "The Church In the Wildwood"—Congregation.

Welcome—Ralph Coster.

Devotions—Rev. Watson.

Vocal Solo "I Heard a Forest Praying"—Howard Pritchard.

Business Session.

Piano Solo "Nocturne in D Flat"—Grenda Hobson.

Pictures of "The Youth Caravan"—Mark Hampton Jr.

Vocal Solo "The Lord's Prayer"—Howard Pritchard.

Remarks, Reminiscences, Observations.

Song "Faith of Our Fathers"—Congregation.

Benediction—Rev. Watson.

The history of this church—one of the oldest in the county—is a long and interesting one. It was organized in the year 1829 as the result of Methodist preaching and subsequent conversions a Methodist class was formed with the Joshua and Mary Marshall cabin being the meeting place for the class. By August of that year, a committee was appointed to select a site for a "meeting house" and serving on that committee were early settlers, whose remains lie buried in the adjoining cemetery where markers bear the names of those rugged but God-fearing early pioneers. They were Joshua Marshall, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Nathan Meridith, Thomas Harper, Nathan Snodgrass and Andrew Fultz.

The site of the present church was chosen, probably, partly due to its central location to the cabins of the members. Having made their decision these eight pioneer men stood in the virgin forest on that day in August almost a hundred twenty-nine years ago, and Joshua Marshall said, "As we are about to build a church, we had better kneel and pray."

Evan Davis answered, "Agreed. Brother Marshall will pray." And this they did, every morning before beginning their day's work on the meeting-house.

Finally, when they had their logs hewn and on the ground they gave out word that a church was to be raised on a certain day—with a general invitation for assistance.

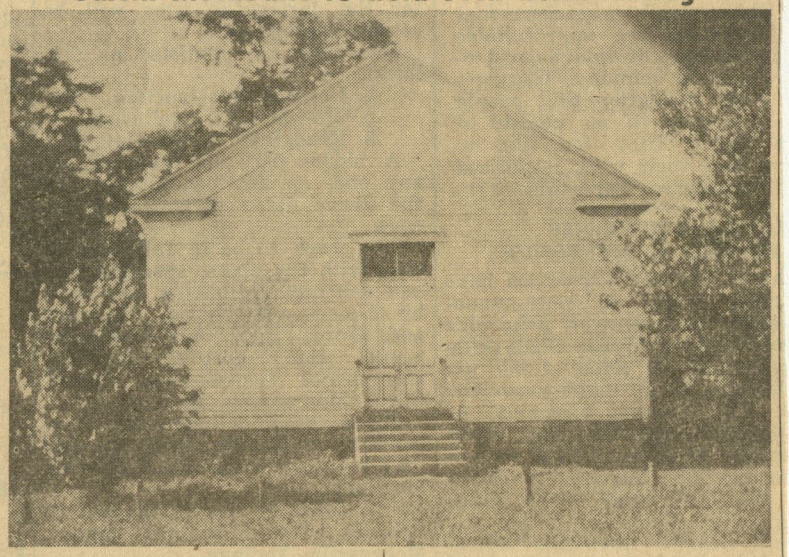
This was done in the presence of an "assembled multitude", for the settlers of the surrounding country whether Methodists, Quakers or Baptists, came to raise the meeting-house, and put on the clapboard roof.

About this time Evan Davis built a saw mill on White Lick, and sawed the lumber for seating and flooring.

By Christmas there were seventy-five members in this Methodist Society. On December the twenty-eighth, Joshua Marshall and Mary, his wife, deeded the three acres and four rods, upon which the meeting-house was built to the first trustees, namely: George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales and Daniel Roberts.

Rev. Joseph Tarkington was the first circuit rider appointed to the White Lick circuit after the Salem Society was organized and the log meeting-house built, and he headed a long list of over one hundred itinerant preachers who have served the church through its days, in the log meeting-house, and from about 1850 on, in the present frame building. Through these one hundred twenty-nine years these preachers have come, have served—one, two, or three years, and have been sent on to work elsewhere.

Salem Methodist to hold 39th homecoming



One-hundred thiry year old Salem Methodist church will hold its 39th Annual Home coming Sunday June 14.

The morning services will include church school at 9:45 and worship at 10:45. There will be a basket dinner at noon.

The Home-coming program, arranged by Howard Pritchard, Grace Hobson and Karl Kehrein, Jr., will be presented at 2 p.m. Among other special numbers will be instrumental music by Miss Grenda Hobson.

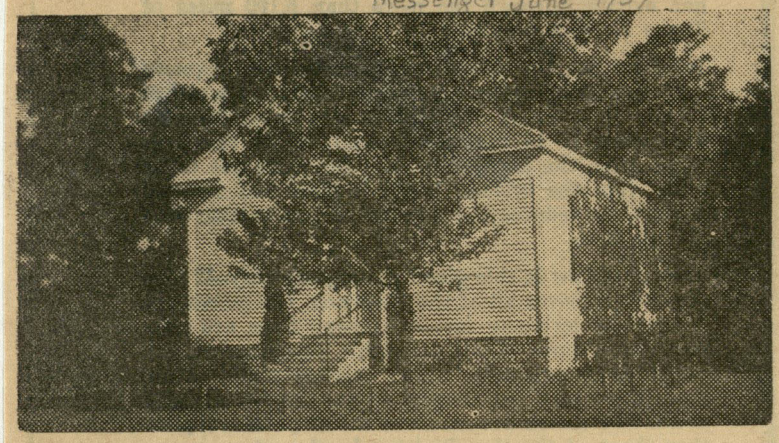
The speaker is Rev. Charles M. Littell, a 1947 graduate of Clayton high school and a graduate of Minnesota Bible college, Minneapolis, Minnesota. He is presently taking premedical training at Indiana University and is pastor of the Christian Church at Eminence. Rev. Littell is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Littell of Mooresville, R. R. 1.

Rev. David McFall of Mooresville is pastor of the Salem church He is a son of Rev. Dr. Merrill Mc Fall of Irvington Methodist church in Indianapolis, and a grandson of Rev. John W. McFall a former pastor of Mooresville Methodist Church.

Everyone is welcome to attend this service at one of Hendricks County's oldest churches.

130-YEAR-OLD SALEM CHURCH TO HOLD 39TH HOMECOMING SUNDAY

Messenger June 1959



The one-hundred-thirty-year-old Salem Methodist church will hold its 39th annual Home-Coming next Sunday.

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In 1951 he married Miss Florence Sweaney and they have three sons: Mathew, Timothy and Stephen.

Rev. David McFall of Mooresville is pastor of the Salem church. He was graduated from Bloomington high school in 1948 and has attended Indiana University. He is a son of Rev. Dr. Merrill McFall of Irvington Methodist church in Indianapolis and a grandson of Rev. John W. McFall, a former pastor of Mooresville Methodist church. He is also a grandson of Rev. Herbert Glossbrenner who spent many years as an evangelist with such well known men as Billy Sunday, Homer Rhodeheaver and Dwight L. Moody.

In 1951 Rev. David McFall married Miss Pat Marlin and they have four children: Valerie, Marc, Robert and Keith.

Everyone is welcome to attend this service at one of Hendricks County's oldest churches.

Plainfield Messenger
July 2 1959

SALEM CHURCH RECALLS PAST AT HOMECOMING

With the weather being especially beautiful the 39th annual homecoming of the Salem church was well attended and a most delightful event with guests being present from several places and with former members and pastors returning to renew their fellowship.

Following is a page from its illustrious history:

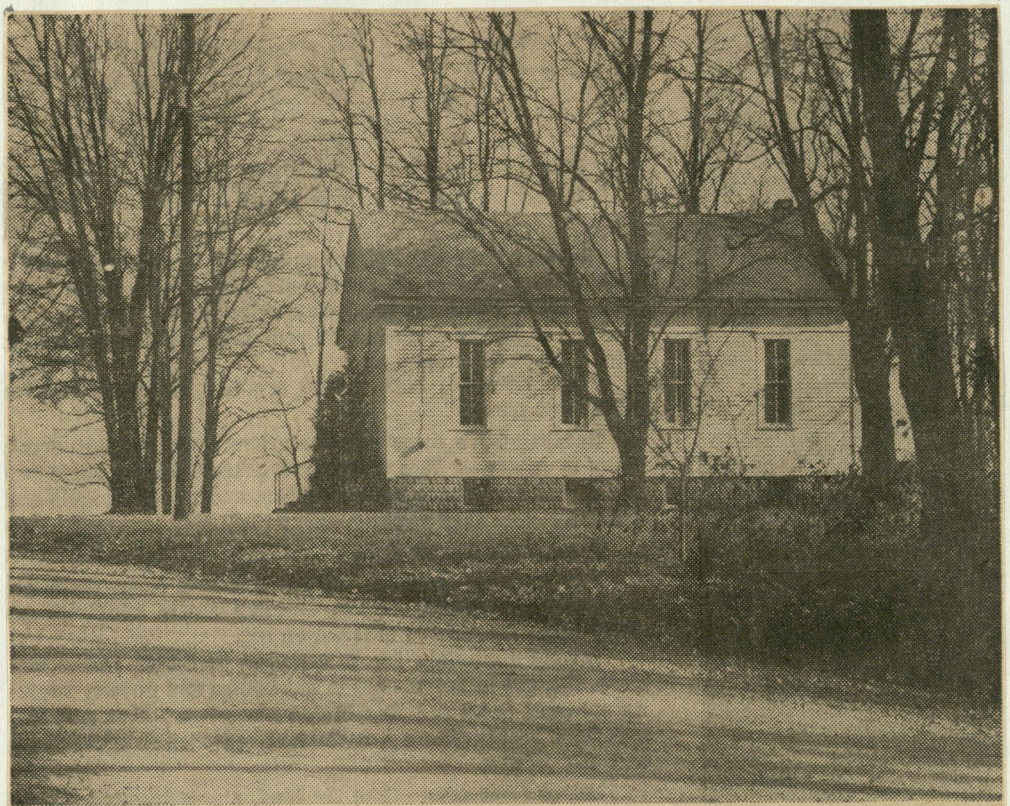
The Salem church was in Greencastle District and was one of four churches assigned to the Rev. William Wyatt Rundell who was paid $468 for a year work. Other churches of the circuit were Belleville, Bethesda and Locust Grove.

The parsonage, valued at $500, was located in Belleville on lot 3 block 3, and was the one purchased as early as 1837; for Hendricks County Deed Record V, page 494 records the trustees elected for the care of the parsonage, April 22, 1837, as Samuel Jessup James Wright, Joshua Marshall, William Borders and James Borders.

The trustees for the ~~aSlem~~ Salem Meeting-House, one-hundred years ago, were Nathan Meredith, James W. Bray, David Demoss, John H. Brill and Joshua M. Davis. Earlier rustees were George Crutchfield, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, Daniel Roberts, James Maxwell Carter, Jesse Stout and John E. Jones. Others who served as trustees before 1910 were: Elisha Franklin, Allen E. Bray Joshua M. Davis, Nathan York, Rueben Franklin, Henry A. Marley, William J. Morgan, Daniel Ramsey, Joseph Franklin, Joshua Fields Barker, J. Chambers, Clark W. Stewart, Joel Williams, Robert Franklin Silas Franklin, Simon Peter Hagee, John L. Thompson, William Pointer, Earl Craven, Obe Johnson, John Good, Alfred Dillon, A. C. Stout and L. Frank Sparks.

Donations a century ago, to a missionary fund might be of interest:

Joshua Davis, $2.50; Rachel M. Davis, $2.50; Mathew Bray $5.00; David Demoss, $2.00; David Greeson, $1.00; John Chambers, $1.00; E. W. Bray, $1.00; Nathan York, $1.00; Samuel Fogleman, $1.00; Thomas Franklin, $1.00; Daniel Ramsey, $1.00; James M. Carter, $1.00; John Brannen, $1.00; Aquilla York, $1.00; James Bray $1.00; Lewis Franklin, 50c; R. H. Franklin, 50c; N. H. Williams, 50c; S. Mills, 50c; Small Sums, $1.35.



A Little Church in the Wildwood

Salem Methodist Church, south West of Plainfield, seems to pose for the photographer in its peaceful country setting. Times photo lab technician Tommy Ogden was the cameraman for this study in serenity.

40th Annual Home-Coming

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday June 5th, 1960

Mrs. Kenneth Devore, President
Robert Low, Secretary-Treasurer
Edith Low, Program Chairman
David McFall, Minister

"THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD"

There's a church in the Valley by the Wildwood
No lovelier place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning
To list to the clear ringing ball;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

From the church in the valley by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to the mansions of light.

Chorus

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

PROGRAM

Song, "The Church in the Wildwood" - Congregation

Welcome ——— By President

Devotional ——— Rev. David McFall

Medley of Old Favorites ——— Howard Pritchard

Hymn, "Faith of Our Fathers" ——— Congregation

- BUSINESS SESSION -

Offertory Solo, "Near the Cross" ——Grenda Hobson

Vocal Solo, "Bless This House" ——— Howard Pritchard

Greetings read from former Pastors

Vocal Numbers ——— Salem Trio
——— Emil Mills ———
David McFall
Howard Pritchard

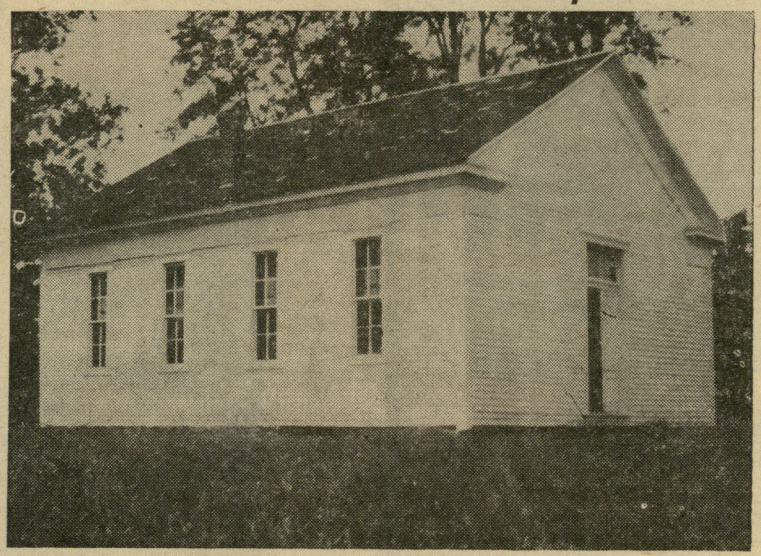
Address ——— Dr. Floyd Cook

Closing Hymn ——— Congregation

Benediction ——— Rev. McFall

From Mooresville Times Thursday June 2 1960.

Salem church to note 131st year



SALEM CHURCH IN 1925-27

Salem Methodist church, six miles northwest of Mooresville, organized in 1829, will celebrate its 131st anniversary at its 40th annual Home-coming, Sunday, June 5.

A basket dinner at noon will follow Sunday School and worship service. A program beginning at 2 p.m. has been arranged by Mrs. Robert Low, Mrs. Karl Kehrein and Mr. Howard Pritchard. Mrs. Kenneth Devore, R. R. 2, is president and Mr. Robert Low, R. R. 1, Clayton, is secretary. Rev. David McFall has served as pastor two years.

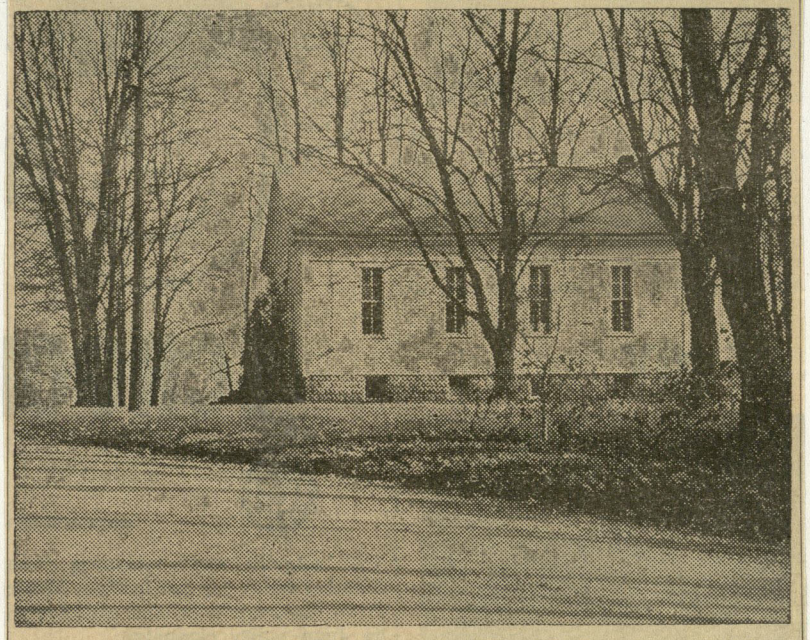
There will be special music by Miss Grenda Hobson, talented young pianist; special singing by Mr. Howard Pritchard, popular tenor soloist and by the Salem vocal trio.

Dr. Floyd Cook, a former minister will give the address. Since his ministry at Salem he attended Indiana Central College, Indianapolis, where he received his Bachelor of Arts in 1937; Doctor of Divinity in 1957, and from Boston University School of Theology, he received his Bachelor of Sacred Theology degree in 1940.

After his pastorate at Salem he has served the following churches: Shelby Street, Indianapolis; Bryantville, Mass.; Orleans, Morristown, Lawrenceburg and Jeffersonville, Indiana; was District Superintendent of New Albany district and currently is minister of pastoral relations at North Methodist church in Indianapolis.

Salem church welcomes all to join in fellowship with them at their Homecoming.

Salem Church Will Celebrate Its 131st Anniversary At Homecoming



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The Salem congregation welcomes you to join in fellowship with its members at their Home-Coming.

Messenger June 1960

Can You Help Solve The Mystery Of The Century - Old Tombstone?

How would you feel if you awoke some morning to find a tombstone on your front porch? That's what happened to Mr. and Mrs. Harry Spear, 208 Wabash street, one morning last June and since that time the Police Department has been trying to find the grave on which it belongs and the parties who carried it to the Spear porch.

And, how would you feel to go to the cemetery where your ancestors had been buried almost a century ago and find the stone gone, stolen by some party or parties who had so little respect for the dead?

If these things bother you, then lend your support to the effort being made by the police to return the stone to its original setting. Officer Lee Miller told the Mesenger the other day that he had visited many cemeteries in this area in his off duty hours to try to find the grave and said that he would personally take the stone there and reset it, if he could just find where it belonged.

The stone bears an inscription, attesting the fact that it is almost a century old and was placed there by one of the pioneer families of this community. It bears this inscripton:

CHARLES W. DAVIS
Son of D. W. and A. E. Davis
Died Oct. 15, 1864
Aged 1 yr., 7 months and 3 Days

The stone is about 2 feet high, 1 foot wide and tapers at the top. It is of white granite and has a lamb carved on the top of the stone.

It has remained in the property room of the Plainfield police department for almost six months and if anyone has any idea where the stone might have come from, he is urged to report to the department so that an investigation can be made.

Concluded Miller, "That just seems sacrilegious to me and I'd like to be able to return it to that baby's grave".

In all probabilities it was placed on the Spear porch as a prank but several persons have been questioned and can shed no light on it. If anyone does know how it got there if he will advise the police department, it will be greatly appreciated.

Messenger Dec. 8 1960

Tombstone Replaced On Grave As Result Of Messenger Story

The story in the Messenger last week concerning a tombstone being held at the police property room, quickly brought a solution to the problem of where it belonged and it will be replaced on the proper grave shortly by members of the Davis family. The stone had been removed from the grave of the infant son of D. W. and A. E. Davis in a small cemetery located on the former Davis farm, now owned by Walter Martin. The cemetery is back of the old house on the farm, situated on the east side of the Davis Orchard Road.

D. W. Davis was an uncle of Wesley Davis of the Davis Orchards and therefore the child was a cousin. Mr. Davis told the police and the Messenger that he will pick up the stone and return it to the cemetery.

The Messenger staff is glad that the stone was soon identified and returned to its rightful place but regrets that the Spears on whose porch it was found resented "the implication" which they read into the first article. There was certainly no intention of any reflection on the Spear family and we print herewith Mrs. Spear's explanation of how she felt when the stone was found. Mrs. Spear teaches English in the Plainfield high school and is also Librarian and her letter, dated December 9 and addressed to the editor is as follows:

"I would like to answer the question found in last week's edition of the Plainfield Messenger. How does one feel when they find a tombstone on their front porch?"

"My first thought was, 'What senior was responsible for this?' Why they did it I did not need to ask because a few days before the English Literature Class had studied Gray's Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard. Emphasis was placed on early cemeteries and scripture often found on stones. People who are familiar with the poem will understand the background.

"I feel that the public should be informed of the real reason for the incident rather than the implication from the newspaper coverage. I agree with the police department that the episode was serious, but I also feel that the real reason should be clarified to those people who naturally believe this to have been a vicious attack on the Spear family.

Yours very truly,
Veva Spear"

December 1960

Records Reveal More About 100-Year-Old Stone

Messenger Dec. 15, 1960

Familiar with Hendricks County history and having copies of old county atlases and histories to back him up, Mr. C. V. Edmondson of Clayton has given the Messenger the following information concerning the century-old tombstone mentionel in last week's issue of this newspaper:

The story of the old tombstone as contained in the December 8 issus of the Plainfield Messenger brought to mind the name of one of the earliest settlers in Liberty Township, the Davis family.

History records that Evan Davis and his wife, Rebecca, were born near Raleigh, N. C. about 1795. Soon after their marriage they moved to Indiana and settled on the west fork of White Lick October 6, 1826, in the unbroken widerness of Liberty Township. With only limited capital, they started life anew on the farm now known as the Arthur Davis farm. Here they lived for more than 50 years and here their family of 8 children were born.

David Wesley Davis, the youngest of the 8 children, was born in 1836 and on this same farm he lived with his wife, Amanda. They had a family of 6 children. On October 18, 1864, their little son, Charles W., died when about 18 months old. He was buried in the family burial ground on the Davis farm. The names and date are the same as on the tombstone.

Minnie Davis Trotter and her son, D. Wesley Davis, now live on part of the original Evan Davis farm.

Trotter Gives Facts About Missing Stone

Dec. 22 1960 Messenger

Since the first story about the lost tombstone was published in the Messenger, there have been several versions but the one given below is taken from the family history and is self-explanatory and should clear up all the facts in the case without further question. The stone has been taken to the Martin farm and will be replaced on the proper grave. The Messenger is indebted to Wallace Trotter for the following factual story of the stone:

Evan Davis and Rebecca Marshall, my great grandparents, who were pioneers from Surry County, North Carolina, settled on 640 acre tract in Hendricks County, Liberty Township, in 1822, a year before the county was organized. (Please refer to page 820, History of Hendricks County, edited by the late John V. Hadley, 1914). Like all early families, several children appeared on the scene, including David Wesley Davis, the youngest, who served in the late war, 1861 to 1864. (Please refer to page 343, History of Indiana, Hendricks County 1885). Evan Davis, born 1796 near Raleigh, N. C., died at the age of 57, 1854. During his lifetime he built the first grist mill in the county, later building two more, and a sawmill. Together with his brother-in-law, Joshua Marshall, David DeMoss and a few others, he was helpful in building and founding old Salem, the first Methodist church in the county. A successful farmer and live stock raiser, Evan acquired several hundred acres, about 2000 in all. On that part of which later belonged to his son Thomas, he established the Davis cemetery, where members of his famly, and a few friends, lie buried, Thomas being the last burial. This farm, now owned by Walter C. Martin, is located a few rods south of US 40 on the Davis Road, the cemetery being on the east side about ¼ mile from the road.

David Wesley Davis, brother of my grandfather, Joshua M. Davis, married Amanda E. Newby in 1858. He had six children: Alva Eugene, Arthur M., whose widow Minnie is my wife, Emmett T., Evan B., who at the age of 88 lives in Mobile, Ala., and two who died during infancy whose names are not known to me. But under the circumstances the Lost Stone presumably belonged to one of them.

David Wesley Davis acquired from his father, Evan, half a section of land, including the traditional Davis Orchards, now owned and operated by a son of Arthur M. Davis, D. Wesley Davis II.

The original homesite of the pioneer Evan Davis, later occupied by David Wesley Davis, Arthur Marshall Davis and the latter's widow, Minnie Little Davis, is the present home of the writer, who is unable to find in the library the family Bible which may be in the hands of Evan B. Davis, wherein may be recorded the names of the two children who died in their infancy, in which case the mystery of the Lost Stone could be solved.

With the Season's Greeting, I am

Respectfully yours,

Wallace D. Trotter

41st Annual Homecoming

Salem Methodist Church

Established - 1829

Rev. David McFall - Pastor

Mrs. Frank Johnson - President

Mrs. Roy Pritchard - Secretary

COMMITTEES

Program

Mr. Ralph Coster, Chairman
Mrs. Kenneth Devore
Mr. Claire J. Sellars

Table

Mrs. Frank Walton, Chairman
Mrs. Claude English
Mrs. Iva Smitherman
Mrs. Karl Kehrein

One-hundred years ago, five churches, Belleville, Bethesda, Locust Grove, Salem, and Wesley Chapel, comprised the circuit. The combined value of these churches was reported at Conference to be $2000 and the parsonage to be worth $700. John Tansey was the Preacher; J. H. Nobel the Presiding Elder.

Seventeen years later, there were six churches on the circuit; Belleville, Bethesda, Cherry Grove, Lake Valley, Salem, and Stilesville. For serving these churches that year, the Pastor, Rev. James M. Watson received $793 besides residence in the parsonage built two years earlier.

During Rev. Watson's pastorate, the first organ was purchased. On July 22, 1888, R. C. Franklin reported that the solicitors had collected the following amounts; Wm. N. Franklin, $26.75; Oscar Williams, $16.50; P. O. Morrison, $6.00; Nettie Brill, $19.35; Laura Rushton and Ann Balch (together), $12.40; Bessie Brill, $16.25; public collection, $2.85.

Same day, W. J. Knox reported payments made on the organ: first, April 19 $32.35; second, June 11, 1888 - $40.00; and last, July 18, 1888 - $27.23.

Officers for Sunday School 1890 were: Superintendent, John M. Pritchard; Assistant, Clark Harvey; Secretary, Nannie Thompson; Assistant, Nora Cravens Correspondence Secretary, Nettie Brill; Treasurer, Charles Leitzman; Organist, Bess Brill, and Assistant, Ella Thompson

June 15, 1961 Messenger

Salem Pastor Has Ancestry Of Ministry

The pastor of the Salem Methodist church is Rev. David McFall, 81 Barry Road, Indianapolis 19. He has a most interesting and distinguished background of ministers. He has been serving the Salem church since September, 1958 and during his pastorate the church has shown a steady growth and improvement.

Rev. McFall is the first of four sons born to Dr. and Mrs. Merrill B. McFall. He was born in Indianapolis. Graduating from the Bloomington high school in 1948 he attended Indiana University, and was graduated from Indiana College of Mortuary Science in 1952, passed the national board examinations and is now a licensed embalmer and funeral director.

He served in the Indiana National Guard from 1950-56 and was discharged as First Sergeant of Division Artillery Headquarters with Division Commendation.

On October 5, 1951, he married Miss Patricia Louise Marlin and they are the parents of four children: Valeria Kay, 8½; David Marc, 7; Robert Neil, 5; and Marlin Keith, 2½.

Rev. McFall joined the New York Central Railroad Claim Department in 1955 and in connection with his work he has authored an article, "Aspects of Crossing Accident Investigation" which has been published in "National Trade Magazine".

David's father, Dr. Merrill B. McFall, is a graduate of DePauw University and Garrett Biblical Seminary. He has twice been sent abroad by the Methodist church as a Good Will Ambassador, 1949 to Europe, and in 1958 to the Orient; he has been a delegate to the General Conference the last 16 years, is president of Indiana Teperance Union; is a 33rd degree Mason and a Phi Beta Kappa. He was pastor of the First Methodist church of Bloomington 17 years and is presently serving the Irvington church.

David's grandfather, the late Dr. John W. McFall, is remembered as one of Mooresville's outstanding pastors. He served there 1910-13; was at one time Rushville District Superintendent; was 15 years a trustee of Depauw University; was 20 years secretary of the Board of the Methodist hospital in Indianapolis. He gave 60 years to the ministry.

David's mother, the former Mary Elizabeth Glossbrenner, is a graduate of Depauw and studied at Boston University. She is active in many church and civic organizations; is director of Spiritual Life of the WSCS in Indiana conference and prominent in the non-denominational program "Camp Fatherest Out". She is a daughter of Herbert Glossbrenner, well known Indianapolis business man and widely known in evangelism and social work. He helped found Cadle Tabernacle, the Wheeler Mission and worked with such men as Homer Rodehaver, Billy Sunday and Dwight L. Moody.

Other Methodist ministers are numbered among Rev. McFall's ancestry, one of whom was Rev. Charles Tinsley, father of Mrs. Herbert Glossbrenner. He was a native of Ireland, came to Indiana in 1853 and was associated with his father as an architect and was 62 years a Methodist minister. This remarkable man also preached at Mooresville at one time and is remembered by Mrs. Emma Mills and her sister, Miss Edna Nowland, who are members of the Salem congregation.

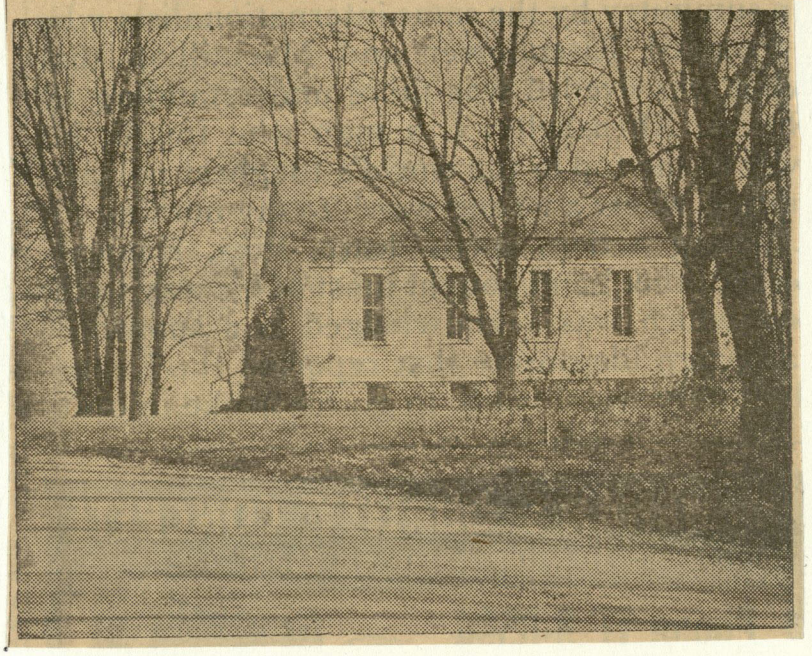
REV. DAVID McFALL

Next Sunday morning at the 10:45 worship hour at the Salem church, Rev. David McFall will be preaching on the topic, "Never Fear to Live". Following this service, there will be a basket dinner and an afternoon program in observance of the 41st annual homecoming of the 132-year-old Salem church.

Go To Church Sunday

June 1, 1961

132-Year-Old Salem Methodist Church To Observe Annual Homecoming June 11



ALBERT SHEETS JR.

The 132-year-old Salem Methodist church will hold its 41st annual Homecoming Sunday, June 11.

The regular Sunday morning schedule willl be observed with Church School at 9:45 and Worship at 10:45. The pastor, Rev. David McFall will be preaching at the worship hour.

There will be a basket dinner at noon and at two o'clock the afternoon program will begin with Albert Sheets, Jr., a former member who united with the church under the pastorate of John Walton, being the speaker. Mr. Sheets, now of Columbus, at one time pastored some churches in the Bloomington district.

Mr. Sheets was graduated from Plainfield high school with the class of 1941. He served in the Navy during World War II, from 1943 to 1946. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Franklin College and his Master of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of Wyoming. He also did graduate work at Butler and Indiana Universities.

He is now Director of Research for the Columbus Community Schools. Prior to his present assignment he has worked for the Chrysler Corporation, taught two years at Center Grove high school and five years in the Columbus Community Schools, and recently was appointed to his present position.

A son of the late Albert A. Sheets Sr., and Mrs. Myrtle, who with another son, Harold, lives on the home place, Albert J., is no stranger in this community. He is married to the former Beulah Pennington and they have two children, Richard 15 and Carolyn, 8. They are members of the Asbury Methodist church in Columbus.

Special music will also be a feature of the afternoon program and will include music by Miss Grenda Hobson, a talented and well known pianist, vocal music by Howard Pritchard, tenor, and a trio composed of Emil Mills, Rev. McFall and Howard Pritchard.

Various committees have been working on arrangements for the homecoming and include the following: Basket dinner, Mrs. Frank Walton, Mrs. Ivy Smitherman, Mrs. Karl Kehrein and Mrs. Claude English, who will serve as special hostesses; afternoon program committee, Ralph Coster, Clair J. Sellars and Kenneth Devore.

The Salem church extends a standing and sincere welcome, throughout the year, to everyone, and especially at this Homecoming time, a hearty welcome is given to everyone to come and enjoy this all-day event.

The Plainfield Messenger

May 25
1961

Church Records Reveal 50-Year Ago Activities

Early in June each year the Salem Methodist church, 7 miles southwest of Plainfield, holds its annual homecoming and in delving into records for the program this year Mrs. Roy Pritchard of Belleville has come across some interesting facts of fifty years ago. Prices then and now are something of an eye-opener to those persons who are not old enough to remember the "good old days".

For instance church members then were not called on for large gifts and when a new roof was to be put on, enough shingles to do the job cost $48.12.

Members of tho Ladies Aid, were shown of record to be Carrie Alexonder, Bess Brill, Mary Clark, Ruth Craven, Cuba Franklin, Lizzie Franklin, Ella Good, Mary Good, Lucile Hadley, Ivy Hite, Martha Hite, Ora Johnson, Mabel Moon, Myrtie Moon, Laura Morrison, Ethel Pickering, Madie Plummer, Sadie Pointer, Arizona Rhodes, Nora Richardson, Carrie Rushton, Ida Rushton, Daisy Scotten, Ivy Sheets and Nettie Sparks.

Some of the interesting bits of information gleaned from the minutes of the Aid's meeting are ss follows:

Sept. 16, 1906. Committee to raise money for new roof for church. Ora Johnson. Nell Hadley, Mary Good and Ruth Craven raised $82.35. Paid $48.12 for shingles. Committee for wall paper: Nora Richardson, Mary Clark and Ivy Sheets. Paper cost $32.46.

Oct. 14, 1908. Salem Ladies Aid met with Madie Plummer and "made" new carpet for the church. Cost, not given.

Apr. 7, 1909. Ladies voted to buy new communion set and linen.

Aug. 8, 1911. "50 cents was received toward buying a new pump."

Nov. 13, 1911. $7.38 paid to Ora Martin for piping for well.

May 30, 1911. It was decided to try and raise the money to fence and clean up the cemetery adjoining the church by each member soliciting as much money as they could. At a basket dinner June 1, a free will offering was taken for the cemetery fund of $5.10 cash and $14.00 subscription.

July 25, 1911. The date, August 2 was decided on for cleaning and fencing the cemetery. The Aid agreed to furnish free dinner to all who would help work on that day.

The contributors to the cemetery fund and the amount given were listed on the records as follows:

Ellen Halfhill, 50c; Will Franklin, $1; Mrs. Jerry Johnson, $2; Wes Sawyer, $5; Mrs. Dennis Cane, $1; Mrs. Ellen Ward, $1; Mrs. Cunningham, 50c; Ola McCracken, 50c; Fred Sheets, 25c; Pace Thompson, $5; Thomas Thompson and wife, $5; Charlie Rushton, $1; Alfred Hadley, $1; M. G. Rushton and wife, $2; Hannah Scotten, $1; Talitha Rushton, $1; Ervin Woodward, 25c; Sadie Franklin, 50c; Martha Thompson, 50c; Mrs. Nan Johnson, $1; Laura Cox, $1; Polly Cox, $5; Mary Allen, $1; Jane Hazelwood, $1; Susan Williams, 50c; Jonah Brill, 50c; Ed Rushton, $1; Ira Rushton, $1; Wilson, $2; W. A. Rushton, $1; Raymond Stout, 50c; Bettie Richardson, $5; Winford Stringer, $1; Dell Keller, $5; Fanny Kivett, $1; Wm. Pointer, $1; Al Pointer, $1; L. J. Rushton, $3; Eliza Rushton, $2; Dora Buel, $1; Clara Thompson, 50c; Enoch Rushton, $1; Wesley Davis, $1; Mattie Friddle, $1; E. F. Barker, $5; Emily Dill, $1; Edna Kirkham, $1; Ambrose Stout, $25; Minta Jordan, $1; Amy Williams, $1; Fred Morrison, $1; Brint Stout, $2; Howard Rushton, 60c; Henry Marley, $18.60; Sam Harper, $1; Ora Morrison, 50c; Alvin Woodward, $2; Emily Dill, $1; Sold to Guy Rushton, 60 rods of fence at 40c per rod, $2.40; Sold to Guy Rushton, barbed wire, 97c; Total $132.07.

Equally careful were the record keepers as to the disbursements for the cemetery, which shows: Fence, $24; barbed wire, $2.50; gate material, $1.65; anchor rods, $4; brace wire, $1; gate latch, 10c; staples, 35c; advertising, 25c; paint, $5; work, painting fence, $1; Bert Smith, grubbing, $6; Eli Franklin, grubbing, $9; Eli Franklin, grubbing, $5.25; Eli Franklin, grubbing and mowing, $6.75; Jerry Breslahan, grubbing and mowing, $6.75; Thomas Thompson for paint, $2.45; Eli Franklin for leveling, $4.50; Fred Morrison for leveling, $3; Guy Rushton for mowing cemetery twice, $1.75. Total $65.30.

Third Week
in June
1961

Salem Homecoming Attracted Guests From Many Places

A pleasant time was enjoyed at the annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist church on June 11. A good number gathered for the morning service and basket linner, with still more present for the afternoon program.

The speaker for the occasion, Mr. Albert Sheets Jr., impressed the audience as he challenged the church to set up a program to meet the needs of its youth and prepare them for Christian service and good citizenship.

Besides those attending from the community and neighboring towns, were: Mrs. Paul H. Quade and small daughter, Atlanta; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Mitchell, Arlington; Mrs. Ross Burrows, Walton; Mr. and Mrs. Pliny Randall, Thorntown; Mr. and Mrs. Lovell Parsons, the Shiloh church community; Mrs. Marian Davis, Seattle, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. Chester J. Baldwin, Dr. Merrill B. McFall and Dick McFall, all of Indianapolis.

One-hundred years ago, five churches, Belleville, Bethesda, Locust Grove, Salem, and Wesley Chapel, comprised the circuit. The combined value of these churches was reported at Conference to be $2000 and the parsonage to be worth $700. John Tansey was the Preacher; J. H. Nobel the Presiding Elder.

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LARA P. GOOD
ATTORNEY AT LAW
INSURANCE COUNSELOR
BONITA, CALIFORNIA

August 4, 1965

Mrs. Roy H. Pritchard,
R.R.#1, Box 209,
Clayton, Indiana

My dear Mrs. Pritchard -

Your letter about the Salem Church interested me very much and brought back a lot of memories to me of the Church and the good people that used to attend there about 1904-12.

Will try to list separately some of the things that I remember that may be of interest to you and your committee; however, my sister Mary who was six years older than I and has lived in the general area all her life could probably be a bit more accurate about some of the details than I can.

On Memorial Day, 1960, my wife and I were visiting Mary at her home in Amo, (Mrs. Charles Cooper), and went for a drive taking in several cemeteries where various relatives and friends were buried. We came by Salem Church. I was very pleasantly surprised to see all the graves had been decorated - all the veterans of the Civil War had small flags and many had flowers. As I remembered the old cemetary it was grown high with weeds and grass that was never cut, and had an abandoned look. While there we took a look at the church. The front door was bolted shut, but I did find the back door unlocked with a sign indicating the church had been fumigated - I don't know what for - religion was not particularly catching in the days that I remember; but perhaps it was just for termites. I did step in and take a quick look around. It was much smaller than I remember.

You mention items on repairs, etc., made to the church. I have covered some of them on a separate page. We usually had our own lumber in those days. We would cut down a few trees, cut into various length logs and haul to the Clayton sawmill owned by Daniel Richardson and have cut up into various sizes - boards, and heavier framing material. We usually had quite a supply in our shop at home seasoning, and Dad often took some of that. I have a hazy recollection that Dad papered the church one year - the church bought the paper and Dad hung the paper. If the church was re-roofed, am sure Dad helped nail on the shingles.

I do not know whether or not my ramblings have furnished you answers to your questions. I could go on for several more pages I suppose. Your letter opened a whole Pandora box of memories, some of which might better have been left forgotten.

Mary told us that the church was being restored I believe. Next time back in Indiana I hope to visit it again, and perhaps meet some of the people I knew in the good old days.

Very sincerely,

L. P. Good

LARA P. GOOD
ATTORNEY AT LAW
INSURANCE COUNSELOR
BONITA, CALIFORNIA

May 27, 1971

Mrs. Roy H. Pritchard
Rural Route 1, Box 209
Clayton, Indiana 46118

My dear Mrs. Pritchard:

Received your invitation to attend Salem Church Home Coming on June 13th. How I wish I could be there, but I suppose I'll have to put off attending for another year. Sounds like a lot of good old fashioned fun.

I can visualize the Basket Dinner spread on a long table along side of the Church as it was more than sixty years ago. During the middle of the summer the table used to be placed on the south side of the Church as far away as the flies from the hitchrack that extended along the north side of the Church and west of the cemetery. But I'll bet most of the cakes and pies now come from pre-mix packages purchased at the store. My mother had the reputation for the best Angle Food Cakes -- her recipe? Well the only actual measurements listed the whites of 13 eggs, and then there was a "little bit of this ;and a pinch of that and just enough of something else" all mixed in with the flour I brought home from the Clayton Mill ground from a sack of wheat I took in for that purpose. Her oven had no temperature gage -- she knew when it was just right by opening the oven door. Just wonder how many of this years housewives brought homemade butter? Bet they brought oleo. What else?

But have a good time and remember I am with you in spirit.

Sincerely,

Lara P. Good

LPG/ph

Lara P. Good
Attorney at Law
Insurance Counselor
Bonita, California

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS ABOUT SALEM CHURCH (1904-12)

By - Lara P. Good (8/8/65)

1. Father, (John W. Good), was Sunday School Superintendent at the Salem Church for three or four years after our move to the Buffalo Farm (4½ miles southeast of Clayton) in September, 1904. We had all been members of the Methodist Church at Mechanicsburg, in Boone County before coming to Hendricks County, and I believe that we transferred our membership to Salem because it was the nearest Methodist Church. Dad had been Supt. of the Sunday school at Mechanicsburg, and when they found that out he was elected to the same job at Salem. Since Dad was a master carpenter, he found many things that needed to be done and the other members always approved if any improvements Dad would make would not cost the rest of them anything. I remember helping him repair the wooden steps at the front and back of the church, as the old ones had rotted through and Dad was afraid someone would get a fall. (I am referring to a physical fall rather than a "fall from grace"). I also remember that Dad made two table tops and four saw horses for the basket dinners in our shop at home and we delivered them to the church. They were stored in the woodshed which stood about fifty feet southeast of the back door. Dad had a pretty well-equipped shop, and always had quite a bit of lumber on hand and for many of the things he did for the church, he used his own material without any charge to the church. The well with the old iron pump was about halfway from the back door to the woodshed, as I remember, and it has probably long ago been pulled out, or broken off - it was a drilled well and of course would have left no holes in the ground. I don't remember about Dad raising the platform west of the pulpit to the level of the pulpit - that may have been done about the time I was in high school. About 1910 I began going to the Presbyterian Church at Clayton, since most of my classmates attended there.

2. I remember that three church benches were west of the pulpit and were used for the choir. For some reason - perhaps to fill up the choir - they let me sing there. Most of the young folks sat in the choir. I remember that my nose used to bleed if I got too warm or too excited and quite frequently it got pretty warm back in that corner, and when my nose started to bleed I would have to crawl over several others getting out to the pump, much to my embarrassment.

3. I took part in most of the Children's Day and Christmas Programs. One year I drove over several times to practice for the Children's Day Exercises and took Mary and Charley Edmonson with me since they also took part even though they normally were enrolled in the Presbyterian Church. Many of the others about our age - from ten to fifteen - were Pearl and Claire Sellers, who lived east of Salem; Nell and Oral Reed who also lived east of the church - not too far from Joppa - (They had an older sister named Laura); the Hiatt Children - the oldest boy - quite a bit older than the rest of us - married Viola Green who lived a half mile north, and who sometimes played the organ - the girl named Iva Hiatt was about the age of my sister Mary, and the youngest boy was probably about ten - I believe he was red-headed and had quite a lot of freckles; the Hiatts lived adjacent to the church grounds on the south. There were several Rushton Children too. Two from the Canary family who lived just west a half mile or so. Cuba Franklin was a few years younger than I and lived about a mile north of Salem. Could probably add a few others if I visited the community again.

4. The hitchrack was a reverse el shaped one - one arm parallel to the north side of the church about 40-50 ft. out and ran back to the cemetery fence, and the other arm ran along the cemetery fence to the west.

5. We used to hold our basket dinners sometimes between the hitchrack and the church, and then again in the summertime near the southeast corner of the church under the shade of some trees. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the picture - I found an old print (from which I made the enclosed negative and made my prints), with a note on back reading, "Salem Church about 1905". I did not recognize the handwriting. I used it because it was typical of the ones I knew about. My mother was very meticulous about her

cooking, and she did not think some of the other sisters of the church were; so she used to tell us what she was taking so we would know from which dishes we should help ourselves. (I blew the picture up, but it was too blurred to identify anyone I ever knew there).

6. I know one squabble that arose shortly after we started attending Salem that blossomed into a Donnybrook. In Boone County, at Ice Cream Socials they only charged for the ice cream and since all the cakes were donated, pieces of cake were given out without charge with each dish of ice cream. At our first Salem Ice Cream Social, mother baked three cakes, which was usually her par for the course - and took over, expecting that all her family would only have to pay for the ice cream and that amounted to quite a bit for a family of kids at ten cents for each helping and we never stopped with one helping. One old "sister" who always tried to run things and did not eat cake herself because she was about fifty pounds overweight anyway, started charging all of us kids for the cake. Mother objected and was over-ruled. Mother saw that none of the other sisters had brought more than one cake, so she just picked up one cake and said, "All right, if that is the way you are going to work it, I see that none of the rest of you brought more than one cake and so here is my donation. Now I'll just take the other two cakes I brought and give away the pieces to anyone who wants cake. I never sold a piece of cake in my life and I won't start now." Both she and the other woman never agreed on any matters as I remember, and years later it just so happened that they lived across the street from each other in Clayton, and while they spoke, I used to josh Mother about them sitting on their front porches and glaring at each other across the street. Mother was always a bit sensitive about it.

7. There was one bachelor about 35-40 by the name of Scotten who was quite religious and wanted to preach but very few wanted to hear him. He meant well, but his words just did not flow too freely. One Sunday the regular preacher on our circuit did not show up and Brother Scotten tried to deliver his sermon he had been looking for a chance to deliver for years. It was quite warm - he was very nervous - perspired freely - guess this was before "Ban", et. al. The flies swarmed around and kept landing on his

forehead and thinning hair line and he kept swatting them with his hands. His gestures he wanted to use in delivery of the sermon ended in a slap on his forehead to kill some flies. Finally he said, "These pesky flies bother a fellow so he can't preach." There were many - particularly the younger fry - who remembered his fly swatting better than they did his sermon.

8. A young man named Earl Craven was the organist for quite a while although some of the girls - my sister Mary included, pinch-hitted for him occasionally. Earl and his mother lived about a mile north and a mile west of the church. His mother used to keep a large flock of geese, which my mother used to help pick for some of the feathers. There was also the Woodward family - all girls, one named Abbie, - I believe most of whom were older than the rest of the unmarried group. Their brother Alvin owned and operated Clayton's leading grocery and mercantile store at the time and owned the home adjacent to Clayton school on the south, which my own parents later bought and where they lived for many years.

9. I remember Father as Supt. was delegated one year to buy the Christmas Candy from Schwartz General Merchandise Store in Mooresville. He examined - I was with him - one bucket about half full - that Schwartz had on display, and it looked pretty good. Schwartz made him a special price since it was for a Christian Church - I could not quite understand it at the time since Schwartz was a Jew, but I later found that "Business is business"; and Dad bought three buckets - about 75 pounds. When he turned it over to the good sisters to fill the red mosquitobar stockings they had sewed together, they discovered it was all cheap Valentine's Day candies composed largely of heart shaped pieces with pictures of Cupid's Bow, "I Love You", etc. and other designs, and Dad got quite a bawling out by the good sisters. He immediately took it back and accused Schwartz of not delivering him the same kind he had picked out. Schwartz swore it was from the same stock but excused himself by saying that it had probably been on display on the counter so long the kids had picked out all the Valentine candy - and left the rest which looked like Christmas stock. Anyway Dad threatened that if he did not exchange it for regular Christmas Candy, he would take all our patronage elsewhere. We had for some time bought most of our clothes there. The new

stock of candy satisfied the committee, and Dad bowed out of the picture. It ended happily but it cost Dad two trips to Mooresville. From then on he let someone else buy the candy.

10. I do not know the names of any of the pastors we had at Salem. The only name I do remember was the one on the same circuit just before our arrival there. His name was Hinshaw and he lived at Belleville. He was accused of murdering his wife and I believe was convicted. Belleville was on the same circuit with Salem and Cherry Grove.

11. The Salem cemetery was apparently established shortly after the first settlers arrived in those parts, as I have noted from the list the first burial was that of James and William DeMoss in 1830; Lucinda Davis in 1829. However I note that most of the burials were around the Civil War days - from the 1850 to 1870 period. The only ones that I knew personally on the list of burials were Ira Rushton, (1912) and his wife Talitha, (1929); Eliza Rushton, (1913); Bedford Rushton, (1914) and his wife Luda Enice Rushton, and their son Paul Rushton (1933) who attended the old Buffalo School the same time I did, (1904-8). Many of these Rushton's lived on the road running west from Salem Church to the Buffalo School. I think I could plot out all their farms.

Ira and Talitha R. had several children including Ray - the youngest who served in U. S. Marine Corps from about 1907-11; Howard, next older, who lived and operated the farm, and I believe I heard afterward that he married a girl named Pritchard; Guy, who married a neighbor girl named Hadley; and one son who was an undertaker in Plainfield, 1920-40 period. I also knew one of the girls who was also at home but I don't remember her name.

Ira Rushton had a large apple orchard and several trees that bore fruit quite early in the season. They were fine neighbors and offered us all the apples that we wanted if I would come over and pick them up. I remember the "Early Harvest", the "Maiden Blush", "Grimes Golden", et. al. I used to ride my horse over and carry back a sack of apples which I bal-

anced across his withers. Howard played the mandolin and someone else played a guitar, and we had "mountain music" long before the "Grand Ole Oprey" was ever thought of.

Ray came home from the Marine Corps in his uniform and rode out from Clayton with me on one occasion as I was going home from school one evening, and surprised his folks.

Enoch Rushton lived to the east of Ira's and Eliza Henderson's widow and Jasper's mother lived to the west. I believe that Enoch had a son and daughter who were married.

Jasper Rushton - better known as "Jap" lived across the road from us and had three children - Lloyd, who was about three years younger than I, Avis, who was still younger, and I believe married a Cooper boy - younger brother of Ernest, and a still younger one who was born about 1906. Jap's wife, Addie, was one of the finest neighbors one could ever ask for. They attended Salem.

12. Across the road from Ira Rushton's - on the north side - lived a Pritchard family with two boys named Horace - who was about my age, and Willie, who was two years younger, and west of the Pritchard's was Mr. Pritchard's sister who was married to Dennis Wrightsman. Mrs. Wrightsman had a hotbed where she raised all kinds of plants - sweet potatoes, tomatoes, etc. We used to buy our plants from her and she would send my mother a bunch of rhubarb - never tasted anything since that tasted so good.

13. Bedford Rushton lived just east of Belleville - Center Valley road and had two children: Madge, or May who was about three years younger than I and Paul who I mentioned earlier.

14. On the Belleville road about a half mile north there was a dairy I believe was owned by a man named Franklin, and was operated by William Henderson and his wife who had four children - oldest boy named Reitzel and one two years younger named Finley. The two girls were younger and named "Alta

and Leila". Later the Henderson's moved to the Art Edmonson farm on our road a half mile to the west of us. They also attended Salem Church.

15. The roads were all either dirt or part dirt and gravel. And in the wintertime our favorite method of travel if there was snow on the ground - and more than half the time there was, - was by a team and large sled which we called a mudboat. We put a wagon bed on it and a thick layer of hay or straw, a pile of horse blankets and we were off to church picking up everyone along the road to Salem. Ofttimes we had twenty people including children as passengers. I especially remember the revival meetings at Salem where we went sledding every night and on Sundays.

16. Of course I remember other churches in the community - there was a Quaker Church about two miles from Salem toward Mooresville. A Dunkard Church south toward Monrovia. The Baptist - "hardshell" one mile southwest at Center Valley, and about two miles west of that on the same road was another called the Missionary Baptist.

17. The John Alexanders lived about two miles almost due south of Salem Church. Later the Alexanders moved to Clayton where he owned and operated the livery stable. Their daughter was named Lucile and was several years younger than I. Across the road from the Alexanders' farm lived a family with several children - can't remember their names but they had moved there from Boone County, as had the Alexanders. They were only a quarter mile from the quaint Quaker Church but they attended Salem Sunday School.

18. The Frank Sparks - Mrs. Sparks was daughter of the Brill family very prominent in Hendricks County - George was County Judge, and Bill operated a furniture store in Danville - lived about a mile and a half southwest of Salem, and adjacent to the Brill farm at Center Valley. They had no children. A younger sister, Bess Brill, was a prominent music teacher.

19. West of Salem about a mile and near the Quaker Church lived a Hadley family - I believe his name was Amos. I believe that it was Amos Hadley on whom this story was told. Can't vouch for its authenticity but here it is.

It seems that Amos had been to the Sunday Yearly Meeting at Plainfield and had come home to do his evening chores and milk his cow, before going back for the evening meeting. Since he had only to milk the cow which was usually a very gentle creature, he decided not to change his garb from the austere Quakerish style while doing his chores. His cow apparently had never seen that kind of clothing on her regular milk man, and was obstreperous. First she had been out in the pasture and had collected a lot of cockleburs in her tail which she used to swipe Amos across the face and eyes a few times. Then she stepped in the bucket of milk and he had to go empty and wash out the bucket before finishing. All the time Amos was getting more and more out of patience with her. Finally when he stepped back after finishing milking and stooped to pick up the bucket, she hauled off and kicked the bucket of milk all over him. His patience had reached the breaking point, and he is supposed to have remarked to the cow, "My faith will not let me curse thee, neither can I beat thee, but I can sell thee to some Baptist who will take a club and beat the hell out of thee." It may have been just a story that some wag made up, because Amos Hadley was one of the most respected men in the community.

20. Not far from Joppa was a large peach orchard to which customers came from far and near. Each fall my parents would drive over and get a dozen bushels of peaches for canning.

21. At Center Valley was the old Craven Homestead. It was occupied during the 1904-8 era by one of the younger ones named Johnny Craven. But one of the Craven daughters married Samuel Ralston, Lawyer from Lebanon, who was Governor of the State about 1910-12; and I think had met his wife while attending Central Normal College at Danville. One of her brothers was registrar at Indiana University when I was there, and another brother lived at Clayton, as I remember; a very near relative anyway.

42ND ANNUAL HOME-COMING

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

"THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD"

There's a church in the Valley by the Wildwood,
No lovelier place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning
To list to the clear ringing bell;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

From the church in the valley by the wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to mansions of light.

CHORUS

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

PROGRAM

Call to order and welcome - - - - - President

Song:
"The Church in The Wildwood" - - Congregation

Devotional - - - - - - - - - Rev. David McFall

Vocal Solo - - - - - - - - - - Howard Pritchard

Offering

BUSINESS SESSION

Instrumental Music - - - - - - - Grenda Hobson

Address - - - - - - - - - - - Rev. James Furbay

Vocal Solo - - - - - - - - - - Howard Pritchard

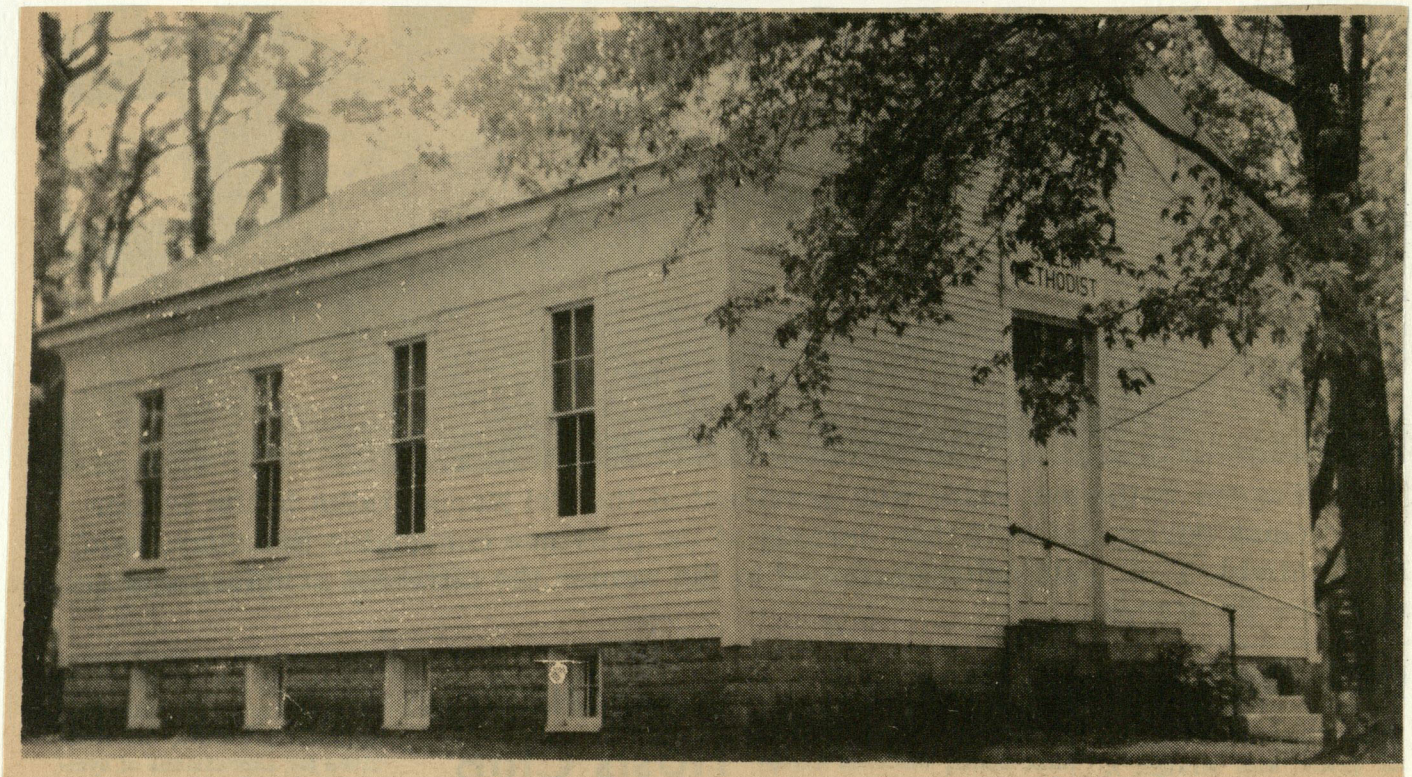
INVITATION FOR REMINICENCES

Music - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - Grenda Hobson

Closing Song - - - - - - - - - - - Congregation

Benediction

CHURCH CELEBRATES BIRTHDAY



Pictured above is the historic Salem Church, was was originated in 1829 and is located in the southeastern corner of Hendricks County.

Howard Pritchard

HOME COMING PROGRAM

Call to Order and Welcome . . . . . Pres. George Johnson
Song, "Church In The Wildwood". . . . . Congregation
Devotional by Pastor . . . . . Rev. David McFall
Vocal Solo. . . . . Howard Pritchard
Offering
Business Session
Variations of Sacred Music. . . . . Grenda Hobson
Address. . . . . Rev. James R. Furboy
Vocal Solo. . . . . Howard Pritchard
Invitation to Reminisce
Music. . . . . Grenda Hobson
Closing Song. . . . . Congregation
Benediction. . . . . Rev. David McFall

Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist, of 1033 North Indiana Road, Mooresville, will provide the vocal music at the homecoming program.

Rev. McFall came to the Salem Church in September, 1958 and is the first of its 107 pastors to remain more than three years.

Miss Grenda Hobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson of the Salem Church community, will be the pianist for the homecoming program.

The Plainfield Messenger, Thursday, November 29, 1956

107 YEARS

CHURCH CELEBRATES BIRTH

Messenger BY DENNIS ABELL 6-7-1962

Located in the southeastern corner of Hendricks County, the Salem Methodist Church stands as one of the oldest organizations of worship in Hendricks County having been organized 107 years ago.

Sunday, June 10, the church will hold it's 42nd annual home coming which will feature an afternoon program of entertainment for guests.

The church's history dates back to 1829, the year in which Andrew Jackson was inaugurated to his first term of office as the seventh president of the United States and when there was an increasing number of people coming to Indiana and Hendricks County.

A large percent of travelers were from Nort h Carolina; several from Virginia and other eastern states, but few from the New England section. Indiana as a state was then 13 years old and Hendricks County was five years old. Danville had been laid out as the county seat and a few cabins were being built. The survey for the National Road was being made through Guilford, Liberty and Franklin Townships in Hendricks County. Mainly the settlers were using trails made through the forests by the Indians or naimals.

Religious privileges and advantages were few with the only meeting places the pioneers had, at first, for worship being located in their cabins.

As a whole, the founders of the Salem Methodist Church averaged approximately two and one-half years residence in the vicinity, when the Methodist Society was organized at the home of Joshua Marshall. Location for a church was chosen in the southwest quarter of section nineteen, township fourteen in Liberty Township. Today's plain white frame meeting house, of 1850 design, sits on the same site selected in August of 1829, for the original log church.

Land for the church was donated by William Ruston who had purchased the property from the government. Ruston had walked into Indiana from North Carolina.

Joseph Tarkington was the first regular preacher who had started preaching at the home of Edmond Cooper in 1829.

On the twenty-eighth day of December, 1829, Joshua Marshall and his wife legally conveyed the three acres and four rods on which the church had been built and which had been bargained for previously to George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Boles and Daniel Roberts and their successors as trustees.

The camp meetings at Salem were memorable occasions for approximately thirty years being conducted in 1837 and were still being conducted in 1859 and after. The camp ground was five acres of the woods, north of and across the present road from the church. This religious encampment, for the benefit of all the churches on the circuit to which Salem belonged, was widely known and greatly attended.

Sometime near 1850 the present church was constructed. At that time, the pulpit was in the north end of the church. The seats were backless with the labor and material for the building being donated.

The first Sunday School at Salem of which has been recorded was April, 1853. In 1861, the first Sunday School convention was held at Salem with Rev. F. Macey presiding. The first State Sunday School Convention was held on April 29, 1866.

Early in 1883 the church was remodeled while Rev. Woodruff was pastor. The pulpit was removed from the north end to the south end of the church and double doors were cut in the north end and one of the south doors were closed. The reconstruction was done in order to have the church's structure conform with the ownship road.

For some years there was a saw mill in the hollow, west of the Salem Church, powered by water from the nearby stream which now is quite small.

Near the southwest corner of the grave yard is a very faint trace of the old road when it descended into the hollow farther south than where it does now.

Uncounted funerals have been held at the Salem church, and numerous burials in the yard nearby, as a search in the cemetery will reveal. Some of the founders of the church lie buried there. The graves date back as far as September 15, 1829, when Lucinda Davis, one of the church's founders, was buried. A broken stone marks the graves of the wife of Rev. Calvin Lee, whose pastorate at Salem closed about the time of his wife's death in 1857. Stones mark the graves of six soldiers who were Jesse Carter, J.W. Cutshall, G.B. Cutshall, J.M. Bray, Miles W. Bray and Lewis C. Ruston. There are 163 marked stones in the cemetery. However, it is estimated that the total number of graves, including those not marked, number about eight times that amount.

According to Mrs. Ruth Pritchard, who has been an active member in the Salem church since 1929, and church historian since 1936, to the experienced eyes and practiced mind of interested persons, much more history can be read in the style of the stones and wording of inscriptions in the cemetery, and in the mark of the adz upon sills and floor joists, in cut nails, wide poplar flooring and evidence of remodeling in the church. Mrs. Pritchard remarked: "Like any of the material blessings bestowed so bountifully upon mankind, to truly be a blessing, it must be used and its benefits shared."

Speaking at the Salem Homecoming will be Rev. James R. Furboy, educator, minister, traveler and lecturer. Mr. Furboy of Plainfield, is now the Christian Education Director of the Western Yearly Meeting of the Friends Church.

Rev. Furboy has traveled in many countries and has made a number of film and slide sets. Last summer he went as a member of a study tour group to the countries of the Middle East, including Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Israel and Lebanon. He has given his illustrated travel talks before many civic, educational and religious groups in his country.

Listed with biographical sketches is a number of "Who's Who" publications in this and other countries. His theme will be "For This Our Day and Generation."

Pastor of the church presently is Rev. David McFall who follows a line of 107 ministers who have belonged to the Salem Church since its creation.

43RD ANNUAL HOME-COMING

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY JUNE 9, 1963

"THE CHURCH IN THE WILDWOOD"

There's a church in the Valley by the Wildwood,
No lovelier place in the dale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood As the little brown church in the vale.

How sweet on a clear Sabbath morning
To list to the clear ringing bell;
Its tones so sweetly are calling,
Oh, come to the church in the vale.

From the church in the valley by the Wildwood,
When day fades away into night,
I would fain from this spot of my childhood
Wing my way to mansions of light.

CHORUS

Oh, come to the church in the wildwood
Oh, come to the church in the vale;
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

PROGRAM

Call to order and welcome --- President

Song:
"Church in the Wildwood" --Congregation

Devotional ------- Rev. James Thompson

Vocal Solo ---------- Howard Pritchard

OFFERING

BUSINESS SESSION

Instrumental Music - - Grenda Hobson

Sermon - - - - - - - Rev. Harry Spear

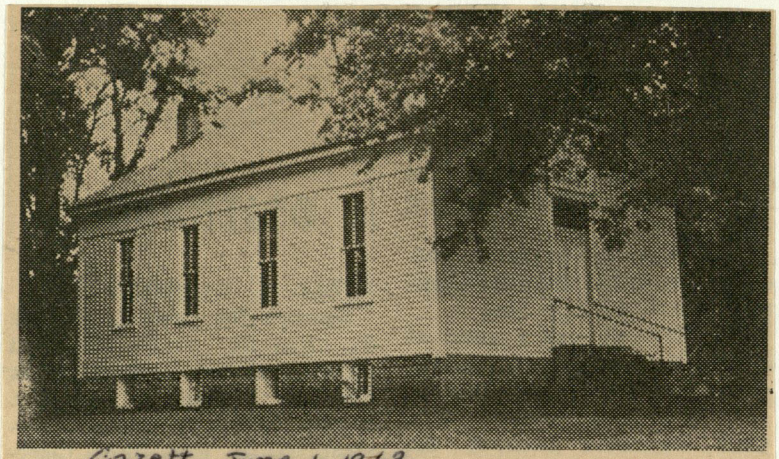
Vocal Solo - - - - - Howard Pritchard

INVITATION FOR REMINISCENCES

Music - - - - - - - - - - Grenda Hobson

Closing Song - - - - - - Congregation

Benediction - - - - - - - Rev. Thompson



Gazett June 6 1963

Salem Methodist Church Plans 43rd Homecoming Sunday

The Salem Methodist church, located southeast of Belleville, will observe its 43rd annual homecoming with special services Sunday, June 9.

Program for the day's activities includes the regular morning services of worship at 9:15, church school at 10:15, a basket dinner at noon, and a homecoming program at 2 o'clock.

Speaker for the program will be Rev. Harry Spear of the Mooresville Christian church. George Johnson is chairman of the program committee.

Special music will be presented by Miss Grenda Hobson, pianist and music student at Indiana university, and Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist from Mooresville.

Miss Hobson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson, and has played in televised and numerous other programs. Howard has been singing several years and continues to receive an increasing number of requests to participate in church and other events.

The Salem church is located 2½ miles south and 1½ miles east of Belleville. It stands on ground purchased by William Rushton of North Carolina, from the federal government, and sold to William Marshall, whose son, Joshua, deeded the land to the church in 1829.

The public is invited to attend the homecoming program.

The Salem Cemetery is one of the oldest in the county, with the earliest recorded burial being September 15, 1829. Many of the graves are unmarked, the sharp-edge stones having disappeared into the ground. Names of those buried and the location of some graves are unknown.

Those attending the homecoming program Sunday may obtain a prepared list of the names of those buried in the cemetery. The list of names include: Andrew, Bailey, Barker, Bary, Bray, Brill, Carter, Case, Cavinesss, Cutshall, Davis, Demoss, Dorrah, Ellis, Farmer, Fowler, Franklin, Friddle, Fultz, Glaze, Gregory, Hammonds, Hamrick, Harper, Hess, Jelf, Jessup, Johnson, Lee, Marley, Martin, Marshall, McClellan, McHaffie, Mendenhall, Merideth, Morrison, Pike, Plummer, Richardson, Rushton, Sanders, Sawyers, Scotten, Stout, Tate, Tomlinson, Thompson, Ward, Williams, Wood and Wright.

Salem Church Homecoming

The 43rd annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist Church will be held Sunday, June 9. The day's schedule includes the regular morning services of worship at 9:15; church school at 10:15; basket dinner at noon and homecoming program at 2 p.m.

The program committee, under the chairmanship of George Johnson, has secured a very capable speaker, Rev. Harry Spear of the Mooresville Christian Church.

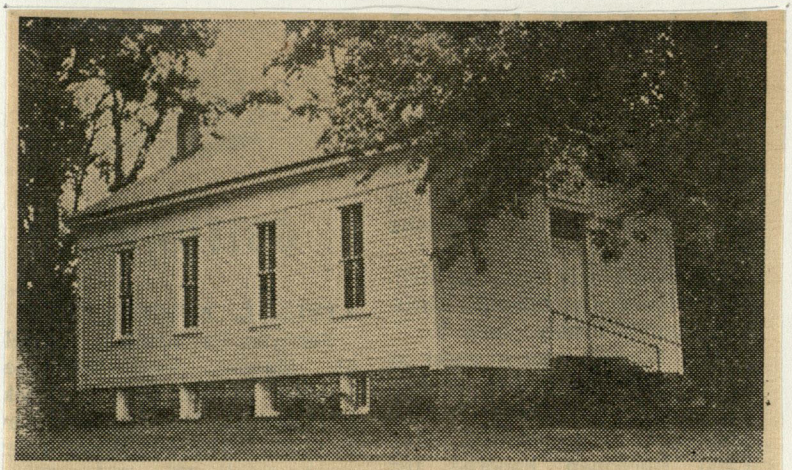
The congregation is always delighted to have two of the community's native citizens present for the occasion. They are talented musicians; Miss Grenda Hobson, pianist and music student at Indiana University; and Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist of Mooresville. Miss Hobson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson and has played in televised and numerous other programs. Howard has been singing a number of years and continues to receive an increasing number of requests to participate in church and various other events.

The Salem Church, located 2 1/2 miles south and 1 1/2 miles east of Belleville, stands on ground purchased by William Rushton of North Carolina, from the U.S. government and sold to William Marshall, whose son Joshua, deeded the ground to the church in 1829.

Anyone attending the afternoon service, who is interested, will be given a copy of grave stone inscriptions, taken from the church cemetery.

Every one whether or not formerly or presently connected with the church is cordially invited to attend the homecoming service.

THE PLAINFIELD NEWS-LEADER



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Gazette June 6 1963

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Program for the day's activities includes the regular morning services of worship at 9:15, church school at 10:15, a basket dinner at noon, and a homecoming program at 2 o'clock.

Speaker for the program will be Rev. Harry Spear of the Mooresville Christian church. George Johnson is chairman of the program committee.

Special music will be presented by Miss Grenda Hobson, pianist and music student at Indiana university, and Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist from Mooresville.

Miss Hobson is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson, and has played in televised and numerous other programs. Howard has been singing several years and continues to receive an increasing number of requests to participate in church and other events.

The Salem church is located 2½ miles south and 1½ miles east of Belleville. It stands on ground purchased by William Rushton of North Carolina, from the federal government, and sold to William Marshall, whose son, Joshua, deeded the land to the church in 1829.

The public is invited to attend the homecoming program.

The Salem Cemetery is one of the oldest in the county, with the earliest recorded burial being September 15, 1829. Many of the graves are unmarked, the sharp-edge stones having disappeared into the ground. Names of those buried and the location of some graves are unknown.

Those attending the homecoming program Sunday may obtain a prepared list of the names of those buried in the cemetery. The list of names include: Andrew, Bailey, Barker, Bary, Bray, Brill, Carter, Case, Cavinesss, Cutshall, Davis, Demoss, Dorrah, Ellis, Farmer, Fowler, Franklin, Friddle, Fultz, Glaze, Gregory, Hammonds, Hamrick, Harper, Hess, Jelf, Jessup, Johnson, Lee, Marley, Martin, Marshall, McClellan, McHaffie, Mendenhall, Merideth, Morrison, Pike, Plummer, Richardson, Rushton, Sanders, Sawyers, Scotten, Stout, Tate, Tomlinson, Thompson, Ward, Williams, Wood and Wright.

Salem Methodist Schedules 43rd Annual Homecoming For June 9

Messenger June 6 1963

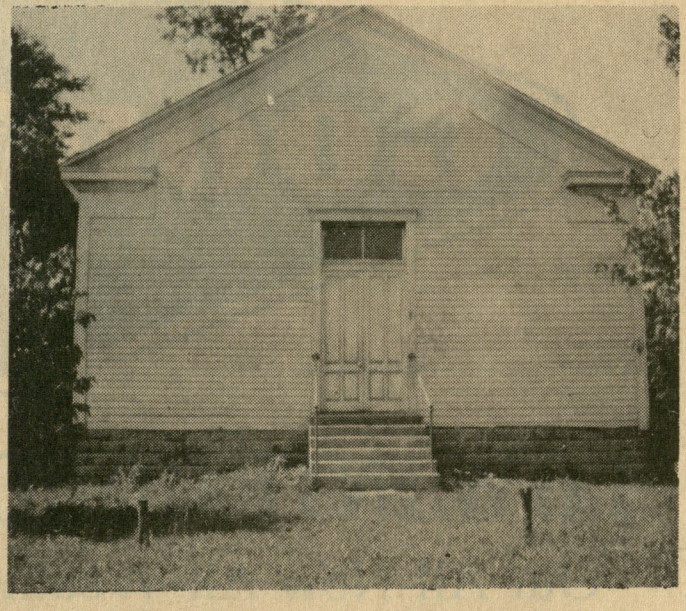
The 43rd annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist Church will be held Sunday, June 9, The day's schedule includes the morning worship at 9L15; church school at 10:15; basket dinner at noon at homecoming program at 2 p.m.

Two musicians will perform: Miss Grenda Hobson, pianist and music student at Indiana University, and Howard Pritchard a tenor soloist of Mooresville. Miss Hobson is daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson and has played intelevised and numerous other programs. Mr. Pritchard has been singing a member for years in church and various other events.

The Salem Church, located 2 1/2 miles south and 1 1/2 miles east of Belleville, stands on ground purchased by William Rushton of North Carolina from the government and sold to William Marshall, whose son Joshua, deeded the ground to the church in 1829.

Any one attending the afternoon service, who is interested, will be given a copy of grave stone inscriptions taken from the church cemetery.

Every one is cordially invited to attend the homecoming service, says Rev. James W. Thompson, pastor.



SALEM CHURCH

Salem Church Cemetery Is Historic Site In Hendricks

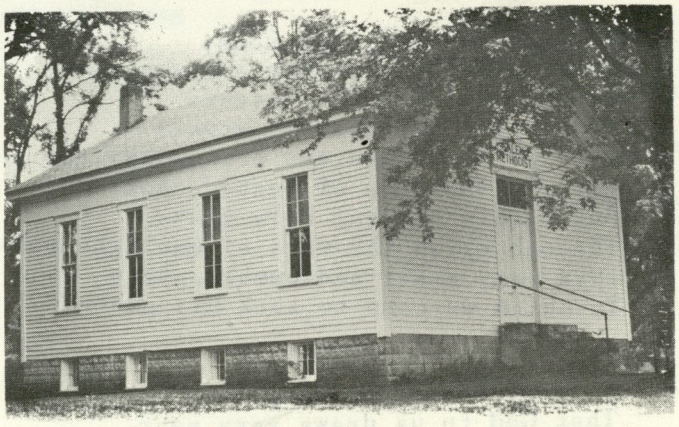
Located in the south part of Liberty Township of Hendricks County, Salem Methodist is one of the county's oldest churches. It was organized and the first church built in 1829.

The Salem Cemetery is also one of the oldest in the county, the earliest recorded burial being September 15, 1829. Many graves are unmarked -- the sharp-edged field stones having long ago sunk from view into the ground. Names of the occupants and the location of some unmarked graves are known.

From the stones bearing legible inscriptions, a mimeographed list of names is being prepared. Copies will be given to interested persons attending the afternoon program of the 43rd annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist Church Sunday June 9, 1963.

The list includes these names: Andrew, Bailey Barker, Bary, Bray, Brill, Carter, Case, Caviness, Cutshall, Davis, Demoss, Dorrah, Ellis, Farmer, Fowler, Franklin, Fiddle, Fults, Glaze Gregory, Hammonds, Hamrick, Harper, Hess, Jelf, Jossup, Johnson, Leo Marley, Martin, Marshall, McCellan, Mc Haffio, Mendenhall, Merideth, Morrison, Pike, Plummer, Richardson, Rushton, Sanders, Sawyer, Scotten, Stout, Tate, Temlinson, Thompson, Ward, Williams, Wood, Wright.

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH



44th ANNUAL HOME COMING

SUNDAY JUNE 14,1964

Rev. James W. Thompson, Pastor
Ronnie Darnell, President
Robert Low, Vice President
Ruth Pritchard, Secretary

The Little Church at Huron City
by Edgar A. Guest

I wonder if God sees today
This little church wherein we pray?
I wonder if His eye detects
Among the churches man erects
With gilded domes and brazen spires:
With in the pomp of vested choirs
And marble altars; holy glass
Through which the rays of sunlight pass
This very small and humble place
To which we come to seek His grace?

I fancy often, sitting here
That God to us draws very near.
That He, too, sometimes steps aside
From all the larger things of pride
And like us, slips away to be
Refreshed by calm simplicity,
And comes to share the lovely boon
Of this our Sunday afternoon.
I've felt in some strange way God sees
Our little church among the trees.

I'm sure that God must like this spot
Where wealth and fame are boasted not;
Where some of us long journeys make
To worship here for worship's sake:
Where faith is not a sham, and trust
Not something done because we must,
But all is simple and sincere
And all find strength and comfort here.
I'm very sure that God must see
This church and love it, as do we.

PROGRAM

Congregational Song	'All Hail The Power of Jesus Name'
Welcome	President
Scripture and Prayer	Rev. James W. Thompson
Solo	Rachal Maxwell

Business

Piano Solo	Grenda Hobson
Solo	Rachel Maxwell
Address	Albert Sheets, Jr.
Solo	Howard Pritchard
Remarks--------Reminiscences----------Observations	
Congregational Song	'Blest Be The Tie That Binds'
Benediction	Rev. Thompson

A Brief History 1964

One-hundred-thirty-five years ago our Creator planted a church in the wilderness. In August of 1829 a hewed log meeting-house was 'raised in the presence of an assembled multitude' at the location of the present edifice. A clapboard roof covered it. Flooring and seating was sawed at the Evan Davis mill on White Lick. There was no chimney so an opening was made in the middle of the floor and filled with clay on which a charcoal fire provided warmth. Thus the pioneer congregation worshipped for years.

The Salem vicinity early experienced the need of a graveyard and this was provided on the adequate three acres and four rods of the church ground. September 15,1829, Lucinda, three-year old daughter of Evan and Rebecca Davis, died. Her stone bears the earliest date of any in the cemetery. No doubt their are many others of a very early date, as field stones and creek rocks mark many graves. Scratched on one stone is 'Wm Marshall' and on a rock some initials and the date 1839.

The Salem camp-meeting was established in the 1830s and was held for years in the woods north of the church. The last meeting mentioned was in 1859.

In 1854 a public school was opened in a new frame ~~brick~~ — 1881 building east of the church. Forty-eight years it served the educational needs of the neighborhood children.

About 1850 the log church was replaced by a new frame structure. Subsequently changes occurred from time to time. The first was necessary when the road was altered from its earlier course up the hill south of the churchyard, to run north of the church in its present location. While the old road was in use, entrance was through two doors in the south end, but with the road north of the church, one of the south doors was closed and the other left open for easy access to the wood and coal shed, at the southeast corner of the church. A large double door was made in the north end and the pulpit moved to the south. Two large post supporting the ceiling were removed from the sanctuary and stored in the attic for possible future use. Apparently new wood work replaced the old and new paint was applied to the exterior.

Regular maintenance and repair went on through the years, but 1908 saw more than the usual improvements, a new roof (shingles $48.12), new wall paper $32.46, floor raised west of and even with the pulpit and new carpet. Changes havedcontinued through the following decades, basement, furnaces, organs, pianos ect.

The little white church by the side of the road is a reminder of an everlasting and unchanging God. The congregation always welcomes everyone to enter and worship therein. May the Salem Church remain a house of God and a place where people work together in Christian love and peace.

Salem Methodist Church Has 44th Homecoming

Plainfield Messenger June 1964

The 44th annual home-coming of 135 year old Salem Methodist Church will be held Sunday, June 14.

Morning services include worship at 9:15, with the pastor Rev. James W. Thompson preaching, and church school will be at 10:15.

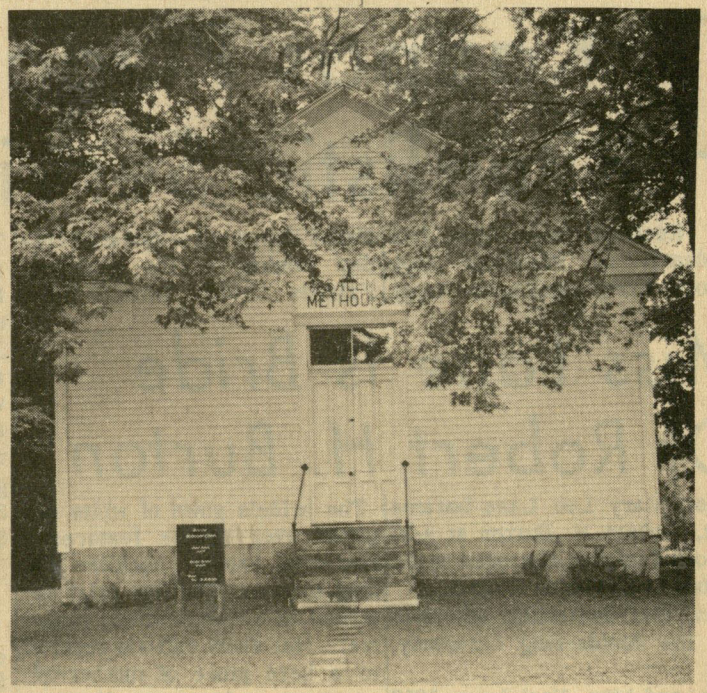
The noon meal will be a basket dinner in the church basement. The program for the afternoon has been arranged by Roy Pritchard, Claire Sellars and Harold Sheets, and will start at 2 p.m. The speaker is Albert Sheets, Jr., a native of Hendricks Conty and a son of the late Albert Sheets, Sr., and Mrs. Myrtle Sheets. He is a graduate of Plainfield High School and holds degrees from Franklin College and the University of Wyoming. He, with his wife and two children, live in Columbus, Indiana, where he teaches in the Columbus Community Schools. Music will be provided by Rachel Maxwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Maxwell of the Sugar Grove neighborhood near Plainfield, where Rachel is a student in junior high school. She is active in various music groups and is also an excellent pianist.

Another musical talent will be pianist Grenda Hobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson of the Salem Church community. Grenda is in her fourth year at Indiana University School of music, where she is an outstanding student and has received many honors.

A tenor soloist that Salem always welcomes is Howard Pritchard of 1033 North Indiana Road, Mooresville, He formerly resided at Joppa and was a member of the Salem Church. Howard has studied voice at the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music, has sung with the IPALCO Choir and now sings with the choir of the Mooresville Christian Church where he is a member.

The pastor of the Salem Church, Rev. James W. Thompson is a graduate of Mitchell High School, has attended Indiana University, and is enrolled in the annual 4 weeks intensive traning course for Ministers at Garrett Biblical Seminary.

Some early marriages have been recorded in the church archives and will receive special attention at the homecoming. They are: 1838 Wesley Martin - Lavina Davis, Samual Brenton, Minister; 1839 Charles E. Woodward - Mary Cook, Bowater Bales, Minister; 1839 Nathan S. Woodward Cynthia Cook, Bowater Bales, Minister; 1840 James McPherson - Polly Sabina Harper, Bowater Bales, 1842 Nathan Merideth - Rachel Garrison (2nd) wife, Joshua Marshall, Minister, 1842 Milo H. Moon - Malinda Davis, Bowater Bales, Minister, 1844 Peter Demoss - Elmira Bryant, (Minister not listed) 1843 Daniel Hornaday - Delia Farmer, Joshua Marshall, Minister, 1844 Nathan York - Rebecca Fogleman, Joshua Marshall, 1847 William F. Marley - Mary R. Demoss, Nathan Merideth, Minister, 1850 William Plummer Matilda Rushton, Nathan Merideth, 1850 John E. Jones - Sarah Jane Ramsey, Nwthan Merideth, Minister; 1850 Joshua F. Barker - Sabina Demoss, Beason Barker, Minister, 1852 William O. Thompson - Mary Ann Marshall, Nathan Merideth, Minister, 1852, John Fogleman - Mary Farmer, Nathan Merideth, Minister, 1852, Allen Rushton, Jane Demoss, Beeson Barker.



SALEM METHODIST CHURCH
135 YEARS OLD

Salem church to have home-coming

Thursday June 11, 1964
Times

The 44th annual home-coming of the 135 year old Salem Methodist Church will be held Sunday.

Regular morning services will be held with a basket dinner in the church basement at noon.

The program has been planned by Roy Pritchard, Claire Sellars and Harold Sheets, and will start at 2 p.m. The speaker will be Albert Sheets, Jr., a native of the vicinity and a son of the late Albert Sheets, Sr., and Mrs. Myrtle Sheets. He is a graduate of Plainfield high school and holds degrees from Franklin College and the University of Wyoming. He with his wife and two children live in Columbus, Ind. where he teaches in the Columbus community schools.

Of considerable interest will be music provided by Miss Rachel Maxwell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Maxwell of Sugar Grove neighborhood near Plainfield.

Other musical talent will be Grenda Hobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson of the Salem Church community. Grenda is in her fourth year at Indiana University School of music, where she is an outstanding student and has received many honors.

A tenor soloist, Howard Pritchard of Mooresville will sing. Howard has studied voice at the Arthur Jordan Conservatory of Music, has sung with the IPALCO choir wnd now sings with the choir of the Mooresville Christian Church where he is a member.

The pastor of Salem Church, Rev. James W. Thompson is a graduate of Mitchell high school, has attended Indiana University, is enrolled in the Annual 4 weeks intensive training course for ministers at Garrett Biblical Seminary. Under his leadership various projects and improvements have been accomplished.

Early marriages of the community were: 1838 Wesley Martin - Lavina Davis; 1839 Charles E. Woodward - Mary Cook; 1839 Nathan S. Woodward - Cynthia Cook; 1841 James McPherson - Polly Sabina Harper; 1842 Nathan Merideth - Rachel Garrison (2nd wife); 1842 John T. Hamrick - Porlina Davis; 1842 Milo H. Moon - Malinda Davis; 1844 Peter Demoss - Elmira Bryant; 1843 Daniel Hornaday - Delia Farmer; 1844 Nathan York - Rebecca Fogleman; 1847 William F. Marley - Mary R. Demoss; 1850 William Plummer - Matilda Rushton; 1850 John E. Jones - Sarah Jane Ramsey; 1850 Joshua F. Barker - Sabina Demoss; 1852 William O. Thompson - Mary Ann Marshall; 1852 John Fogleman - Mary Farmer; and 1852 Allen Rushton - Jane Demoss.

Minister's Wife Is '68 Mother

Special to The News

MARTINSVILLE—Mrs. Morris B. McClure, 67 wife of a retired Methodist minister and mother o five sons in the ministry, has been named Indiana Mother of the Year for 1968.

Announcement was made by Mrs. Dorothy Lewis, New York City, president of American Mothers, Inc., which annually sponsors a nationwide program for outstanding mothers.

Sons of the McClures are:

Paul E. McClure, program associate for the Indianapolis Church Federation.

Bruce E. McClure, chaplain, Bethesda Methodist Hospital churches, Cincinnati, O.

L. Edwin McClure, minister, Trinity Methodist Church, Kentland, Ind.

Karl E. McClure, minister, Memorial Methodist Church, Princeton, Ind.

M. Allen McClure, chaplain to Episcopal students, Ball State University, who next week will begin work as minister of the Evansville (Ind.) Episcopal Church.

Mrs. M. B. McClure . . . Indiana's Mother of 1968.

Mrs. McClure's life for 45 years has been centered in church work. Her husband served his first pastorate in Clarksburg, and then moved to Browns Mills, N.J., where he was student pastor while at Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N.J.

Then began a long perio of church service as Mrs. McClure entered into work of the various areas where her husband was called as minister. The Grace Methodist Church at Bedford, the College Corner Methodist Church, Ohio, and the Orleans, Methodist Church were some of the early locations.

In Tell City where the Rev. Mr. McClure was pastor fron 1937-43, Mrs. McClure was superintendent of the children's division of the church school, and directed the children's choir.

She cosponsored the Methodist Youth Fellowship in Methodist churches at Batesville, Spencer and Bloomfield when her husband served as minister of churches in those Indiana localities.

From 1951-54, the Rev. Mr. McClure was pastor of the Capitol Avenue Methodist Church, Indianapolis, and she was active in Indianapolis church work. She assisted her husband, also when he was pastor in the Howell Methodist Church, Evansville, and in the Methodist churches at Tell City and Princeton.

She has been active in the Women's Society of Christian Service, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, is a member of the Bible study group of the First Methodist Church, Martinsville, and of the Martinsville Department Club. Nomination for her selection as Indiana mother was made by the Dorcas class of the Martinsville church.

Mrs. McClure will represent Indiana at the 1968 Awards Week Conference of the American Mothers Committee, Inc., May 5-9 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

'A REAL NICE FEELING' Star May 1967

Mother-Of-Year Title Honors Pastor's Wife

STAR STATE REPORT

Martinsville, Ind. — Mrs. Lucia B. McClure, 67-year-old wife of a retired Methodist minister and mother of five sons, has been named Indiana's Mother of the Year for 1968.

"It's a real nice feeling," said Mrs. McClure yesterday. "I hardly know what to say other than I certainly appreciate the honor."

Four of Mrs. McClure's sons are pastors of churches and her other son is an officer in a church organization. Her husband is the Rev. Morris B. McClure.

HER SELECTION was announced by Mrs. Dorothy Lewis of New York City, president of the American Mothers Inc. The organization annually sponsors a nationwide program to choose an outstanding mother from each of the 50 states.

Mrs. McClure will be honored for five days beginning May 5 at a meeting of 11 the mothers at the Waldorf-Astoria hotel in New York City. The program will include banquets and speakers. On May 9 the American Mother of the Year will be named.

MRS. McCLURE was nominated for the honor by some friends for her work in church and community activities.

The McClure sons are:

Paul E. McClure, 44, 7354 Woodside Drive, Indianapolis, program associate for the Indianapolis Church Federation.

Bruce E. McClure, 41, Cincinnati, O., chaplain at Bethesda Hospital Methodist Chapel at Cincinnati.

L. Edwin McClure, 39, pastor of the Trinity Methodist Church at Kentland.

Karl E. McClure, 37, pastor of Memorial Methodist Church at Princeton.

Maurice A. McClure, 34, chaplin to Episcopal students at Ball State University. Next week, he will begin an assignment as pastor of Evansville Episcopal Church.

Dr. Morris B. McClure served Salem church first four months of the Indiana Conference year 1964

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SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

45 th Annual Homecoming

Sunday June 13, 1965

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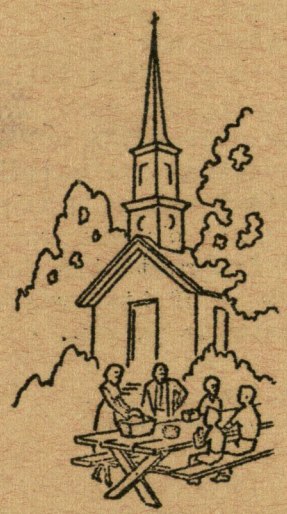

Rev. Russell P. Kemmerer Pastor

Mr. Claire J. Sellars, President

Mrs Roy H. Pritchard, Secretary

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"FLOWERS LEAVE THEIR FRAGRANCE
ON THE HAND THAT BESTOWS THEM

There's an old Chinese proverb
that if practiced each day,
Would change the whole world in
a wonderful way-
Its truth is so simple, it's so
easy to do
And it works every time and
successfully, too;;.
For you can't do a kindness
without a reward,
Not in silver nor in gold
but in joy from the Lord-
You can't light a candle to
show others the way
Without feeling the warmth
of that bright little ray...
And you can't pluck a rose,
all fragrant with dew,
Without part of its fragrance
remaining on you.

Helen Steiner Rice

****

I WILL

I will sit at the feet of anyone
Who speaks the simplest truth.
I will humble myself before all those
Who are more humble than I.
I will delight in the presence of those
Through whom God's beauty flows.
I will love those who love God
More than they love themselves.

Malcolm Scholoss

PROGRAM 2 P.M.

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CONGREGATIONAL SONG

WELCOME President. Mr. C. J. Sellars

SCRIPTURE AND PRAYER Rev. Kemmerer

DUET Margaret Ann Keller
Tressie Secreste

****

BUSINESS

PRESENTATION OF MEMORIAL PLACK Rev. Kemmerer

SOLO Howard Pritchard

ADDRESS Dr. Morris B. McClure

REMARKS AND REMINISCENCES

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

BENEDICTION Rev. Kemmerer

****

THE LOVE OF GOD

The love of God pervades all space.
The love of God flames in the hearts
of all living beings.
The love of God illumines and directs
all intelligences.
The love of God harmonizes and purifies
all relationship.
The love of God liberates all souls.

HISTORY

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The Salem Methodist Church was organized and the first meeting house built in the early pioneer days, when the scattered settlers traveled the Indian trails through the unsettled forest.

Progress through the years has widened and straightened these narrow winding trails into smooth broad highways. Transportation has advanced from the horse and wagon days, to our modern means of Jets and rockets and super motor cars.

Means of communication have increased from the days of once a week newspapers and few letters; to our present system of vast T.V networks, telephones, and revolving staellite. Education has emerged a half century from the one room schoolhouse to increasingly commodious buildings . We have become specialist in education and training.

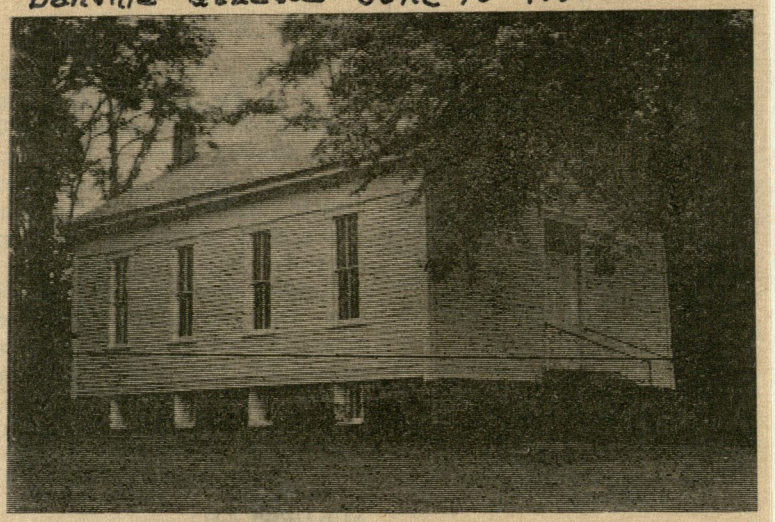
Our economy has advanced with our society to the point where man no longer has to be self-reliant. We now live in an interdependent system. Transitions have also taken place in the life of the church. Towns have sprung up around churches, which have grown from the one room meeting place to larger edifices.

Yes, there have been many changes in the last 45 years but one thing that will not change is our Everlasting God, and our need for Him. Perhaps we do know more about him; to the point of being better able to understand His words, but our Love for Him and His love for us is everlasting.

The mission of the little Salem Church in it's surrounding community is to serve as an instrument in the hands of the creator, in helping to fashion and nourish Christian lives. As we today celebrate our 45th homecoming, let us lift our prayer that this church will continue its witness to God as it has for the past one hundred thirty five years, a beacon and a haven to all who seek God.

Ruth Pritchard.

Danville Gazette June 10 1965



Salem Church Plans 45th Homecoming Sunday

The 45th annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist church has been scheduled for Sunday, June 13.

Regular services will be conducted in the morning, with Rev. Russell Kemmer speaking at the 9:15 worship service, and church school at 10:15. There will be a basket dinner at noon.

Rev. Dr. Morris B. McClure, Martinsville, will be the afternoon speaker. Dr. McClure supplied the Monrovia and Salem pulpits for 3½ months from the annual conference until Rev. Kemmerer arrives in October.

Rev. Kemmerer, church pastor, entered the ministry after a 14-year career in baseball. He was playing with the Oklahoma City 89'ers when he was appointed by Bishop Rains to the Monrovia Salem charge. Rev. Kemmerer now pitches with the Plainfield Bears.

Rev. Kemmerer is connected with the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and fills many speaking engagements in various cities and towns.

Claire J. Sellers is president of the meeting. Tressie Secreste and Margaret Ann Keller, Monrovia, will be on the afternoon program. Howard Pritchard, former member of the Salem church and now of the Mooresville Christian church, will be the soloist.

There will be a presentation of a plaque, in connection with a gift received by the church recently from the late Oba H. Johnson. Program folders will contain a brief historical note of this church, which has functioned since 1829.

A general invitation is extended to the public to attend the 45th annual homecoming.

FINED IN JP COURT

~~Carolyn J. Ooley, Brownsburg, paid $19.75, fine and costs, after being arraigned in Center JP court on a charge of failure to yield right-of-way. The charge was filed by Trooper James Nossett.~~

Salem Church

Salem Church To Observe Homecoming

By Dennis Abell

Sunday, June 13, the Salem Methodist Church will observe its forty-fifth annual homecoming and celebrate its one hundred and tenth birthday.

Located in the southeastern corner of Hendricks County, the church stands as one of the oldest organizations of worship in Hendricks County.

The program will begin at 2:00 p.m.

Speaking at the occasion will be the Reverend Morris B. McClure, a retired Methodist minister, having served over 40 years as a Methodist pastor.

Presiding over the program will be Claire J. Sellars. Assisting Sellars will be Tressie Secreste and Margaret Ann Keller from Monrovia.

Howard Pritchard, a former member of the Salem Church and now of the Mooresville Christian Church will be the guest soloist.

The church's pastor, the Reverand Russell Kemmerer, will be presenting a plaque in connection with a recent gift left by the late Oba H. Johnson for the church.

There will be a noon meal at the church following Sunday School. The morning worship hour will convene at 9:15.

The speaker, Rev. McClure, was graduated from Kentucky Wesleyan Academy. He spent a brief period with the military in the latter part of World War I and then was graduated from Kentucky Wesleyan College with an A. B. degree in 1922 and with an A. M. degree in 1923.

He graduated from Drew University with a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1928.

All but three of his 40 years in the ministry were spent in the southern part of Indiana.

The Reverend McClure and his wife now reside in Martinsville.

The church's history dates back to 1829, the year in which Andrew Jackson was inaugurated to his first term of office as the seventh President of the United States and when there was an increasing number of people coming to Indiana and Hendricks County.

The land which the church now rests upon was donated by William Luston who had purchased the property from the government. Ruston had walked into Indiana from North Carolina.

The present church was constructed in 1850 and remodeled in 1883.

The area is known for its historical features.

Near the southwest corner of the grave yard is a very faint trace of the old road when it descended into the hollow farther south than where it now runs.

The nearby stream which once powered a sawmill, now has almost disappeared.

Uncounted funerals have been held at the church.

Some of the church's founders lie buried in the cemetery. The graves date back as far as September 15, 1829, when Lucinda Davis, one of the church's founders, was buried.

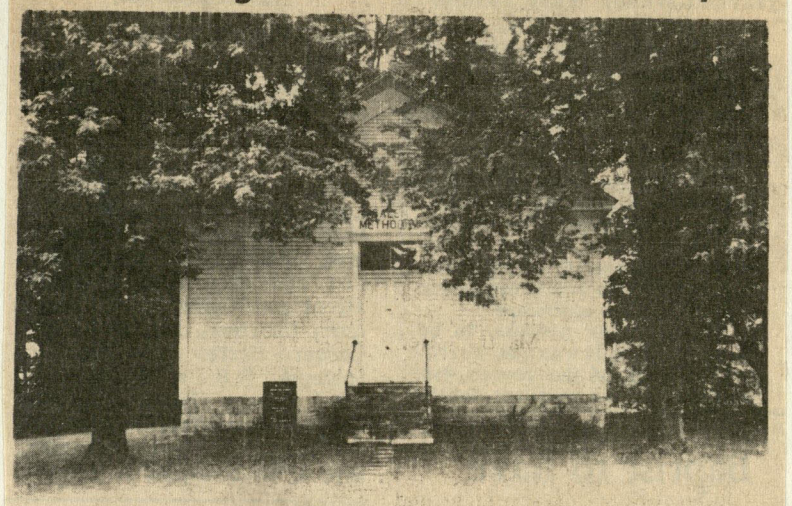
There are 163 marked stones in the cemetery. It is estimated that the total number of graves, including those not marked, number about eight times the visible amount.

Further history of the church can be detected from the style of the stones and the wording of the inscriptions in the cemetery. Also of interest are the mark of the adz upon sills and floor joints, the cut nails, and the wide poplar flooring.

Guests are welcome to attend the homecoming. June 1965

Messenger

Homecoming at Salem church Sunday



45th annual homecoming of Salem Methodist church will be held Sunday. The regular Sunday morning schedule will be observed with worship at 9:15 and church school at 10:15.

A basket dinner will be served in the church basement at 12:30 or as near that time as possible.

The afternoon speaker will be Dr. Morris B. McClure, a native of Brookville, Kentucky, and a son of Rev. and Mrs. E.A. McClure. Dr. McClure had military service in World War I, has served as principal of schools and has been in the ministry forty-one years.

Dr. McClure supplied the Salem pulpit for 3 1/2 months prior to the arrival of Rev. Kemmerer in October.

Pastor of the Salem church is Rev. Russell Paul Kemmerer, a native of Pittsburgh, Penn.

His early education was received in that city. He attended Peabody high school and studied two years at the University of Pittsburgh. Other schools which he attended were Illinois Weslyan University, University of Houston, and Indiana University.

Rev. Kemmerer's fourteen year baseball career includes Louisville, Boston Red Sox, Washington Senators, Chicago White Sox, Houston Colts and the Oklahoma City '89 ers, where he was playing when he was appointed by Bishop Rains to the Monrovia-Salem charge. He now pitches with the Plainfield Bears.

Rev. Kemmerer received license to preach in 1959 at Bloomington, Illinois, and served there as youth director in the Wesley Methodist church.

Rev. Kemmerer, his wife, the former Elizabeth Hasley, and their four children, Russell Dean 13, Cheryl Leigh 10, Darrell James 5, and Kimberly Ann 2, live in the Methodist parsonage, Monrovia.

President of the meeting, Sunday afternoon, is Claire J. Sellars, who attended church at Salem in childhood, and had several relatives who worked in the church. Mr. Sellars is well known in educational fields and in the Mooresville and Plainfield communities.

Helping in the afternoon program will be Tressie Secreste and Margaret Ann Keller, of Monrovia.

Howard Pritchard, a former member of the Salem church, will be soloist.

There will be a presentation of a plaque in connection with a gift received by the church recently from the late Oba H. Johnson.

Times, 6-10-'65

Belleville News — The Messenger--Thursday, August 26, 1965

Former Salem Minister Dies

By Mrs. John Anderson, Jr.

Several from the Salem Church called at the Ferguson-Lee Funeral Home at Bedford and attended funeral services Wednesday afternoon for Rev. James Thompson and daughter Bethany. Rev. Thompson is a former minister of the Salem Church. Their deaths resulted from a head-on collision with another car on State Road 50 in Davies County Saturday evening, August 14.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Low and Mr. and Mrs. Frank Walton called on Mrs. James Thompson in the Davies County Hospital at Washington Sunday afternoon. She suffered a broken arm, cuts and bruises from the same accident which took the lives of her husband and daughter. She expects to go to the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Garris Fleetwood, in Mitchell this week.

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR

August 15 1965

Daviess County Crash Ups Traffic Toll To 5

STAR STATE REPORT

The Indiana weekend traffic toll was raised to six last night with the deaths of two persons in a crash near Washington in Daviess County.

Killed in the crash at 8 p.m. were Thomas Williams, 20 years old, Cannelburg, the driver of one of the cars, and Bethany Thompson, the 5-year-old adopted Korean child of the Rev. and Mrs. James Thompson of Decker.

The accident occurred 8 miles east of Washington on U.S. 50, when the car driven by Williams veered across the centerline and collided with the Thompson vehicle.

The Rev. Mr. Thompson, pastor of the Methodist Church at Decker, was injured critically, but his wife, Billie Lou, 29, reportedly suffered less serious injuries.

The Rev. **JAMES THOMPSON**, 27, Decker, died in an Evansville hospital of injuries suffered when two cars crashed on U.S. 50, a mile east of Cannelburg in Daviess County.

Killed outright in the Saturday accident were Bethany Thompson, 5, the minister's adopted daughter, and Thomas Williams, 20, Cannelburg.

Indianapolis News
Aug. 17, 1965

Church Directory and News featuring . . .

The Church of the Week

Salem Methodist Church

SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

46th ANNUAL-HOME COIMING

Sunday June 12th, 1966

Rev. Russell Kemmerer
Harold Sheets President
Ruth Pritchard, Secretary
Mrs. Claire J. Sellars,
Program Chairman

The Little Church at Huron City
by Edgar A. Guest

I wonder if God sees today
This little church wherein we pray?
I wonder if His eye detects
Amoung the churches man erects
With gilded domes and brazen spires:
With in the pomp of vested choirs
And marble altars; holy glass
Through which the rays of sunlight pass
This very small and humble place
To which we come to seek His grace?

I fancy often, sitting here
That God to us draws very near.
That He, too, sometimes steps aside
From all the larger things of pride
And Like us, slips away to be
Refreshed by calmsimplicity,
And comes to share the lovely boon
Of this our Sunday afternoon,
I've felt in some strange way God sees
Our little church amoung the trees.

I'm sure that God must like this spot
Where wealth and fame are boasted not;
Where wealth and fame are boasted not;
Where some of us long journeys make
To worship here for worship's sake:
Where faith is not a sham, and trust
Not something done because we must,
But all is simple and sincere
And all find strength and comfort here.
I'm very sure that God must see
This church and love it, as do we.

PROGRAM

Congregational Song
"All Hail the Power of Jesus Name"

Welcome — Harold Sheets, President

Scripture and Prayer

Song "Are Ye Able" by Congregation, proceded by pertinent remarks about composer, by
Program Chairman,
Mrs. Claire J Sellars

BUSINESS

"Landmarks with a Message"
by Wallace Hadley, Mooresville

Solo — Howard Pritchard

Remarks-Reminiscenses--Observations
In Keeping with Indiana Sesquecentennial
and Methodisms-Bi-centennial

Congregational Song "Bless Be the Tie That Binds"

Benediction

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A Brief History 1966

One-hundred-thirty-seven years ago our creator planted a Church in the wilderness. In August, 1829, a hewed log church was raised in the presence of an assembled group at the location of the present edifice. A clap-board roof covered it. There was no chimney soo an opening was made in the middle of the floor and filled with clay on which a charcoal fire provided warmth. Thus the congregation worshipped for years.

The Salem vicinity early experienced the need of a graveyard and this was provided on the church ground. September 15, 1829, Lucinda, the daughter of Evan and Rebecca Davis, died. Her stone bears the earliest date.

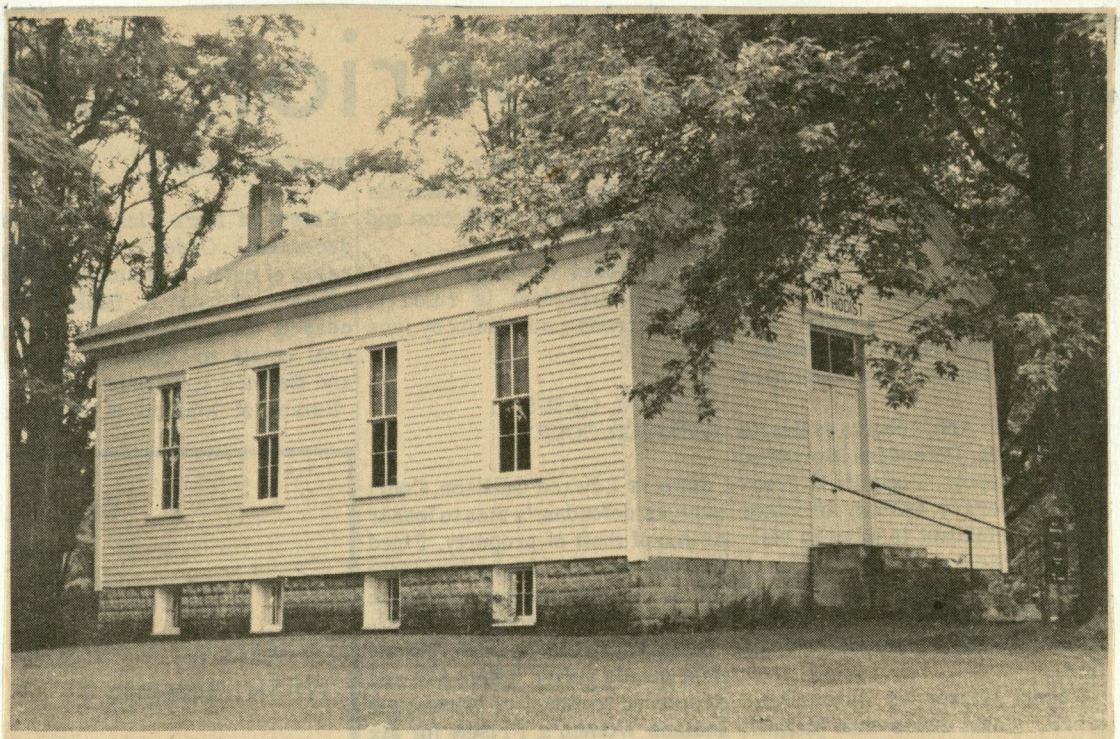
The Salem camp-meeting was established in the 1830s and was held for years in woods north of the church.

In 1854 a public school was opened in a frame building east of the church. Twenty-eight years it served the educational needs of the neighborhood children. In 1882 it was replaced by a brick school house that was used until 1903.

About 1850 the log church was replaced by a frame structure. Changes occurred from time to time. The first was necessary when the road was altered from the hill south of the church-yard, to run north of the Church in its present location. The first entrance was through two doors in the south end, but with the road north of the church, one of the south doors was was closed and the other left open for easy access to the wood and coal shed. A large double door was made in the north end add the pulpit moved to the south. Two large posts supporting the ceiling were removed from the sanctuary and stored in the attic for possible future use.

Regular maintenance and repair went through the years but 1908 saw more than the usual improvements, a new roof (shingles $48.12), New Wall paper $32.46. floor raised west and even with the pulpit and new carpet. Changes have continued through the following years, basement, furnaces, organs, pianos, etc.

The little white church by the side of the road is a reminder of an everlasting and unchanging God. The congregation welcomes everyone. May the Salem Church remain a house of God and a place where people work.



Salem Methodist Church To Observe 46th Anniversary

Salem Methodist Church Will Observe Anniversary

The forty-sixth annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist Church will be held Sunday, June 12.

The regular morning schedule is Worship at 9:15 and Church School at 10:15. The basket dinner will be in the Church basement at 12:30.

The afternoon meeting will convene at 2 o'clock. The program committee has planned special vocal music by Howard Pritchard of Mooresville. The main feature of the occasion will be a presentation of "Land Marks With a Message" by Wallace Hadley, also of Mooresville.

Mr. Hadley is very well-known and well-qualified for this part of the program.

This is the bicentennial of Methodism in America. If anyone has any article of interest in keeping with this observance, he is quite welcome to bring it. Mrs. Claire J. Sellars, program chairman, R.R. 2, Mooresville, may be contacted regarding any such item.

The Salem Church has survived many other early rural churches that were, at different times, points on the same circuit with Salem. Some of these were: Asbury Chapel, Bethesda, Cherry Grove, Clayton, Lake Valley, Locust Grove, Mt. Zion, Siloam, Stilesville, Wesley Chapel and others.

Salem, most earnestly dedicated to Christianity, remains to congratulate Indiana in its Sesquicentennial Year and to wish success in future accomplishments to exceed those of the past.

Anyone wishing to show items of Sesquicentennial interest is urged to do so. Everyone is welcome.

messenger Wednesday June 1 1966

Wed. April 20, 1966 The Messenger--Wedn

Pastors To Participate In 'Pulpit Exchange' Sunday

A massive pulpit exchange is scheduled among Protestant churches of Central Indiana April 24 as part of a nationwide observance of Consultation on Church Union Sunday.

The program is an outgrowth of discussions over the last few years pointing to the possible merger of six major denominations. Participants in the discussions have been the Protestant Episcopal, United Presbyterian, Disciples of Christ, Methodist, United Church of Christ, and Evangelical United Brethren denominations.

More than 70 churches will participate in the pulpit exchange in the greater Indianapolis area. The Rev. A. Glen O'Dell, New Albany, superintendent of EUB churches in the Indiana South conference, is chairman of the statewide project.

Pastors from the local area who are participating include the Reverand C. Luther Bostrom, Plainfield United Presbyterian Church; the Reverand E. W. Andrews, Plainfield St. Mark's Episcopal Church; the Reverand Russell Kemmerer, Monrovia Methodist Church and Salem Methodist Church; the Reverand Leif Erickson, Clayton Presbyterian Church.

The Reverand Bostrom will be speaking at the Mooresville Methodist Church. The Reverand Andrews will speak at the Clayton Presbyterian Church. The Reverand Kemmerer will speak at the Danville Presbyterian Church.

The Reverand Donald Trowbridge will be speaking at the Hope United Presbyterian Church this Sunday. He is from the Indianapolis Washington Street Methodist Church.

The Reverand Erickson will be speaking at the Monrovia Methodist Church.

Arrangements in Central Indiana have been completed by a committee headed by the Rev. Arthur I. Neuerman, minister of the Otterbein EUB Church, Indianapolis.

Dr. Neuerman said the exchange is designed to open up interdenominational talks at the local church level. "Many barriers exist among Christians simply because we do not know each other or have the opportunity for the sharing of minds and hearts," he said.

Rev. Russell Paul Kemmerer
Monrovia

May 15, 1967

P. O. Box #4
Monrovia, Ind.
OX4-2225

Mrs. Edith Low
Treasurer
Salem Methodist Church
R. 1 Clayton, Indiana

I received my pay check for the first two weeks in May, along with your notice that the Official Board had decided to deduct the sum of $25.00 for my absence from services on April 2, 1967.

I took this matter up with the district treasurer and Dr. Leroy Hoddap and they have assured me that this is not a legal deduction that can be authorized by the official board.

At the Fourth Quarterly Conference the Salem Church pledged to the Conference the sum of $1,102 for the pastor's salary, $198.00 for travel and $100.00 for utilities. These are yearly figures based on your pledge and not on daily, weekly or monthly basis. The budget for the district is set up on these pledges. The pastor's salary is to have prior claim to any other obligation.

Each pastor in this conference is assured a maxium (maximum) of one month, four weeks, paid vacation per year, plus open dates to attend conference, schools etc. that in HIS opinion will further his education. No deduction are (is) to be withheld for these Sundays, or weekdays unless he has instructed the treasurer to pay an amount from his salary to the supply during his absence.

During the past three years at Salem I have not taken a vacation in which I missed being present for worship service. If I have been away on one or two occasions I have made arrangements to have some one fill in for me and it is my obligation to take care of the honor arium (honorarium), unless I authorize the treasurer to do so on my behalf.

I am writing this letter under the authority of the above mentioned persons. I am under the impression that unless I receive a check for $25.00 from you by Sunday, this amount will be sent to me from the district treasurer and deducted from the amount paid by the Salem Church to the District for Conference claims in the year 1966-1967.

Sincerely yours
Russ Kemmerer
Russ Kemmerer
cc Dr Hoddap
District Treasurer Bob Stroupe

S A L E M C H U R C H

H O M E C O M I N G

June 11. 1967

ROY PRITCHARD, PRESIDENT

CLAIRE J. SELLARS, V. PRESIDENT

RUTH PRITCHZRD, SEC. - TREAS.

PROGRAM

Song-------"Faith of Our Fathers"--------Congregation

Welcome by President----------Roy Pritchard

Music---Hazelwood Christian Church Quartet
Mrs. Wilbert Firkins — Lynn Pike
Mrs. Everett Smock — Alfred Gardner
"Kneel at the Cross"
"Just a Little Talk with Jesus"
Accompanied by Mrs. Hugh Patrick

Devotional----------Rev. James D. McCallie

Saxophone Duet----------Jeanne and Cynthia Patrick

Vocal Numbers----------Howard Pritchard

BUSINESS SESSION

Trombone Music----------Rev. James D. McCallie

Address----------Rev. Dr. John W. Goodpasture

Song --"God Be With You"----------Congregation

Benediction

47th Homecoming At Salem Methodist

The forty-seventh annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist church in the southeast corner of Liberty township of Hendricks county, will be Sunday, June 11.

Morning services conclude at 11:15 a.m., a basket dinner is scheduled for 12:30 and an afternoon program at 2 p.m.

Special music will be given by a mixed quartet from the Hazelwood Christian church. Also from this church will be a saxophone duet. Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist and former member of Salem is always welcomed back and his message in song appreciated.

Rev. and Mrs. James McCallie

Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie of Vincennes have been asked to give instrumental music. Rev. McCallie was pastor of the Salem church 1954-1955 and frequently delighted the congregation with his trombone music. Since leaving the Salem church in June of 1955, Rev. McCallie served Clay City, three years; Wheatland, one year; Shoals five years and is now at Vincennes.

It seems especially appropriate that James McCallie should be on this homecoming program, since he was pastor twelve years ago when this years speaker also was the speaker for the 1955 homecoming.

The gentleman engaged for this meeting is Rev. Dr. John W. Goodpasture of Detroit, Michigan. Hendricks county friends are always pleased to renew their friendship with John and Helen Goodpasture.

Dr. Goodpasture, as minister of the Belleville-Cherry Grove-Salem Charge, pastored the Salem church three years, beginning in September 1928. During this period he was a student at Central Normal college at Danville. He indelibly impressed both young and older folk of his churches and also his college friends and associates with his Christian characteristics of integrity, compassion, humbleness, dignity and humor.

After leaving Danville, Dr. Goodpasture attended Garrett Biblical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. He is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary, class of 1934. In 1953 the James Millikin university bestowed upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

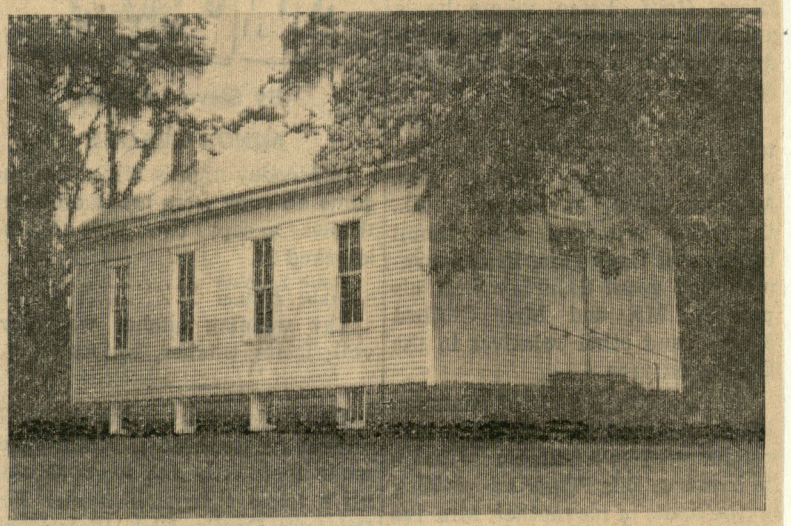
During Seminary years 1932-1934 he served a new congregation at Highland, Indiana. Upon graduation from McCormick Theological Seminary he was called to the First Presbyterian church of Mendota, Illinois, for his first service as an ordained pastor. Early in the year 1942, Dr. Goodpasture was called to the Central Presbyterian church of Terre Haute.

At the close of the year 1946 The Forth-Third Avenue Pres- him to become pastor of a thriving young church at work in an industrial center.

While at this church, friends of Dr. Goodpasture initiated and promoted the publication of a book of his sermons entitled, "A New Design For Living."

Dr. Goodpasture is now serving the Redford Presbyterian church in Detroit, Michigan. This is a church of 3300 members.

To Have 47th Homecoming, Sunday

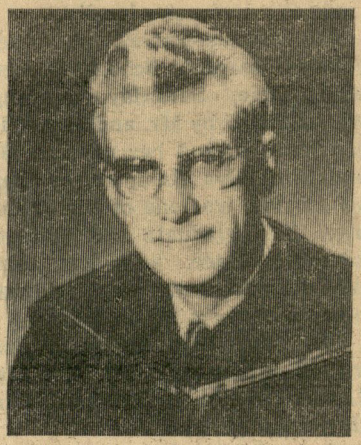


The Salem Methodist Church in the southeast corner of Liberty Township will have its 47th annual homecoming, Sunday.

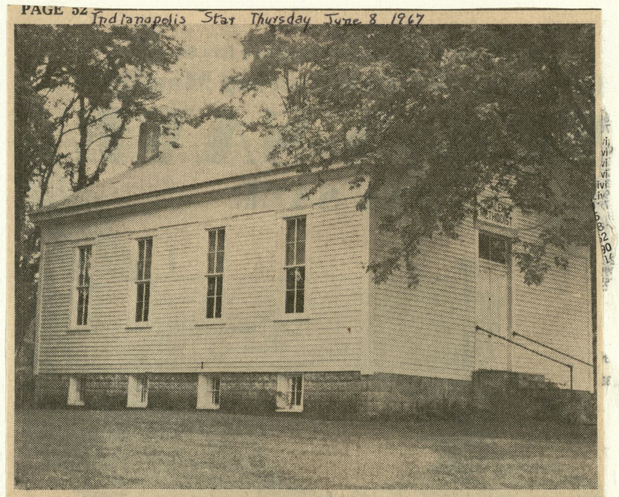
Dr. John W. Goodpasture of Detroit, Mich., former Hendricks County minister and student at old Central Normal College, will speak. The program will begin at 2 p.m., following a basket dinner at 12:30 p.m.

Other former members and pastors will be a part of the afternoon program including: Howard Pritchard, tenor soloist, and Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie of Vincennes.

Dr. Goodpasture is now serving the Redford Presbyterian Church of 3,000 members in Detroit. He is author of a book, "A New Design for Living." Republican June 8 1967



JOHN W. GOODPASTURE



HOME-COMING CEREMONY SET—Salem Methodist Church, one of Hendricks County's oldest churches, will celebrate its 47th home-coming starting at 12:30 p.m. next Sunday. The first church was built in 1829, two-and-one half years after the first settlers arrived in the area. The present building was erected in the 1850s. The church is 7 miles southwest of Plainfield in Liberty Township.

Salem Methodists Plan Homecoming

The 47th annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist Church in the southeast corner of Liberty Township, Hendricks County, will be June 11. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Morning services conclude at 11:15 o'clock; a basket dinner is scheduled for 12:30 p.m., and an afternoon program at 2 o'clock.

Special music will be given by a mixed quartet from the Hazelwood Christian Church. Also from this church will be a saxophone duet.

Howard Pritchard, a tenor soloist and former member of Salem, is always welcomed back and his message in song appreciated.

Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie of Vincennes have been asked to give instrumental music. Rev. McCallie was pastor of the Salem Church 1954-55 and frequently delighted the congregation with his trombone music. Since leaving the Salem Church in June of 1955, Rev. McCallie served Clay City, three years; Wheatland, one year; Shoals, five years, and is now at Vincennes. It seems especially appropriate that James McCallie should be on this homecoming program, since he was pastor 12 years ago, when this year's speaker was also the speaker for the 1955 homecoming.

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After leaving Danville, Dr. Goodpasture attended Garret Biblical Seminary in Evanston, Ill. He is a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary, class of 1934. In 1953, the James Millikin University bestowed upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity. During Seminary years 1932-34 he served a new congregation at Highland. Upon graduation from McCormick Seminary he was called to the First Presbyterian Church of Mendota, Ill., for his first service as an ordained pastor. Early in 1942, Dr. Goodpasture was called to the Central Presbyterian Church of Terre Haute. At the close of the year 1946, the Forty-Third Avenue Presyterian Church of Gary, called him to become pastor of a thriving young church at work in an industrial center. By 1959 that church had grown to 1,700 members and had completed additions to the original building costing more than a half million dollars.

While at this church friends of Dr. Goodpasture initiated and promoted the publication of a book of his sermons entitled, "A New Design for Living." He is now serving the Redford Presbyterian Church in Detroit, Mich. This is a church of 3,300 members.

DR. GOODPASTURE IS AUTHOR OF FINE NEW BOOK

A new book, "A New Design for Living" by Dr. John W. Goodpasture, a former minister in Hendricks County, is off the press. It was initiated and sponsored by members of his present congregation at the Forty-third Avenue Presbyterian church in Gary.

Dr. Goodpasture's book is a volume of twenty five sermons, the impact of which is felt by its readers.

Dr. Goodpasture began his ministry in Hendricks County, Indiana in 1928 when he served the three Methodist Churches: Belleville, Cherry Grove and Salem.

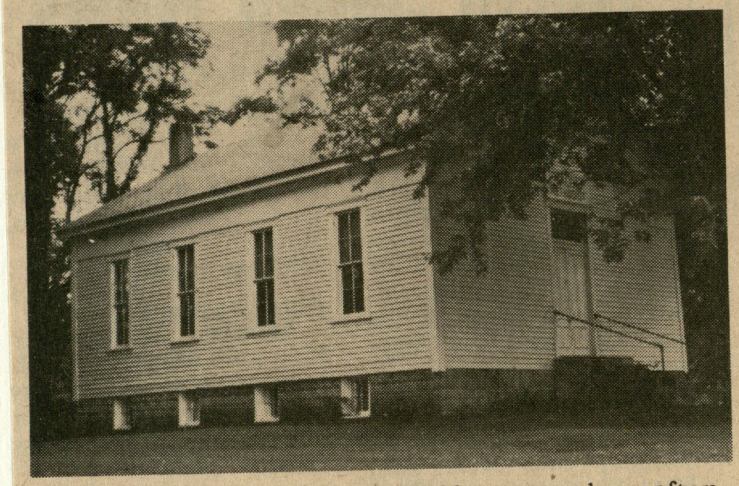
He was at that time attending the Central Normal College at Danville. Since then he attended Garrett Biblical Seminary in Evanston, Illinois, and is a graduate of McCormick's Theologcal Seminary. In 1953 the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was bestowed upon him by the James Millikin Universitp.

Dr. Goodpasture's many friends are impressed by his profound humbleness and are aware of his insight into human nature and his consecration to the Christian Ministry.

The book was printed in the Waysde Press, Inc., Wayside Publishing Division, 1501 West Washington Road, Mendota, Illinois.

Thursday, June 8, 1967 Danville Gazett

Annual Homecoming



The Salem Methodist church, located in the southeast corner of Liberty township, will have its 47th annual homecoming program Sunday, with a basket dinner at 12:30 p.m. and an afternoon program, starting at 2 o'clock.

Speaker for the program will be Dr. John W. Goodpasture, Detroit, Mich. Dr. Goodpasture served pastorates at Belleville, Cherry Grove and the Salem church. During his three-years at Salem church, starting in 1928, he was a student at Central Normal college in Danville.

After leaving Danville he attended Garret Biblical Seminary, Evanston, Ill., and graduated from McCormick Theological Seminary in 1934. In 1953, the James Millikin university conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity.

He has served Presbyterian pastorates at Highland, Mendota, Ill., Terre Haute, Gary, and is now pastor of Redford Presbyterian church in Detroit.

Special music for the program will be provided by a mixed quartet from the Hazelwood Christian church, and a saxaphone duet from the Salem church. Rev. and Mrs. James D. McCallie, Vincennes, have been asked to present instrumental music. Rev. McCallie was pastor of the Salem church from 1954 to 1955.

THE DANVILLE GAZETTE

Thursday, June 1, 1967

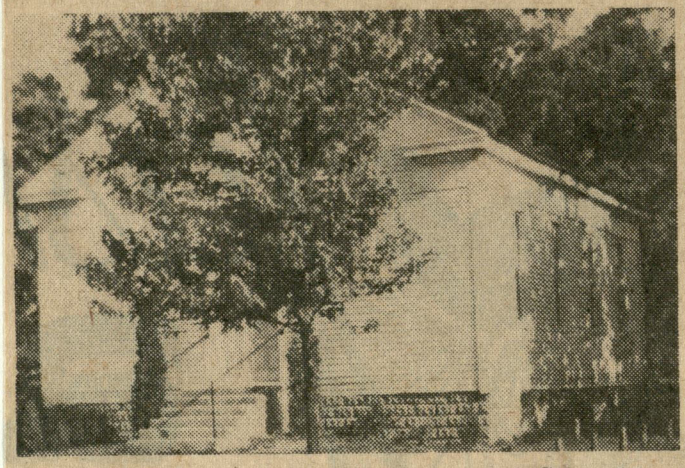
SALEM METHODIST

Dr. John W. Goodpasture, Detroit, Mich. and former Hendricks county resident, will speak at the 47th annual homecoming of the Salem Methodist church, in the southeast corner of Liberty township, Sunday, June 11.

Dr. Goodpasture, former pastor at Belleville, Cherry Grove and Salem, will speak at the afternoon program, starting at 2 p.m. Gazett 6-1-1967

STAR SATURDAY, JUNE 8, 1968

Salem Church Sets Home-Coming



SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

68th Annual Homecoming Set For Tomorrow

Tomorrow will be home-coming day for the 138-year-old Salem United Methodist Church, located southwest of Plainfield.

The celebration has been taking place for the last 68 years.

Worship at 9:15 a.m. and church school at 10:15 a.m. will be followed by a basket dinner in the church basement at 12:30 p.m.

At 2 p.m. there will be a business meeting, a devotional period and music by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Watson, a quartet from Hazelwood Christian Church and Howard Pritchard of the Mooresville Christian Church.

Dr. Roger Rominger, the 108th pastor to serve Salem Church, will be home-coming speaker, marking his final Sunday at Salem church before he moves to Decatur, Ill., with his family.

Harold Sheets, Mrs. Lester Pate, Mrs. John Beckwith and Mrs. Robert Low served as the home-coming committee.

D.A. Charnstrom Salem Minister

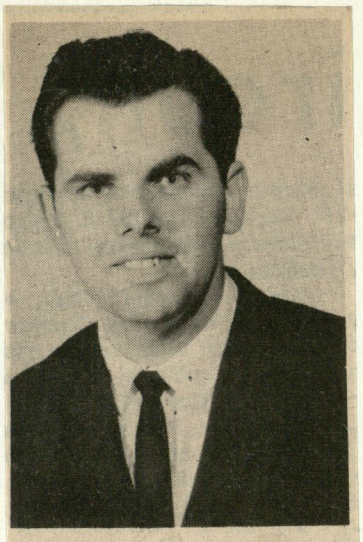
Messenger 7-10-1968

The Rev. David A. Charnstrom of Bloomington has assumed the pastorate at the Salem United Methodist church, replacing Dr. Robert Rominger who moved to a new pastorate in Decatur, Ill.

Rev. Charnstrom is a native of Indianapolis who served four years in the U. S. Air Force and presently is studying at Indiana university, working toward his degree in Sociology.

He has had two years of ministerial work and will serve the local church until August when he will enter the United Methodist School of Theology at Delaware, Ohio, in preparation for pastoral ministry. A fulltime minister will be assigned the church in the fall.

Mrs. Charnstrom is the former Sandra Cain who also is a native of the Indianapolis area.



Dr. Roger Rominger

The 68th annual homecoming of the Salem United Methodist Church will be Sunday with regular services: worship at 9:15 a.m. and church school at 10:15 a.m. A basket dinner in the church basement will be at 12:30 p.m.

The afternoon meeting will convene at 2 o'clock. Besides the short business session a program arranged by the committee: Harold Sheets, Mrs. Lester Pate, Mrs. John Beckwith and Mrs. Robert Low, will be presented as follows: devotional period, instrumental music by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Watson, vocal music by a quartet from the Hazelwood Christian Church and by Howard Pritchett of the Mooresville Christian Church.

The pastor, Dr. Roger Rominger, 108th to serve the Salem Church in its 138 years will be the homecoming speaker. He is a native of Mattoon, Ill., having entered the ministry at the age of 17. During his 11 years as a minister he has served churches in Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana. Immediately preceding his appointment to the Monrovia-Salem charge, he served the Brooklyn circuit three years.

Dr. Rominger has earned the degree of bachelor of arts at Oakland City College, master of science at Indiana University, bachelor of divinity ffrom Vanderbuilt University and doctor of philosophy at Indiana University.

In addition to the above he has served two years as chaplain in a County Home for the Aged in Princeton; taught in Indianapolis Public SSchools and was educational consultant at Muscatatuck State Hospital and Training School.

Mrs. Rominger is a graduate of Oakland City College and Indiana University and during their year on this charge, she was employed as a teacher in the Monrovia Senior High School.

Dr. Rominger's ability as a dedicated pastor and as an able counselor and worker in all aspects of the ministry has been recognized and appreciated in the Salem Church and community. The Salem folk regret that Sunday will be Dr. Rominger's farewell service. The following Sunday, at the close of the annual conference year, he will be leaving Indiana Conference and will be admitted to Illinois Conference and assigned to the church in Decatur, Ill., which has a membership of 2,600.

March 5, 1968, Marcus Kyle Rominger was born and 10 days later came to live with his adopted parents, Roger and Phyllis Rominger. This infant immediately captured the hearts of the members of both churches who will continue to be interested in him as well as his parents.

Instrumental music will be provided by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Watson, who are well known in Liberty Township and surrounding areas. They are both graduates of Clayton High School, and Mrs. Watson is the former Grenda Hobson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Hobson of the Salem Church community.

A quartet from the Hazelwood Christian Church, Mrs. Edgar Johnson, Mrs. Lloyd Runyon, Lynn Pike and Alfred Gardner, will sing two numbers. Howard Pritchard, a member of Mooresville Christian Church and a former member of Salem will also be contributing to the program with vocal music.

Everyone is welcome to attend this service at the "Little White Church" by the side of the road.

THE DANVILLE GAZETTE
June 6 1968

Salem Methodist Plans Homecoming

Salem United Methodist church will observe its 68th annual homecoming with special services Sunday, June 9. Regular services will be conducted at 9:15 a.m. with church school beginning at 10:15 a.m.

Following a basket dinner in the church basement at 12:30, the afternoon meeting will convene at 2 p.m. A committee, composed of Mrs. Lester Pate, Harold Sheets, Mrs. John Beckwith and Mrs. Robert Low has arranged a special program. There will be a devotional period, instrumental music by a quartet from the Hazelwood Christian church, and Howard Pritchard, the Mooresville Christian church.

The pastor, Dr. Roger Hominger, the 108th pastor to serve the Salem church during its 138-year history, will be the homecoming speaker. He is a native of Mattoon, Ill., having entered the ministery at 17 years of age. During his 11 years as a minister, he served pastorates in Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana. Sunday will be Dr. Rominger's last Sunday to accept a pastorate in Decatur, Ill.

The program bulletins will include brief historical notes. Everyone is invited to attend the services and program at the "Little White Church" by the side of the road.

Stultz Named State Justice Co-Ordinator

GEORGE R. STULTZ

George R. Stultz, director of probation for the Indiana Department of Correction since 1963, yesterday was named a co-ordinator for the state Criminal Justice Planning Agency by Robert L. DeBard, director.

Stultz, 45, is a career penologist. He has spent 13 years as a parole officer and probation director.

STULTZ will assume his new duties Tuesday. He will direct training of probation and parole officers and institutional personnel and will aid in implementing the work-release program.

Stultz will co-ordinate efforts of the CJPA with the Department of Correction in establishing a positive action program, DeBard said.

A native of Jasonville, he has a bachelor of arts degree from Indiana State University and is near completion of work on a master of arts degree from the same school. Married and the father of three children, Stultz lives at Plainfield.

Star 12-14-1969

 Messinger June 4 1969

Salem Methodist Plans 49th Annual Homecoming

The forty-ninth annual homecoming of the Salem United Methodist church will be Sunday, June 8.

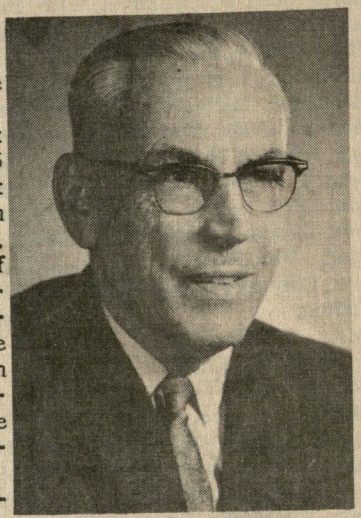
Regular morning services at 9:15 and church school at 10:15 will be followed with a basket dinner at noon. The afternoon program will begin at two o'clock.

Rev. Russell Rees, pastor of the Mooresville Friends Meeting, will be speaker for the occasion. Rev. Rees is a native of Illinois, born at Vermilion Grove. He graduated from Earlham college and took graduate work at Hartford Seminary, Hartford, Conn.

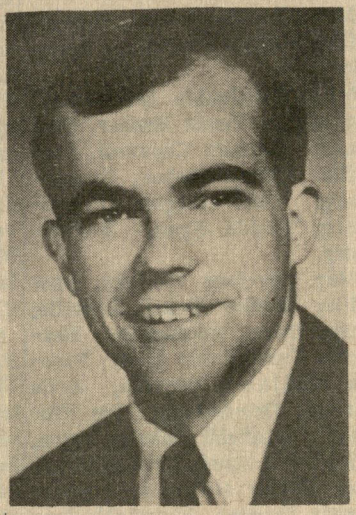
He has served churches in Kokomo and Chicago. He was editor of Friends Christian Education materials at Richmond for eight years before coming to Mooresville in 1963.

Rev. Jerald W. King, pastor of the Salem church, is one of four sons of Mr. and Mrs. G. Edward King, is a native of Indianapolis, a graduate of Warren Central high school and of Indiana university.

His early church affiliation was with Grace Methodist church, Indianapolis. As a student at IU, he represented the Methodist denomination in work with Methodist Youth Fellowship on campus and was pastoral assistant at "The Church of the Cross", an Evangelical United Brethren church. He plans in the near future to enter the Methodist seminary at Delaware, Ohio.



Rev. Russell Rees



Rev. Jerald King

The Salem United Methodist church is the oldest "meetinghouse" on its original site, in Hendricks county. It was organized in June of 1829 and its first church "raised in the presence of an assembled multitude" in August, 1829.

With this early beginning when circuits of "traveling preachers", or circuit riders, were large with many "appointments," Salem had connections with a number of other early Methodist church in Hendricks and Morgan counties, as well as a few in Boone and Marion counties.

Some of the pioneer "preaching places" on the White Lick circuit with Salem were:

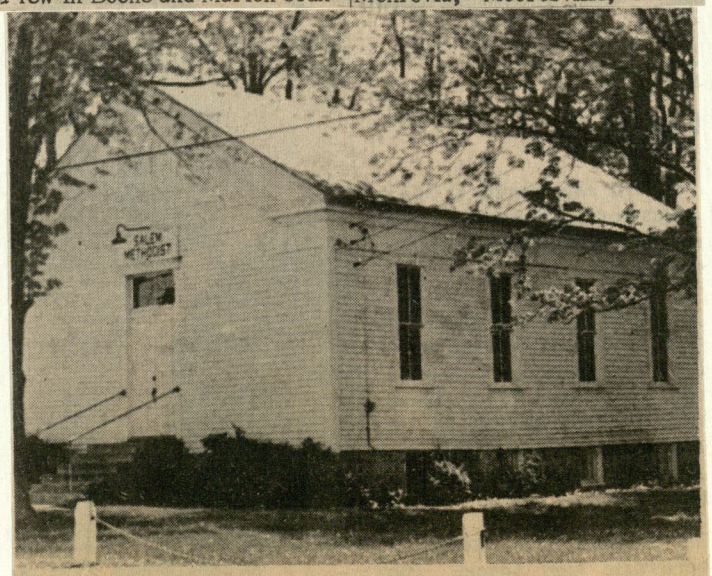
In Hendricks county, Barlow's, Collen's, Claypool's, Danville, Matlock's, Montgomery's and Wilson's.

In Morgan county, Culton's, Ladd's, Lamb's Bottom, Martinsville, Rooker's, Skinner's Ridge, Stotts Settlement and White Lick.

Later points on various circuits were Asbury Chapel, Belleville, Cherry Grove, Plainfield, Wesley Chapel, Bethesda, Brooklyn, Calvary, Lake Valley, Locust Grove, Monrovia, Mooresville, Mount Olive, Poplar Grove and Siloam.

The Salem church extends an invitation to everyone who might wish to attend--former members and their descendants, neighboring churches, those with ties through the Salem cemetery, anyone interested in early churches, camp-meeting sites, or whose ancestors may have attended or taught school at Salem, district school number 8.

This annual service is a special day set aside to acknowledge Divine providence, to express, by attendance, gratitude and thankfulness for past favors, and to ask for continued guidance for a purposeful Christian service to humanity.



SALEM METHODIST CHURCH

Minister Travels Through County Enroute To East

Messenger January 12 1966

by Dennis Abell

A 78-year-old retired Methodist minister made his way through Hendricks County enroute to Baltimore, Md., Monday afternoon. The only oddity about his trip is that he plans to travel the entire distance on horseback.

The Rev. Summer L. Martin of Franklin is ridding to Baltimore dressed as a frontier circuit rider to help commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Methodist Church in American.

He left Greencastle, Sunday, and spent his first night in Stilesville. The next day he enjoyed his lunch with the congregational members of the Belleville Methodist Church.

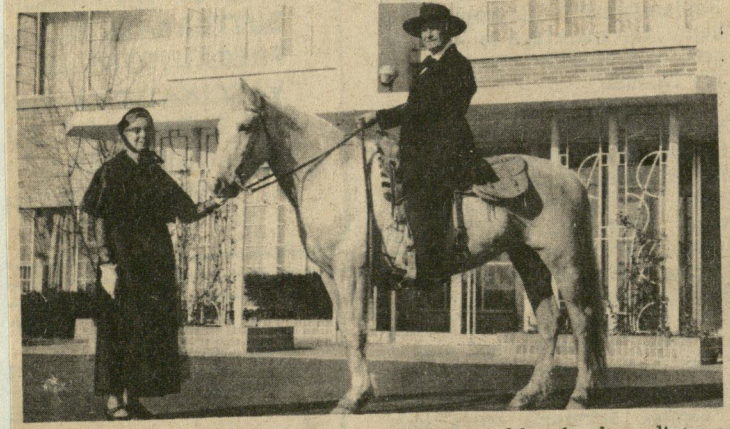
In his talk to the residents of the Belleville area, the Rev. Martin explained the reasons behind his journey and gave a brief history of the American frontier circuit rider he is portraying in his visit across the Ohio Valley region.

One of 12 men duplicating the ride to Baltimore from various sections of the country, the Rev. Martin told the 40 gathered people he plans to ride his five-year-old palomino Maudie the entire distance. He said he would stay with people along the route whenever the weather preventing his riding. The elderly horseman and minister explained he would not travel in snow, rain, sleet or strong winds.

Several Belleville residents thinking of last year's two blizzards wondered if the retired minister would be able to complete his journey.

Mooresville Times October 19 1967

Rider to speak to Senior Fellowship



Dr. Sumner L. Martin, circuit rider, will speak Monday to the Senior Fellowship group at First Methodist church.

Dr. Martin rode his horse Maudie from Greencastle to Baltimore, Maryland, a distance of 740 miles for the Bi-Centennial of American Methodism last year.

Pictured above are Dr. and Mrs Martin dressed in centennial costume.

The Messenger--Wednesday, January 12, 1966

PASSES THROUGH PLAINFIELD

The Reverend Sumner L. Martin passed through Plainfield last Monday enroute to Baltimore as one of 12 clergymen who have been chosen to ride to Lovely Lane Chapel in Baltimore for the 200th anniversary of Methodism in America. The Reverend Martin began his trip in Greencastle. The clergymen represent the riding circuit rider who once brought their religion to the wilderness.

TWENTIETH CENTURY CIRCUIT RIDER

LEAVES BELLEVILLE ON U.S.40

To commemorate founding of Salem church

Salem church

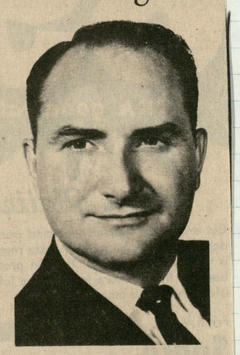
On Sunday, June 11, the Salem United Methodist church in Liberty township, south and east of Belleville, commemorate the founding of this Methodist Society one hundred forty-three years ago and the "raising" of the log church in 1829.

District superintendent Rev. Ross W. Marrs will speak at two o'clock in the afternoon.

Special music will be provided by a group from Mooresville, namely: Cindy Gregory, Lynn Hudson, Holly Beasley, Holly Hundertmark, Jan Goodman, Jan Pritchard and Howard Pritchard.

The occasion also honors the founders and charter members, some of whom were: Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Evan Davis, David Demoss, Andrew Fultz, Thomas Harper, Joshua Marshall, Nathan Merideth, Daniel Roberts and Nathan Snodgrass.

The church cemetery has many



stones with family names long associated with the church. There are a few, however, whose connection with the church or community is not so obvious. One is the name "Mary Jelf," died April 30, 1876, aged 77 years 6 months and 20 days.

Congressman William Gilmer Bray, a great-grandson, has supplied some information about Mary Jelf.

Mary Tanner was a resident of the vicinity of Detroit during the War of 1812. When General Hull surrendered to the British, Mary was rescued by a French fur trader and was presumed to be the sole survivor of her family.

Some years later, Mary Tanner appeared in Johnson county, Indiana, where she married William Gilmer, (sometimes spelled "Gilmore"). They resided near Bargersville later moving to a western state.

William Gilmer engaged in construction until his death, following which his widow and daughter returned to Indiana.

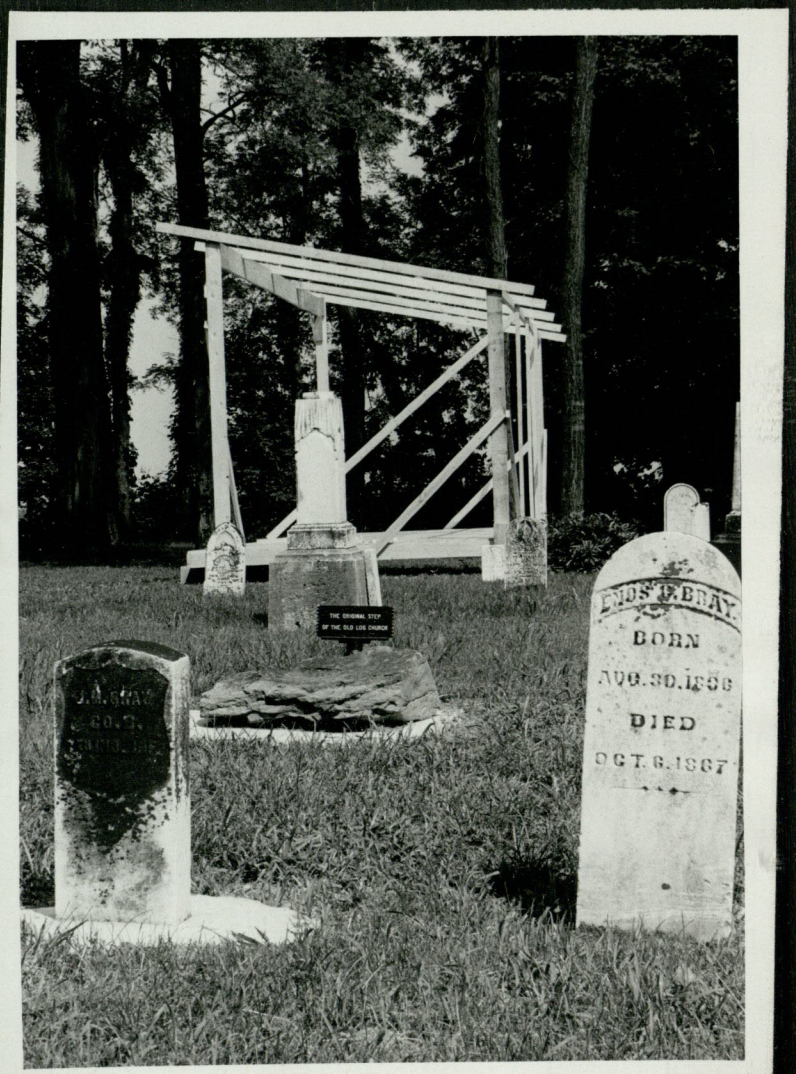
They were living in Belleville in 1840 when the daughter, Lucy Jane Gilmer married Edward W. Bray. They were parents of ten children only one of whom died in infancy. She was Mildred Jane who died in her second year in 1858. Her stone is the second stone north of that of Mary Jelf in the Salem cemetery.

The second husband of Mary (Tanner) Gilmer was a Mr. Jelf, a Methodist minister.

The name Jelf is included in Belleville's Business Directory of 1865 and listed in John Miller's Tan Yard Book in 1850. The name Joel Jelf and the name Mary Jelf are both given as share holders in the Belleville Gravel Road Company, March 23, 1864.

Among other "silent stories of the stones" in the Salem cemetery is the very brief one, "Mary Caviness, died March 2, 1852, aged 86 years, one month and one day."

The Times, Mooresville, Ind., Thurs., June 8, 1972


THE ORIGINAL STEP
OF THE OLD LOG CHURCH
ENOS W. BRAY
BORN
AUG. 30. 1836
DIED
OCT. 6. 1867

Salem
1829-1979
Belleville Bible Church

Salem Church about 1927

Salem Church about 1927.

Salem Church about 1934

Salem Church about 1934

SALEM MINISTERS

THOSE IN CHARGE OF CIRCUIT TO WHICH SALEM BELONGED.

Year		Name of Minister	Circuit	District	Presiding Elder
1829-30	1	Joseph Tarkington	White Lick	Charleston	Allen Wiley
1830-31	2	Charles Bonner	White Lick	Charleston	Allen Wiley
1831-32	3	Eli P. Farmer	White Lick	Indianapolis	James Armstrong
1832-33	4	Eli P. Farmer	White Lick	Indianapolis	John Strange
1833-34	5	Thomas J. Brown	White Lick	Indianapolis	Allen Wiley
1834-35	6	Philip May	Mooresville	Indianapolis	James Havens
1835-36	7	Amos Sparks	Mooresville	Bloomington	Joseph Oglesby
1836-37	8	Asa Beck	Mooresville	Bloomington	Joseph Oglesby
1837-38	9	Israel G. Lewis	Mooresville	Bloomington	Samuel Cooper
1838-39	10	Hiram Greggs	Mooresville	Indianapolis	Augustus Eddy
1839-40	11	Isaac Crawford	Mooresville	Indianapolis	Augustus Eddy
~~1839-40~~	12	Thomas H. Rucker			
1840-41	13	James Hill	Mooresville	Indianapolis	James Havens
~~1840-41~~	14	J. S. Barwick			
1841-42	15	Jonathon B. Birt	Mooresville	Indianapolis	James Havens
~~1841-42~~	16	David Crawford			
1842-43	17	Asa Beck	Mooresville	Greencastle	Geo. M. Beswick
~~1842-43~~	18	H. C. Benson			
1843-44	19	Daniel Demott	Mooresville	Bedford	John Miller
~~1843-44~~	20	James Crawford			
1844-45	21	Lemuel H. Reeves	~~Mooresville~~	Bloomington	Wm. V. Daniel
1845-46	22	Francis F. Sheldon	Belleville	Bloomington	Anthony Robinson
	23	Henry S. Dane			
1846-47	24	Henry S. Dane	Belleville		
1847-48	25	William Morrow	Belleville	Indianapolis	Edward R. Ames
1848-49	26	Alfred B. Nesbit	Belleville	Indianapolis	Edward R. Ames
1849-50	27	Josiah Y. McKee	Belleville	Putnamville	Joseph Tarkington
	28	David Williamson			
~~1850-51~~		~~Ewd. Barnes~~	"	"	"

Ill. Con.

Year		Name of Minister	Circuit	District	Presiding Elder
1850-51	29 30	{Elija W. Burris Wm. F. Mason}	Belleville	Putnamville	Joseph Tarkington
1851-52	31	Henry S. Talbot	Belleville	Putnamville	Wm. McGinnis
852-53	32	Joseph Wharton	Belleville	Putnamville	Wm. McGinnis
1853-54	33	George Havens	Belleville	Greencastle	Wm. McGinnis
1854-55	34	John H. Leard	Belleville	Greencastle	Wm. McGinnis
1855-56	35	J. H. Bellamy	Belleville	Geencastle	John Kiger
1856-57	36	S. Calvin Lee	Belleville	Greencastle	John Kiger
1857-58	37	J. N. Wright	Belleville		
1858-59	38	Wm. Wyatt Rundell	Belleville	Indianapolis	W. C. Smith
1859-60	39	Wm. Wyatt Rundell	Belleville	Indianapolis	W. C. Smith
1860-61	40	John Tansey	Belleville	Indianapolis	J. H. Noble
1861-62	41	Joseph E. Woods	Belleville	Indianapolis	J. H. Noble
1862-63	42	Joseph E. Woods	Belleville	Indianapolis	James Hill
1863-64	43	Stephen Bowers	Belleville	Indianapolis	James Hill
1864-65	44	L. M: Walters	Belleville	Indianapolis	James Hill
1865-66	45	James Blake Likely	Belleville	Indianapolis	Samuel T. Gillette
1866-67	46	Henry O'Neal Chapman	Belleville	Indianapolis	Samuel T. Gillette
1867-68	47	Stephen W.McNaughton	Belleville	Indianapolis	Samuel T. Gillette
1868-69	48	Joseph Wharton	Belleville	Indianapolis	Benj. F. Rawlings
1869-70	49	James F. McCann	Belleville	Indianapolis	Benj. F. Rawlings
1870-71	50	Hiram Gilmore	Belleville	Indianapolis	Benj. F. Rawlings
1871-72	51	S. Calvin Lee	{Belleville Monrovia	Indianapolis	Benj. F. Rawlings
1872-73	52	S. Calvin Lee	{Belleville Monrovia	Indianapolis	Benj. F. Rawlings
1873-74	53	Wm. W. Puett	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. F. Harned
1874-75	54	James B. Hamilton	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. F. Harned
1875-76	55	Elias Gaskins	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. F. Harned
1876-77	56	Elias Gaskins	Belleville	Indianapolis	Joseph S. Woods

Year		Name of Minister	Circuit	District	Presiding Elder
1877-78	56	Miles Woods	Belleville	Indianapolis	Joseph S. Woods
1878-79		Miles Woods	Belleville	Indianapolis	Joseph S. Woods
1879-80	57	Albert F. Bridges	Belleville	Indianapolis	Joseph S. Woods
1880-81	59 60	William McGinnis	Belleville	Indianapolis	Joseph S. Woods
1881-82	61	Jonothan F. Woodruff	Belleville	Indianapolis	John Poucher
1882-83		Jonothan F. Woodruff	Belleville	Indianapolis	John Poucher
1883-84		Jonothan F. Woodruff	Belleville	Indianapolis	John Poucher
1884-85	62	John V.R. Miller	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. Riley Halstead
1885-86	63	Dayton Harvey	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. R. Halstead
1886-87		Dayton Harvey	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. R. Halstead
1887-88	64	James M. Watson	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. R. Halstead
1888-89	65	Byrum Carter	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1889-90		Byrum Carter	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1890-91	66	G. E. Winn	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1891-92	67	Eli P.F. Wells	Belleville	Indianapolis	J. H. Ketcham
1892-93	68	Geo. F. McNaughton	Belleville	Indianapolis	J. H. Ketcham
1893-94		Geo. F. McNaughton	Belleville	Indianapolis	J. H. Ketcham
1894-95	69	Wm. E. Hinshaw	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1895		served until indicted for wife's murder then J. H. Frost	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1895-96	70	J. H. Frost	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1896-97	71	M. C. McKown	Belleville	Indianapolis	Henry J. Talbot
1897-98	72	Charles L. Martin	Belleville	Bloomington	T. H. Willis
1898-99	73	C. A. Ward at Salem Elmer L. Butler	Belleville	Bloomington	T. H. Willis
1899	74	David Wilson Jessee Until Dec. 10			
1899-00	75	Charles A. McCullough	Monrovia	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge
1900-1901	76	Charles W. Whitman	Monrovia	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge
1901-02		Charles W. Whitman	Monrovia	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge
1902-03	77	J. E. Beal	Monrovia	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge
1903-04	78	Wm. F. Russell	Monrovia	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge

Year		Name of Minister	Circuit	District	Presiding Elder
1904-05	79	Oren Wall ~~Wm.~~ F. ~~Russell~~	Belfeville	Bloomington	John H. Dodridge
1905-06	80	George C. Sprague	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1906-07		George C. Sprague	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1907-08	81	Samuel H. Caylor	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1908-09		Samuel H. Caylor	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1908-09	82	Arthur Jones			
1909-10	83	Arthur Brinklow	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1910-11	84	Homer Wright	Belleville	Bloomington	L. F. Dimmit
1911-12		Homer Wright	Belleville	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1912-13	85	C. W. Anderson	Belleville	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1912-13	86	L. D. Dodd			
1913-14	87	Oliver L. Jones	Belleville	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1914-15		Oliver L. Jones	Belleville	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1915-16	88	Richard D. Biven	Monrovia	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1916-17	89	Harrison G. Ramsey	Monrovia	Bloomington	Alfred Henry Pitkin
1917-18		Harrison G. Ramsey	Monrovia	Bloomington	W. H. Wylie
1918-19	90	Eugene Melvin	Monrovia	Bloomington	W. H. Wylie
1919-20	91	Roy W. Mitchell	Monrovia	Bloomington	W. H. Wylie
1920-21	92	Carl Cooper	Belleville	Bloomington	W. H. Wylie
1921-22	93	Glenn Baron	Belleville	Bloomington	W. H. Wylie
1922-23	94	Clifford Morton Bless	Belleville	Indianapolis	H. A. King
1923-24	95	Dallas M. Church	Belleville	Indianapolis	H. A. King
1924-25	96	Arthur Palmer	Belleville	Indianapolis	H. A. King
1925-26	97	Harry Gladden	Belleville	Indianapolis	H. A. King
1926-27	98	John H. Hanger	Belleville	Indianapolis	H. A. King
1927-28		James H. Harrell	Belleville	Indianapolis	Orien W. Fifer
1928		Robert Myers			
1928-29		John W. Goodpasture	Belleville	Indianapolis	Orien W. Fifer
1929-30		John W. Goodpasture	Belleville	Indianapolis	Orien W. Fifer
1930-31		John W. Goodpasture	Belleville	Indianapolis	Orien W. Fifer

Year	Name of Minister	Circuit	District	Presiding Elder
1931-32	Luther D. Robertson	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1932-33	Luther D. Robertson	Salem-Cherry Grove	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1933-34	Floyd Leroy Cook	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1934-35	Harry N. Oldaker	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1935-36	Harry N. Oldaker	Salem ~~Belleville~~	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1936-37	Harry N. Oldaker	Salem	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1937-38	Benj. Thos. Morgan	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1938-39	Benj. Thos. Morgan	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1939-40	Benj. Thos. Morgan	Belleville	Indianapolis	Wm. C. Hartinger
1940-41	J. Ross Jackson	Belleville	Indianapolis	Guy O. Carpenter
1941-42	John Wesley Townsend	Belleville	Indianapolis	Guy O. Carpenter
1942-43	Robert R. Rowland	Belleville	Bloomington	Abram S. Woodward
1943-44	Robert R. Rowland	Belleville	Bloomington	Abram S. Woodward
1944-45	Robert R. Rowland	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1945-46	John W. Walton	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1946-47	John W. Walton	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1947-48	John W. Walton	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1948-49	Ivan Farr	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1949-50	Charles Rutherford	Belleville	Bloomington	Willard C. Patrick
1950-51	Robert M. Dwinell	Belleville	Bloomington	Wm. Talbot Jones
1951-52	Philip K. Badger	Belleville	Bloomington	Wm. Talbot Jones
1952-53	Hilbert J. Propheter	Brooklyn	Bloomington	Wm. Talbot Jones
1953-54	James D. McCallie	Mooresville	Bloomington	Wm. Talbot Jones
55-56-57	Judge Watson			
6 to 9, 1958	Richardson ~~Mc~~ Fall			
Sept. 1958	David McFall			
1962 & 63	James W. Thompson			
6 to 10, 1964	Dr. Morris B. McClure			
1964, 65, 66	Russell Kemerer			
1967	Roger Kyle Rominger			
1968	David Charnstrom 2½ months			
1968	Jerald W. King last 9½ months			
1969	Jerry McKinney			
1970	Theron R. Castleman			
1976	George D. Hunsaker			

Mooresville Times Aug. 16 1979

Belleville church to observe 150th birthday

Belleville Bible church will hold a special homecoming on August 19 to observe the 150th birthday of a church on the same site. Formerly a Methodist church, the structure was purchased by the current congregation in 1969.

A 10 am church service will be held by Columbus pastor Jerry Day, and a pitch-in dinner will be held at 12:30 pm. The Gospel Servants will sing at 2 pm and a song fest will be held at 6 pm.

Phyllis Parson sent the following history of the church to The Times:

The little church in the Salem community in southern Liberty township in Hendricks county is old. It is the oldest house of worship on its original site in the county.

Its classic structural simplicity presents architectural design of the 1850 decade. Fortunately, this beauty has survived the few changes made during the more than a century and a quarter since it was erected.

This edifice occupies the site of the log meeting house raised in August of 1829. Some of the large timbers used in the log church can be seen from the basement of the church.

A section of one of the poplar support posts from the middle of the sanctuary is now property of the Hendricks county museum and is on display for visitors to see.

This small frame structure is a tie to Hendricks county pioneers and to the steady stream of devout Christians who worshipped here for more than 148 years.

Members of the committee which selected the site were: Joshua Marshall, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Nathan Merideth, Thomas Harper, Nathan Snodgrass and Andrew Fultz. The denominations represented by these men were: Quakers, Baptists, Methodists and Moravians. The first trustees were George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales and Daniel Roberts.

After the log church was built, three acres and four rods of ground were deeded to the chruch trustees by Joshua and Mary Marshall on Dec. 28, 1829, for the sum of four dollars.

From then until now, 114 men have served as pastors, the first of whom was Joseph Tarkington, grandfather of author Booth Tarkington. The 114th pastor was reverend George W. Hunsaker.

As Hendricks has been a county of passers-through, so has been the Salem church. Some of the founders and many early members went west. Their descendants reside in many states of the union. Occasionally travelers visit the shrine of their ancestors and are pleased to find the "little white church on the hill."

And the old is now new to the Belleville Bible church organized in December 1969. This group met for a while in the Belleville fire station, and later in homes of the members. They faced the problem of acquiring property and, though confronted with set-backs and difficulties, continued in faith to strive and pray for an answer.

When in June 1977, the south Indiana conference of the United Methodist church, according to their book of discipline, declared the Salem church abandoned and discontinued and, therefore, ordered the disposition of the said property, the opportunity to buy the Salem property was unexpectedly presented to the Belleville Bible church. Negotiations for the purchase began immediately and continued for several weeks. On Oct. 13, 1977, the quitclaim deed was signed by the officers of the Grantor corporation, Robert C. Holms, president, and Wilma Allen, secretary, to the grantees, trustees of the Belleville Bible church: John O. Parson, Walter Stantz and Marshall Anderson.

The Bible church is happy with its "new" building and appreciates the rich heritage that goes with it. They consider the place well named—"Salem", and say a more peaceful spot would not likely to be found in all of Hendricks county.

Larry Renner helped to organize the Belleville Bible church, and reverend Charles Mathews served as the first pastor. Fifteen percent of the church's income supports the New Tribes mission, Berean mission incorporated, and Rural Bible crusade.

Sunday services include church school at 9:30 am and worship at 10:30 am. Bible study is each Sunday evening, and prayer meeting is on Wednesday evening, both at 7. The ladies Missionary service meets the second Tuesday of every month.

So the old is new and the Salem Meeting House continues to fulfill its original purpose—that of being "a place wherein God's holy word is expounded."

7551

QUIT-CLAIM DEED

7551

BOOK 250 PAGE 385-86

THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH, that UNITED METHODIST SOUTH INDIANA CONFERENCE, INC., an Indiana corporation, by Robert C. Holmes and Wilma Allen, President and Secretary, respectively, of said Corporation, of Marion County, In the State of Indiana,

RELEASE AND QUIT-CLAIM

unto JOHN O. PARSONS, WALTER STANTZ and MARSHALL ANDERSON, Trustees of BELLEVILLE BIBLE CHURCH, and their successors in office, of Hendricks County, Indiana, for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar ($1.00) and Other Good and Valuable Considerations, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the following described real estate situated in Hendricks County, State of Indiana, to-wit:

> A certain lot or parcel of land lying in and being in the County of Hendricks, State of Indiana, bounded as follows, beginning at a stake on the East and West line, dividing the North and South fraction of Section 19, 48 rods East of the Meridian line, in Township 14 North Range one East thence running South 22 rods thence East 22 rods thence North 22 rods to a stake thence West 22 rods to the place of beginning.
>
> It being the same property that was conveyed to the Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Joshua Marshal and Mary Marshal by Deed dated December 28th 1829.

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Grantor herein to Release and Quit-Claim unto the Grantee, all interest in and to the above described real estate, which was conveyed to the Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Joshua Marshal and Mary Marshal by deed dated December 28th 1829 and recorded in the office of the Recorder of Hendricks County, Indiana.

WHEREAS, in 1977, pursuant to the provisions of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, said property was duly declared abandoned and discontinued by the South Indiana Conference; and,

WHEREAS, the United Methodist South Indiana Conference, Inc., has ordered the disposition of said property by the above named Grantor, being the incorporated Board of Trustees of said Conference and,

ENTERED FOR RECORD
BOOK 250 OCT 13 1977 AT 12:51 Page
Marcille Abbott
RECORDER HENDRICKS COUNTY

Duly entered for taxation this 13th day of October 1977
Patricia J. Noel
AUDITOR HENDRICKS COUNTY

BOOK 250 PAGE 384

described and situated in Hendricks County, State of Indiana, to-wit:

A certain lot or parcel of land lying in and being in the County of Hendricks, State of Indiana, bounded as follows, beginning at a stake on the East and West line, dividing the North and South fraction of Section 19, 48 rods East of the Meridian line, in Township 14 North Range one East thence running South 22 rods thence East 22 rods thence North 22 rods to a stake thence West 22 rods to the place of beginning.

It being the same property that was conveyed to the Trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church by Joshua Marshal and Mary Marshal by Deed dated December 28th 1829.

Affiant further says that the sale of said real estate is being made in full conformity with the provisions of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist, as hereinbefore detailed and set forth.

Wilma Allen
WILMA ALLEN

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 7th day of October, 1977.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires:

12/31/79

This instrument was prepared by
LORCH & LORCH, Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 692 - 506 State Street
New Albany, Indiana 47150
(812) 945-5251

BASIL H. LORCH, JR.

Rec'd 2:57 p.m. Pg 384

ENTERED FOR RECORD
BOOK 250 OCT 13 1977 AM 12:50 Page
Marcille Abbott
RECORDER HENDRICKS COUNTY

BOOK 250 PAGE 383-384

STATE OF INDIANA]
:ss
COUNTY OF FLOYD] 7550

WILMA ALLEN, being first duly sworn, upon her oath, deposes and says:

That she is the duly elected Secretary of United Methodist South Indiana Conference, Inc., of The United Methodist Church, an Indiana corporation, which corporation is the incorporated Board of Trustees of South Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Affiant further says that heretofore there existed a Church known as SALEM METHODIST CHURCH, Hendricks County, Indiana, which is in the Indianapolis West District of the South Indiana Conference of The United Methodist Church.

Affiant further says that in 1977 there was in force and effect section no. 2441(1) of The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church, being the constitution of said Church and reading as follows:

"With the consent of the presiding bishop and of a majority of the district superintendents and of the district Board of Church Location and Building of the district in which the action is contemplated, the Annual Conference may declare any local church within its bounds discontinued or abandoned. It shall be the duty of its Board of Trustees to make such disposition of the property thereof as the Annual Conference shall direct; and if no such lawful trustees remain or if for any reason said trustees fail to make such disposition, then it shall be the duty of the trustees of the Annual Conference to sell or dispose of said property in accordance with the direction of the Annual Conference..."

Affiant further says that in 1977, with the consent of the presiding bishop of said South Indiana Conference and with the consent of the superintendents and with the consent of the District Board of Church Location and Building of said Indianapolis West District, of the South Indiana Conference, did by a resolution duly made, seconded and unanimously carried, declare said church property abandoned and discontinued and directed the sale and disposition of said property.

Affiant further says that United Methodist South Indiana Conference, Inc., being the duly incorporated Board of Trustees of said Conference does hereby release and quit-claim to JOHN O. PARSONS, WALTER STANTZ and MARSHALL ANDERSON, as Trustees of BELLEVILLE BIBLE CHURCH, of Hendricks County, Indiana, the real estate hereinafter

Duly entered for taxation this 13th day of October 1977
Auditor Hendricks County

R. R. 1 Box 463
Clayton, Ind., 46118

NOW, THEREFORE, this conveyance is executed pursuant to a resolution of said Conference and in full conformity with The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church with reference to the disposition of abandoned Church property.

The undersigned officers of Grantor corporation further certify that this conveyance is executed pursuant to said resolution duly adopted by the Board of Directors thereof and that no gross income tax is payable to the State of Indiana with respect to this conveyance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Robert C. Holmes and Wilma Allen, President and Secretary, respectively, of The United Methodist South Indiana Conference, Inc., of The United Methodist Church, have hereunto set their hands and seals this 7th day of October, 1977.

UNITED METHODIST SOUTH INDIANA CONFERENCE, INC.

ATTEST:

Wilma Allen
WILMA ALLEN, SECRETARY

Robert C. Holmes
ROBERT C. HOLMES, PRESIDENT

STATE OF INDIANA]
:ss
COUNTY OF FLOYD]

BEFORE the undersigned, a Notary Public, in and for said State and County, this 7th day of October, 1977, personally appeared the within named ROBERT C. HOLMES and WILMA ALLEN, President and Secretary, respectively, of United Methodist South Indiana Conference, Inc., of The United Methodist Church, who for and on behalf of said Corporation, they being duly authorized, acknowledged execution of the foregoing Quit-Claim Deed, and who being duly sworn, upon their oath, stated that the statements contained therein are true.

WITNESS my hand and Official Seal.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission expires:

12/31/79

This instrument was prepared by
LORCH & LORCH, Attorneys at Law
P. O. Box 692 - 506 State Street
New Albany, Indiana 47150
(812) 945-5251

BASIL H. LORCH, JR.

10 F Book
22 mss

THE OLD IS NEW

The little white church in the Salem community in southern Liberty Township of Hendricks County, is old. It is the oldest house of worship on its original site in the county.

Its classic structural simplicity presents architectural design of the 1850 decade. Fortunately this beauty has survived the few changes made during the more than a century and a quarter since it was erected.

This edifice occupies the site of the log meeting house raised in August of 1829. Some of the large timbers used in the log church can be seen from the basement of the church.

A section of one of the poplar support posts from the middle of the sanctuary, is now property of the Hendricks County Museum and is on display for visitors to see.

This small frame structure is a tie to Hendricks County pioneers and to the steady stream of devout Christians who worshiped here for more than one hundred forty-eight years.

The members of the committee who selected the site were: Joshua Marshall, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Nathan Merideth, Thomas Harper, Nathan Snodgrass and Andrew Fultz. The denominations represented by these men were: Quakers, Baptists, Methodists and Moravians. The first trustees were George Crutchfield, David Demoss, Evan Davis, Bowater Bales and Daniel Roberts.

After the log church was built, three acres and four rods of ground were deeded to the church trustees by Joshua and Mary Marshall, on December 28, 1829, for the sum of four dollars.

From then until now one hundred fourteen men have served as pastors, the first of whom was Joseph Tarkington, grandfather of the author, Booth Tarkington. The one hundred and fourteenth pastor was Rev. George W. Hunsaker.

As Hendricks has been a county of passers-through so has been the Salem Church. Some of the founders and many early members went west. Their descendants reside in many states of the union. Occasionally travelers visit the shrine of their ancestors and are pleased to find the LITTLE WHITE CHURCH ON THE HILL.

And the OLD is now new to the Belleville Bible Church, organized in December of 1969. This group met for a while in the Belleville Fire Station and later in homes of the members. They faced the problem of acquiring property and though confronted with set-backs and difficulties, they continued in faith to strive and to pray for an answer.

When in June 1977 South Indiana Conference of the United Methodist Church according to their Book of Discipline declared the Salem Church abandoned and discontinued, and therefore ordered the disposition of the said property, the opportunity to buy the Salem property was unexpectedly presented to the Belleville Bible Church. Negotiations for the purchase, began immediately and continued for several weeks. On October 13, 1977, the Quit-Claim deed was signed by the officers of the

Grantor Corporation, Robert C. Holms, President, and Wilma Allen, Secretary, to the grantees, Trustees of the Belleville Bible Church: John O. Parsons, Walter Stantz and Marshall Anderson.

The Bible Church is happy with its "new" building and appreciates the rich heritage that goes with it. They consider the place well named "SALEM" and say a more peaceful spot would not likely be found in all of Hendricks County.

Larry Renner helped to organize the Belleville Bible Church and Rev. Charles Mathews served as the first pastor.

Fifteen percent of the churches income supports NEW TRIBES MISSION, BEREAN MISSION, INC. AND RURAL BIBLE CRUSADE. Several children of the church have earned a week at camp through the Bible Memorization Program of the Rural Bible Crusade.

Sunday morning services include church school at nine-thirty and worship at ten-thirty. Bible study is each Sunday evening and prayer meeting on Wednesday evening, both at seven o'clock. The Ladies Missionary Service meets the second Tuesday of every month.

So the old is new and the Salem Meeting House continues to fulfill its original purpose that of being "a place wherein God's Holy Word is expounded."

Phyllis West Parsons

Ruth Mitchell Pritchard

Hendricks County Flyer 8-16-1978

Hoodlums Vandalize Pioneer Cemetery

BELLEVILLE — On Wed. night, Aug. 9, somebody's brats overturned grave stones in the Salem (Liberty Township) church cemetery, a local resident reported. This is not a playful prank. It is deplorable that cemetery care becomes increasingly more difficult.

From many places, times and stations came those whose remains rest here. We benefit from their endeavors and should pay them due respect and honor."

Among those whose tombstones were knocked over is a refugee from the War of 1812. As far as is known, she was the lone survivor of her entire family when Commander Hull surrendered a force of 2,000 men to General Brock. Her resulting trials and experiences for the next 64 years would be hard to imagine. She is Mary Tanner Gilmore Jelf. She is the great-grandmother of former Congressman William Bray.

Some others buried in Salem are original Hendricks County land owners: George Daves, Andrew Fultz, William Marshall, William Rushton, and John Sawyer.

Soldiers are interred in the Salem Church Cemetery. Those with grave stones are: J. M. Bray, Miles W. Bray, Jesse B. Carter, G. B. Cutshall, J. W. Cutshall, and Lewis C. Franklin.

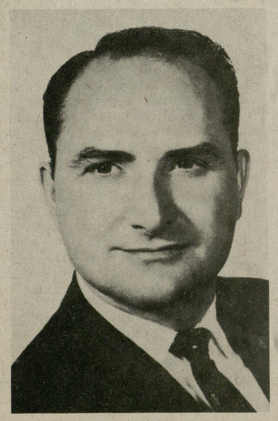
Jesse B. Carter died in service Feb. 6, 1863. A letter he wrote Jan. 3-7-8, 1863, to his wife, Jane, is now owned by one of her descendants. His letter describes camp life, military duties and action and his longing for home and family.

This cemetery is definitely a part of the Salem Community. The Bible Church, who purchased the property from the Methodists in 1977, has admirably maintained the meeting house and grounds.

The whole community should feel gratitude to the members of the new congregation for their pride and care of the property", the spokesman said. We hope for evidence of a saner sense of values and more responsible conduct from visitors' in the future. This church is a heritage from the past for present and future service".

LLE GAZETTE June 8 1972

Salem Methodist church to commemorate founding



Rev. Ross W. Marrs.

The Salem United Methodist church in Liberty township, southeast of Belleville, will commemorate the founding of the church this Sunday. The church was founded as a log structure in 1829.

Regular morning services are the 9:30 a.m. worship by the Rev. Theron R. Castleman, pastor of the church. Church school is at 10:15 a.m. The basket dinner will be served at noon.

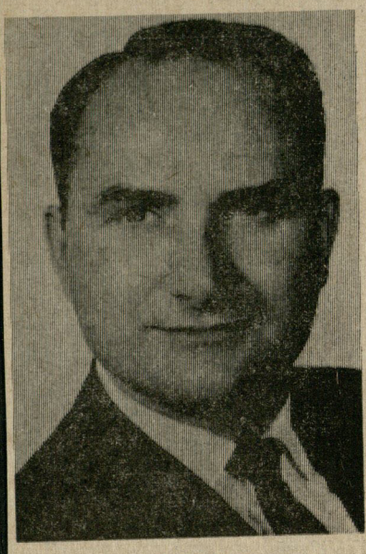
The Rev. Ross W. Marrs will be the afternoon speaker at 2 p.m. He has addressed the congregation on several previous occasions Miss Darlyn Thornberry, Indiana Junior Miss, will also be there.

Ceremonies will also honor the founders and charter members of the church. Among those persons to be remembered are Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Evan Davis, David Demoss, Andrew Fultz, Thomas Harper, Joshua Marshall, Nathan Merideth, Daniel Roberts and Nathan Snodgrass.

Written by
Ruth Mitchell Pritchard
(Mrs. Roy H.)

The Republican
Danville, Indiana PAGE 3
JUNE 8, 1972

Salem, Age 143



REV. ROSS MARRS

Rev. Ross W. Marrs wil speak at the Salem United Methodist Church, southeast of Belleville, Sunday, at the 143rd anniversary of the Methodist Society, there.

He will speak at 2 p.m., following a basket dinner. Everyone is invited to attend the regular morning worship, 9:30 o'clock, and stay for the day, according to Rev. Theron R. Castleman, pastor. Special music is also planned along with tributes to the founders and charter members of the church.

Miss Darlyn Thornberry, Indiana's Jr. Mill will furnish music.

Area historians would welcome any information on any person buried in Salem's pioneer grave yard. Congressman William Gilmer Bray, a great-grandson of Mary Jelf, who is buried there, has furnished some information about her.

The Congressman's great-grandmother was Mary Tanner, who was a resident of Detroit during the War of 1812. When General Hull surrendered to the British, she was rescued by a French fur trader and was presumed to be the sole survivor of her family. Some years later, she came to Johnson County where she married William Gilmer, and they lived near Bargersville for a time. Following his death, the widow and daughter returned to Indiana and lived in Belleville in 1840 when the daughter, Lucy Jane Gilmer, married Edward W. Bray. They had 10 children. One daughter, Mildred Jane, died in infancy in 1958 and her stone is the second stone north of that of Mary Jelf in the Salem Cemetery.

Mary Tanner Gilmer later married Mr. Jelf, a Methodist minister. The name is included in Belleville's Business Directory of 1865 and listed in John Miller's Tanyard Book in 1850. The name Joel Jelf and the name Mary Jelf are both given as shareholders in the Belleville Gravel Road Company, March 23, 1964.

Among other "silent stories of the stones" in the cemetery, there, is the very brief one "Mary Caviness, died March 2, 1852, aged 86 years, one month and one day."

June 7, 1972

The Martinsville gazette 6-7-1972

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Fordyce and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Broyer to Mr. and Mrs. Claude Alexander, Jr., 40.87 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles R. Newton to Mr. and

Salem Church to hear the Rev. Ross Marrs

On Sunday, June 11, the Salem United Methodist Church in Liberty township, south and east of Belleville, will commemorate the founding of this Methodist Society one hundred forty-three years ago and the "raising" of the log church in 1829.

The regular morning services are Worship at 9:30 conducted by the pastor, the Rev. Theron R. Castleman and Church School at 10:15. The basket dinner is at noon.

The Salem congregation has heard the Rev. Marrs a number of times and feel quite fortunate to have him as the afternoon speaker at two o'clock.

Special music will be provided by a group from Mooresville, namely: Cindy Gregory, Lynn Hudson, Holly Beasley, Holly Hundertmark, Jan Goodman, Jan Pritchard and Howard Pritchard.

The occasion also honors the founders and charter members, some of whom were Bowater Bales, George Crutchfield, Evan Davis, David Demoss, Andrew Fultz, Thomas Harper, Joshua Marshall, Nathan Merideth, Daniel Roberts and Nathan Snodgrass.

Welcome indeed would be information on any person buried in Salem's pioneer grave yard!

Everyone is invited to attend the services.

Provisions

RECENT AND UPCOMING EVANGELISTIC EVENTS . . .

August 2 - Haiti Outreach Ministry with Haitian pastor, Sylvio Dieudonne, at Pleasant Grove U.M.C., Wesley U.M.C., and Park Place U.M.C. in Jeffersonville.
August 9 - JMEA Group Meeting at Marengo U.M.C.
August 11 and 13 - TV interviews on Channel 40 with Sylvio at Indianapolis and also Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.
August 28-30 - Smith Valley U.M.C. Retreat at Camp Moneto.
September 13-18 - Bowling Green U.M.C.
September 20-25 - Laurel U.M.C.
September 27-October 2 - OPEN DATE
October 4 - Smith Valley U.M.C., 9:00 a.m., Worship Service
2:00 p.m., JMEA Board Meeting
October 9-11 - Fountain Square U.M.C. in Muncie.
October 12-18 - Wabash U.M.C. in Vincennes.
October 25-30 - Blaine Avenue U.M.C. in Indianapolis.
November 1-6 - OPEN DATE
November 8-15 - DeSoto, Illinois U.M.C.
November 15 (p.m.)-22 - Wheatland U.M.C.
November 28 - Haiti Team Meetings
November 29-December 13 - OPEN DATES
January 3-4 - National Association of U.M. Evangelists in Nashville, Tennessee.
January 6-10 - Richmond Park Church of the Nazarene in Kingston, Jamaica.
January 13-25 - Eben-Ezer Mission in Gonaives, Haiti. If you are interested in joining one or more of the 3 work teams to Haiti (Dec. 15-Jan 5, Jan. 5-13, or Jan. 13-26), please get in touch with Jim. Recruiting deadline is November 15 - approximate cost is $450-$500.

JIM McCALLIE EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATION

R. R. 6 - Box 254
Columbus, Indiana 47201
Phone: (812) 988-2668

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Mr. & Mrs. Roy Pritchard

R. R. 1, Box 209

Clayton, IN 46118

September, 1981

THE SUPREME TEACHER (John 14:26) . . .

The test of every spiritual impulse is, does it make Jesus Christ the supreme Teacher? Jesus said, "When the Holy Spirit is come, He shall teach you all things." The Holy Spirit is the great bond of union because He keeps us united to the one Teacher. Jesus Christ is not a great Teacher alongside Plato and other great teachers; He stands absolutely alone. "Test your teachers," said Jesus; the teachers who come from God are those who clear the way to Jesus Christ, and keep it clear. We are estimated in God's sight as workers by whether or not we clear the way for people to see Jesus. --from Still Higher for His Highest by Oswald Chambers.

A PERSONAL WORD FROM JIM . . .

My heart-felt appreciation is extended to the delegation of the South Indiana Conference for the spontaneous applause which accompanied my introduction for re-approval as conference evangelist. This vote of confidence helped to reassure me of the persistence of a strong "grass roots" concern for evangelism as it is carried on in the revival tradition which I represent. I trust that it also was an affirmation that the plain preaching and teaching of God's Word is still an effective method for making the church spiritually alive and alert to her mission.

I would remind you that I am available for a variety of ministries including preaching and teaching for revivals and new life missions, Bible or mission conferences, retreats, seminars, and workshops. My music (voice and/or trombone) is used with all of these or can be used as a separate ministry.

Since any special emphasis tends to be more effective when those involved are planning and praying well in advance, I would urge you to schedule now for Lent and the spring of 1982. In most cases, my terms are simply a free-will offering.

The following recommendation is for churches which might desire leadership in a family life conference:

> "Rev. Jim McCallie led a retreat June 6 and 7 at Camp Moneto for the We Are One Class of Park Place United Methodist Church in Jeffersonville.
>
> The theme was Marriage and the Family. Rev. McCallie created a very interesting and open atmosphere for couples and singles to learn how to have a marriage as God intended, raising children as the Bible teaches, and how to live as Christians in today's world.
>
> ...It was a refreshing experience which enabled us to renew a stronger covenant to God and our marriage."

CAMPING ACTIVITIES . . .

Both the June 26-28 Bible Conference and the July 3-5 Mission Conference at Cedar Ridge were high in quality and spiritual leadership. Although this was our first attempt at two consecutive week-ends, we found the division of emphasis to be effective and rewarding. The Waldron UMYF also had an enjoyable and profitable retreat on the grounds on the four days just prior to these camp week-ends.

Perhaps a word needs to be said regarding our facilities. In anticipation of more small group retreats, we have taken a step of faith this summer by expanding an existing building into a 4 room dormitory with a restroom. We are now equipped to handle as many as 25 or as few as the members of a single family. So, if you want to "get away from it all," why not come to Cedar Ridge, set up your own camper or use our facilities to swim, fish, hike, or hunt in the relaxed environment of some of the mid-west's most beautiful scenery. Because our property is dedicated to the service of the Lord and the enjoyment of our friends, we prefer to make no charge. However, our board of directors does recommend a free-will offering for upkeep and maintainance.