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# History

Community United  
Methodist Church



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CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY  
WATERFORD COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Compiled by: Ruth Albee, History Chmn.  
Edited, typed, and updated by:  
Dorothy Bryant, Hist. Chmn.  
1984

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First revival conducted by Rev. Pettibone, Congregational minister from Burlington. Many members were added as a result.

For four years services were abandoned until a Christian young man named James. B. McChesney came to teach school. He reorganized the Methodist Sunday School in the school and invited his friend Rev. Wm. W. Painter to preach occasionally. Rev. Painter was appointed to serve Caldwell and Waterford in 1869. Meetings were held in the Groat home first, then in the graded school building and later in the basement of the Congregational Church and the church itself.

Many problems pertaining to reorganization stand on moral questions (slavery, temperance, tobacco, etc.) of the day were settled previous to the birth of our Methodist churches in Waterford.

1869 WM. W. PAINTER, Pastor. He was a Congregational minister from East Troy. He came at the invitation of his friend James McChesney, a teacher in the public school. While here he served both Waterford and Caldwell. The church was organized Oct. 9, 1870.

Conference was held in Janesville. (Bishop D. W. Clark)  
Two lay delegates were sent.

1879 Women's Foreign Missions Society was formed here.

1870 SABIN HALSEY, Pastor(1870-1873). Born 1843; Retired 1912; Died 1912.  
Church organized October 9, 1870.

1872 Church members forbidden to dance, play games of chance, attend theaters, horse races, circuses, or to hold dancing parties. This remained law until 1924.

1873 REV. GRISWOLD, Pastor

English church was erected and dedicated December 28, 1873. Revival meetings were held

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- 1887 REV. WALTER A. HALL, Pastor. Born 1858; Elder 1890; Died 1950. WME  
Served English Settlement also. (Possibly Caldwell and Vernon ?)
- 1888 Time a pastor could remain was changed from three to five years.
- 1889 Epworth League was organized in Ohio. 70 chapters existed in Wisconsin by 1890.
- 1889 Women were made eligible to serve as ministers.
- 1891 REV. CHARLES BALDOCK, Pastor. Born 1828; Elder 1864; Died 1902 WME  
Served English Settlement also. (Caldwell and Vernon (?) )
- 1894 REV. HEPP, Pastor.  
Served English Settlement, also. (Caldwell and Vernon (?) )
- 1895 REV. WM. WESLEY WILSON, Pastor (1895-1899) Born 1846; Retired 1916;  
Died 1929. WME  
Served English Settlement Church.
- 1897 First Ladies Aid Society meeting at A. Noll home. Later met at Elizabeth Noll's home.
- 1899 REV. CLARENCE WEED, Pastor (1899-1902) Elder 1904; Retired 1945;  
Died 1961. WME
- 1901 German Ladies Aid Society organized at H. Beier home on January 19.
- 1902 REV. SAMUEL OLSON, Pastor (1902-1905) Born 1865; Retired 1930;  
Died 1955. WME
- 1902 Pastors and their congregations were to vote on whether or not or how much German and English was to be used in their church services.
- Pastors began to instruct youth from 10 to 12 years of age in preparation for membership.
- 1904 Revival meetings were held in tents (1904-1913) because most places were not large enough and many would not go into the churches.
- System of weekly offering envelopes was started. Giving included support of retired ministers and their families.
- 1905 REV. JOHN W. PERRY, Pastor (1905-1908) Born 1877; Retired 1944;  
Died 1951 WME  
Served English Settlement, Caldwell, and Vernon.

- 1906 First Lay delegates were sent to Conference.  
Motor cars appeared and had to be registered.
- 1908 Mrs. Adelaide Cooper became president of Ladies Aid Society.
- 1908 REV. FRANCIS M. PRATT, Pastor (1908-1911) Born 1871; Elder 1909;  
Died in the pulpit. Died 1911 WME  
Served English Settlement, Caldwell and Vernon.  
Sunday School Graded lessons were introduced.  
Presiding Elders became District Superintendents.
- 1909 Training for Sunday School teachers was begun.  
First daily Vacation Bible School of two weeks was held.  
Began financial backing of Lawrence College.
- 1911 REV. JOHN S. ELLIS, Pastor (1911-1912) Born 1870; Elder 1908;  
Died 1942 WME  
Served Caldwell.  
Church Pianist - Alice Carpenter Storms  
Post Office closed on Sundays for the first time.
- 1912 REV. JOHN S. NEFF, Pastor (1912-1913) Born 1865; Elder 1895;  
Served Caldwell. Died 1958 WME  
Bishop Wm. A. Quayle - First bishop over Wisconsin Methodist Churches.
- 1913 Wesley Chapel built in Madison.
- 1913 REV. JASON SIZER, Pastor (1913-1914)  
Served Caldwell.  
Mrs. H. Morse (Pearl) - President of Ladies Aid Society 1913 & 1918  
German Methodists supported Baldwin Wallace College at Berea,
- 1914 REV. RICHARD K. MANATON, Pastor (1914-1919) Born 1853; Died 1921 WME  
Served Caldwell.
- 1915 Tenure of pastors extended from five to seven years.



- 1916 Mrs. George Lapham - President of Ladies Aid Society  
More automobiles changed life styles and moral standards.
- 1917 Mrs. Dana Albee - President of Ladies Aid Society
- 1919 REV. H. S. MARTIN, Pastor (1919-1920) Elder 1906; Left Conf. 1921.  
WME Served Caldwell.
- 1920 REV. H. B. CHASE, Pastor (1920-1921) Died Jan. 23, 1921.  
Served Caldwell  
Mrs. George Healy - President of Ladies Aid Society.
- 1921 REV. PAUL S. MAYER, - Pastor (Completed year of 1921) Born 1884;  
Elder 1911; died 1962.  
REV. ERNEST KISTLER, Pastor (Left in June 1921) Elder '22; Retired '58  
WME Served Caldwell.
- 1922 REV. PAUL SCHILPP, Pastor (Sept. 1921 - Sept. 1922)  
Mrs. E. H. Miller (Ruby) - President Ladies Aid Society.
- 1923 REV. WM. C. KURTZ, Pastor (1923-1926) Born 1892; Elder 1917;  
Left Waterford September, 1926 Died 1940 (April 6)  
August 26, 1923 - Dedication of United English and German Church  
April 2, 1923 - Last German Conf. to dispose of property.
- 1924 Removed list of forbidden amusements and in its place restored the  
standard first set down by Wesley: "the indulgence in only such  
diversions as can be used in the name of the Lord Jesus"... "The  
appeal is no longer to law, but to enlightened Christian conscience."
- 1925 Boy Scouts started with high school principal Mr. Thisted as leader.  
Social gatherings divided into: Adult Bible Class, Live Wire Class,  
Children under 14 years of age.  
Methodist Manor opened as Elmore Home.  
Radio markedly changed rural life.
- 1926 Tenure of pastors removed  
October 26, 1926 - Grand concert by M. E. Choir.

- 1927 REV. MARK A. CHAMBERLAIN, Pastor (1927-1928) Born 1898; Elder 1928.  
WME
- Gas put into church and parsonage.
- Difficult year financially. Nine area banks failed.
- 1928 REV. CARL EWAHAGEN, Pastor (1928-1930) Born 1904; Elder 1929;  
Came here from Tomahawk Retired 1965 WME
- October 25-26, 1928 - "Womanless Wedding", a play, was put on by the community. Many church members were in the cast.
- 1929 October 29 - Stock Market crashed.
- 1930 REV. WM. ARTHUR RIGGS, Pastor (1930-1933) Born 1899; Elder 1929; WME  
Served English Settlement. Retired 1968.
- 1932 Youth activities with other churches urged, not confined to Sundays.
- 1932 Ralph Magee became bishop.
- A new Methodist Hymnal was published.
- On April 29 a quit claim deed was obtained from A. M. and Mary Rittmann to Community Methodist Church adding 5 ft. to the west side of the church lot.
- 1933 Depression Years. Salaries had to be prorated with district supts., bishops, and retired ministers.
- N. W. German Conference was dissolved, bringing 31 churches into the Wisconsin Conference.
- 1933 REV. HIRAM SCOTT WITHERBEE, Pastor (1933-1936) Born 1875; Elder 1903;  
WWME Served English Settlement Died 1950.
- High School began to use church basement for band on Mondays. \$2.50 wk
- Chicago-Northwest Congerence dissolved and merged with Wisconsin West Conference, as it was no longer practical to continue.
- Family worship renewed with appearance of "UPPER ROOM" and "TODAY"/
- 1934 United Council of Churches formed.
- 1935 Pastor tenure time of 7 years removed entirely.

- 1935 As of ~~December~~, 141 active members, 19 inactive members.
- 1936 REV. DEMPSTER L. WANDSCHNEIDER, Pastor (1936- 1941) Elder 1938;  
WME Served English Settlement Retired 1971
- Memorial Hymnals dedicated on Palm Sunday.
- 1938 August 15 - Fifteenth Anniversary Sunday
- Interior of church painted at cost of \$485.00. /Caldwell and Fort A.  
Aug. 21-Union Musical Service with Big B., Honey Cr., Roch., Eng. S.
- 1939 Dissolving of Methodist Episcopal, Methodist East, South, and  
Methodist Protestant Churches. New name adopted "THE METHODIST  
CHURCH". This made many changes in organization such as Board  
of Lay Activities, conf. and general benevolences combined into  
"WORLD SERVICE", Ladies Aid and Missionary Societies.
- Now 150 church members.
- 1940 September 26 - W.S.C.S. (Women's Society of Christian Service)  
Charter. 52 Charter members.
- October 31 - Rural Rally of Methodists. (12 churches)
- Problems of war. Effort made to keep in contact with servicemen.
- 1941 REV. ELMER L. SHEPARD, Pastor (1941-1952) Elder 1935 WME  
Served English Settlement. Died Dec. 24, 1952  
Died suddenly of heart attack at Waterford parsonage.
- 1944 Conference changed to May
- September - Wisconsin had its first Methodist bishop in  
Schuyler E. Garth. He and his wife were killed a plane accident  
in January of 1947.
- 1947 Bishop Richardson died. Edwin Holt Hughes became bishop.
- Nov. 30 - Union service to dedicate Rochester organ.
- Record player purchased by the church.
- 1945 Property of the German church deeded to the Village of Waterford  
with provision that it be made into a memorial or park site, and  
that it not be for commercial use. Church to erect a suitable  
marker designating the location of the church.
- 1948 April 25 - Dedication of the organ and of the altar set.
- New furnace installed and a room built.
- Kitchen remodeled.
- H. Clifford Northcott became bishop.

- 1950 New offering plates. (Given by Norm Nelsons and Jack Camerons)  
Winter Night College started.  
Basement of church rented for kindergarten use.
- 1952 New garage and breezeway added to the parsonage.
- 1953 REV. RICHARD W. MILLER, Pastor Elder 1938 WMC  
Completed term of Rev. Shepard. Assisted by several Garrett students who mapped out parishes and made a card index of members.  
Served English Settlement.  
Memorial fund for Rev Shepard started.  
New furnace installed in parsonage.  
REV. THOBURN ENGE, Pastor (1953-1955)  
Served English Settlement.  
Hired janitor work done. (Robert Nehls and Mr. & Mrs. H. Rickert)
- 1954 Church was painted on the outside.  
Young people started lighting of the altar candles at service.  
Plans were started for addition of an educational unit.  
Second Assembly of World Council of Churches met in Evanston with 163 denominations represented.
- 1955 A Memorial Book was purchased and a custodian appointed to keep it up to date. A shelf in the church is where it will be kept.
- 1956 Additional land was purchased north of the church:  
25 ft. from Potokars for \$300.00.  
70 ft. from Stalbaums for \$100.00.  
Church members number 297.
- 1955 REV. WM FOSTER, Pastor (1955-1960) Left church in Feb. 1960.  
REV. JOHN J. BOWDEN - Filled out the year for Rev. Foster (1960)
- 1956 WSCS gave 150 chairs for Fellowship Hall  
WSCS decorated the kitchen, bathrooms, vestibule, and steps.  
WSCS fixed up a new nursery room downstairs.



- 1958 Plans drawn for new Educational Unit - Earl Steinke, chairman.  
Contracts let in Nov. to Everett Hegemann and Whitman Electric.
- 1959 October 3 - Consecration of the new Educational Unit.  
Methodist Manor built.  
Period from 1952-1959 the message of the church entered homes by radio and television.
- 1960 REV. KRISTAUPS CAUNE, Pastor (1960-1965) WMC Elder 1952.  
Ralph Alton became bishop.
- 1961 Joint Community Christmas Choirs Concerts were begun.  
New church flags given by Grace Cameron were dedicated.  
Communion linen and bread plate given by Vera Irwin.  
A railing at the entrance was installed; given by the P.M. Circle.
- 1962 February 10 - Men's Club chartered.  
Piano dedicated.  
Speaker for the organ was installed in the wall.  
A Chimes Fund was begun at the instigation of Alice Tindall.  
Kitchen was rewired with funds from WSCS.  
Gifts received were: Filmstrip Projector for the Sunday School from Minster family; Sterling silver Baptismal Bowl from Miller family; Adding Machine from Men's Club; Guest Book and Stand from Eleanor Trost; Christmas Tree Stand from Mrs. Austin.
- 1963 Twenty-seven choir robes purchased and dedicated on December 1  
Nativity scene was made.  
Lyman Room was completed and given in memory of Lyman Healy.  
Gifts received were: Pulpit Lamp from Dixon family; Altar Bible and Stand from E. Zimmer and C. Swain.  
Drive called "Capital Funds for Christian Concerns" for Wesley Foundation, homes for aging, Bellin Hospital and mission churches.

- 1964 New ceiling in kitchen was installed with funds from WSCS. Kitchen lights were given by Alice Smith.
- Fellowship Hall Lights were installed. (Aber Memorial)
- Union Lenten Service with Rochester.
- Gifts received were: Two Record Players from MYF; Altar Bible for the Sunday School from the Schmidt family.
- 1965 Union Lenten Service with Rochester.
- Dining Tables purchased: 5 tables from WSCS  
1 table from MYF  
1 table from P.M. Circle
- Gifts received were: Ping Pong Table; from Eastman family;
- 25th Anniversary of WSCS.
- 1966 Choir purchased a music stand in memory of Ivy Bethke and H. W. Krueger
- New roof installed on Educational Unit.
- New furnace installed.
- Couples Club was organized.
- New Hymnals were dedicated (175) in memory of Ivy Bethke.
- Junior Choir was organized under Barbara Lee, and Angel Choir under direction of Mrs. Kuckuk.
- Gifts received were: Candle Lighters and Bud Vase from Mrs. Hila Krueger.
- 1966 REV. LESLIE E. SIMON, Pastor (1966-1967) Elder 1931. Died July 23, 1967
- REV. JERRY O. ECKERT, Pastor (Summer of 1967)
- July 30/- Memorial Services for Rev. Simon. (Rev. Simon made Area Research Director in 1964)
- 1967 First issue of DIALOGUE. (August)
- REV. HARVEY RAKOW, Pastor (1967-1970) Supply Pastor from East Wis. Conference. Arrived October 4.
- 1968 New parsonage built. Open house on July 28. Consecration of parsonage held November 3.
- Old parsonage sold August 1, 1968.
- Parsonage study painted and new shelves installed.

Brethren

1968 Union of Evangelical United/and Methodist Churches April 1968.

Callen Library was opened. (Given by family)

Exterior of church painted.

Gifts received were: Pulpit Bible from Mohr family; Lamp Post for the parsonage from WSCS.

WSCS and Wesleyan Service Guilds united with 33 charter members.

1969 Pulpit microphone was installed.

Parsonage lawn was laid by Deak and Rupert families

Gifts received were: \$500 from WSCS toward church painting.  
\$250 from P.M. WSCS toward church painting.

Lay Witness Mission started.

Jr. Choir Leader - Vern Lever; Sr. Choir Leader - Dr. Buchal.

Joined West Wisconsin Conference, East Wisconsin and Wisconsin Conference.

Uniting Conference of Evangelical United Brethren and E. and W. Wisconsin Methodists held in Appleton in September. New name "Wisconsin Conference of United Methodist Churches".

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1970-1980  
CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY  
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Compiled by: Dorothy Bryant  
History Chmn., 1984

1970 PETER NELSON GARCIA, Pastor. From the East Wisconsin Conference.  
Born 1919; Died Jan. 22, 1984.

Served Waterford church from 1970 to 1984 when he died suddenly of a heart attack at the parsonage following the Sunday service. (See the History Records for more information)

Sunday Evening fellowship and pot-luck suppers.

Christmas Bazaar on December 5.

Dec. 6 - Senior choir participation in Combined Church Choirs Christmas Concert.

Dartball League weekly meetings.

Christmas Eve and Watchnite Services held

Chimes installed at cost of \$2500 given by church members. Many in community, individuals and businesses, also contributed. Original idea credited to Alice Barnes Tindall.

1971 Feb. 24 - New Communion Set dedicated. 4 bread trays gived by Pearl Krueger and Evelyn Krogstad; 6 brass and glass trays given by Mrs. C. A. Daugherty; Receptacles for the pews given by M/M George Fremming.

February Banquet for American Field Service (AFS) students.

March 5 - World Day of Prayer at Caldwell church.

Dartball League weekly meetings.

Vacation Bible School held. Arvilla Hanson, S. S. Supt.

Parsonage yard landscaped with trees and shrubs.

Aug. 28 - Chicken Barbeque at the church.

Fern given to church by Lambert family.

Sept. 14 - Guest speaker, Mr. Ziemann, missionary in Africa. Rev. Ziemann is Mrs. Gertrude Garcia's brother.

Sept. 24 - Rummage and Bake Sale

Special Event - Dinner of native foods of India prepared by Rochunga Pordarte. Sponsored by Commission on Missions.

*Pordarte*  
Dec. 14 - Family Night Christmas Party.



1971 Christmas Bazaar.

1972 Remodeling of Pastor's Study: Paneling, suspended ceiling, recessed lighting, carpeting, enclosed counter cabinet, new furniture, files, and accessories.

Budget for 1972 - \$25,113.00.

March 3 - World Day of Prayer - Waterford Methodist Church.

Painting of lower auditorium.

Aug. 26 - Chicken Barbeque.

Oct. 13-14-15 - Lay Witness Mission. 18 visiting laymen.

W.S.C.S. reorganized under new name - United Methodist Women UMW

Sept. 22 - Rummage and Bake Sale.

Dec. - Christmas Bazaar.

Dartball Team purchased Christmas trees.

Jr. and Youth Choirs under direction of Mrs. Ann Buchal.

1973 Budget for 1973 - \$33291.00

KEY 73 - Nationwide program to bring awareness of our Lord Jesus to every living person.

20-50 Club meet for recreation and fellowship.

May 11 - Spring Rummage Sale

April 3 - Passover Demonstration with John Feinberg.

April 10 - Passover Dinner - Mr. & Mrs. Isaac Levy of Cambridge, WI

KEY 73 Community Celebration. All surrounding churches met on High School football field. Dick Amundson, speaker.

Church painted - White with yellow, gold, and green doors.

July 15 - Church Picnic at Col. Heg Park.

Sept. 14- Crusade for Christ at Waterford Ford Theater. Nondenominational.

Sept. 28 - Rummage Sale.

Nov. 9-10-11 • Lay Witness Mission - M/M James Hancock, Mokena, IL.

Crismons made for Christmas tree

~~Christmas Bazaar~~ Beautiful Bazaar: cross erected in foyer. Wood from 125 year old barn donated by Lorine Austin. Cross designed and built by Joseph Schoedel aided by Beverly Schoedel.

1974

189 members. \$37,384.00 budget. Balance due on parsonage \$3300.00.

Youth Fellowship meeting every Monday evening; Women's Prayer Group meeting every Thurs. A.M. at Ann Dirks residence; Adult Study Group meeting at Dirks' home on Friday evenings; The TWELVE group meetings monthly with Pastor Garcia at various homes.

Beginning of a new Building Fund designated only for future building plans.

Electric Mimeograph and Fluoroscope Drawing Board for preparing stencils given by the Stephen Dirks family.

Pastor Garcia begins Bible Study with Morning Circle.

UMW Morning Circle begins coupon refunding program.

May 3 - Rummage and Bake Sale

May 5 - Ice Cream Social.

Garcias take a trailer loaded with donated items to Red Bird Mission in E. Kentucky.

June 17-21 - Vacation Bible School

Sept. 15 - Church Picnic - Col. Heg Park.

Oct. 13-18 - New Life Mission - Rev. Paul C. Frederick, pastor of Michelson Memorial United Methodist Church, Grayling, Michigan.

Sept. 8 - Baptism by Immersion at Richard Dustin College.

Nov. 3 - Memorial services for departed members. (Died in 1974)

Dec. 7 - Holiday Fair (New name for Christmas Bazaar)

1975

March 11 - UMW program - Fashions and Fabrics.

Good News Clubs - Children Evangelism.

Sunday morning Pot Luck dinner and fellowship - Once each month.

Painting of parsonage.

June 16-20 -- Vacation Bible School.

Oct. 19-23 - Crusade for Christ - Pastor Calvin W. Carey from Merrillon, Wisconsin.

Telephone Chain formed to spread church news quickly.

Baptism by Immersion for those who request it at Dustin cottage.

Nov. 15 - Holiday Fair - Beverly Schoedel UMW president.

Dec. 23 - Christmas Cantata by Youth Choir under direction of Dr. and Mrs. George Buchal. Vocal and instrumental.

1976 (Copies of the DIALOGUE were not available for this year so was  
unable to complete information for this year.)

1977 (There were no copies of the DIALOGUE for this year)

1978 147 members. Budget \$43,528.00.

Nursery facilities during morning worship services with a full time nursery attendant.

Insulation and window repairs to church for energy saving.

June 12-14 Vacation Bible School.

Aug. 7-11 5-Day Clubs. Child Evangelism.

Oct. 20-21-22 Lay Witness Mission. Laymen from different area churches come here to share what Jesus is doing in their lives.

Nov. 9-10 Holiday Fair.

Dec. 31 Watchnight Service cancelled due to heavy snowfall.

1979 Cookbook compiled by UMW.

Ecumenical Bible Study with Pastor Garcia on Tuesday mornings.  
Men's Ecumenical Bible Study on Tuesday evenings.

Feb. 6 Second Annual Chili Supper sponsored by men for camp scholarship fund.

Jan. 14 Guest speaker, Richard Truitt, new District Superintendent.

March 2 World Day of Prayer.

April 24 Ladies Night Out - Microwave Demonstration.

May 18 Rummage and Bake Sale.

May 20 New Life Singers concert.

May 24 Surprise Birthday Party for Pastor Garcia at the Ron Tichy home.

Sept. 9-13 Mountain Men Ministries.

Sept. 18 Mother-Daughter Banquet. Doll Collection, Paula Edstrom.

Virginia Gandt, senior choir director, and Ann Buchal, junior choir director, honored at morning service and presented with a bud vase of ~~silk~~ roses to say thank you for their efforts.

July 1 Special Charge Conference Meeting after morning service called by Pastor Garcia. Members voted to transfer funds from Building Fund to be used for project of refurbishing and remodeling. Fund name changed to "Reduce Our Debt" fund.

Oct. 13-18 New Life Mission.

Nov. 10 Holiday Fair.

Movie Projector given by Stephen Dirks family.

New mail boxes installed to distribute committee mail.



1980-1990  
CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY  
WATERFORD COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST  
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1980    Membership 155.    Budget \$66,689.00.

Jan. 17 - Ladies Night Out - Cake Decorating with Bev Squire.

Beginning of "Secret Pal" plan by UMW.

March 15 - Father-Son Banquet.

Coupon refunding earned \$750 in 1979. 3500 pieces mailed. Gertrude Garcia in charge. A morning circle project.

Feb. 12 - Third Annual Chili Supper. Men in charge. Paul Bixler, chmn

March 7 - World Day of Prayer at Caldwell.

April 15 - Ladies Night Out - Craft Demonstrations.

May 5-10 - Bill Gotthard Institute at Milwaukee Auditorium.

June 16-20 - Vacation Bible School. Bill Sherman, S.S. Supt.

May 15 - Spring Rummage Sale.

May 25 - Titheing Sunday. Give 1/10 of week's income.

April 27 - Surprise Birthday Party for Gertrude Garcia at Korman's.

Old church pews to be sold for \$75 each.

Aug. 3 - The Talent. \$1.00 given to each member to use and to be returned with interest in six months. ROD committee.

Five-Day Clubs held for Child Evangelism.

Sept. 15 - Family photographs taken for a Pictorial Church Directory of Members.

Nov. 1 - Holiday Fair.

Record giving to Missions in 1979 - \$10,600.

1981    152 members.    \$73,585.00 Budget.

Feb. 19 - Ladies Night Out - "Nutritutational Meals" with Marge Smith of Gateway Technical.

March 21 - "Spring Fling"- Bake Sale and Craft Boutique for ROD Fund.

March 29 - Proceeds of \$1.00 TALENT placed on altar.

1981  
cont.

April 30 - Ladies Night Out - Spring Fashion Show.

May 15 - Rummage and Bake Sale.

June - End of very successful Tuesday morning Ecumenical Bible Study meetings conducted by Pastor Garcia. (Coffee and lunch provided by members and served by Gertrude Garcia)

Sept. 17 - Ladies Night Out - "Quilting".

Sept. 26 - Sunday School Workshop. "Idea Workshop".

Sept. 28 - Annual Charge Conference with Richard Truitt, Dist. Supt.

Oct. 31 - Holiday Fair.

Oct. 16-17-18 - KEY EVENT with Mary Council Austin of Sun Prairie. Each night depicted through decoration and music an event in Jesus' life. Christmas Story; Death of Lord Jesus Christ; Resurrection; Pentecost.

Oct.

1982 134 members.

"Pot Blessings" every third Sunday of the month. (After services)

March 21-27 - PORRIDGE WEEK - Spend nothing on groceries for a week and give that grocery money to the General Budget.

March 5 - World Day of Prayer at Waterford.

Kitchen cupboards remodeled with UMW funds.

Feb. 27 - Men's annual Chili Supper for camp scholarship funds.

Feb. 18 - "Sweetheart Luncheon" for elderly members by UMW members.

Upright piano willed to church by Ruth Albee.

Church Library moved to ANNEX.

July 18 - Debt Retirement Sunday. Balance of \$96,000 note: \$55,714.

Sept. 12 - All Church Picnic at Col. Heg Park.

Sept. 9 - Ladies Night Out - Workshop on drying, canning and freezing foods.

Sept. Beginning of Children's Church during morning worship service. Ginny Gilhuber, S.S. Supt. and Mary Krogh in charge.

Oct. 24-27 - PROCLAMATION group sharing their ministry.

Nov. 6 - Holiday Fair.

Dec. 14 - Virginia Gandt honored at morning service for her efforts with the Senior Choir.

1983 Beginning of All-Church Thursday night Prayer Meetings.

Virginia Gilhuber, S.S. Supt. Children's Church after opening services during pastor's sermon.

Feb 26 - Men's Chili Supper for camp scholarship fund.

May 6 - Spring Rummage Sale.

April 17 - PORRIDGE WEEK. Contribute week's grocery money to General Fund.

May 21 - Authentic Spaghetti Supper. Rev. Victor Sammartino.

June 13-17 Vacation Bible School

May 15 - Pastor and Mrs. Garcia honored on their 40th Wedding Anniversary (May 19). A special surprise fellowship featuring a smorgasbord of food followed the morning service.

Aug. 8-12 - 5-Day Clubs. Child Evangelism and Fellowship.

POUNDS given to members. \$1.00 to be increased over six months to be used for siding of the church exterior.

Oct. 14-15-16 New Life Mission. Pastor Ziemann and Pastor Opuni.

Nov. 5 - Holiday Fair.

NOTE: Information for this Chronological History has been taken from the DIALOGUES for the years 1970 through 1983. It will, therefore, not be necessarily a complete history of events.

Beginning in 1984 a running record of church happenings will be kept and should be accurate and complete.

D. Bryant, history chmn.

1984

Jan. 22 - PASTOR GARCIA DIED SUDDENLY OF A HEART ATTACK FOLLOWING SUNDAY MORNING SERVICES AFTER RETURNING TO THE PARSONAGE.

Jan. - Apr. - Church services conducted by lay speakers: Steve Dirks, Clarice Bethke, Bob Iverson, Dave Sandelius, and Shirley Gulick.

Feb. 19 - Pound Sunday. Return of the \$1.00 investment - money to be used for new siding on church.

Feb. 25 - Men's chili supper.

March - White vinyl siding put on church and annex. Steps removed from front porch and side steps and railing added.

March 2 - World Day of Prayer (St. Thomas Church)

March 18 - Special service commemorating origin of Methodism in America. (Bicentennial) Clarice Bethke, speaker.

April 15 - Mrs. Garcia moved out of parsonage to Rochester. Rev. Clarence Cheever of Jim Falls, formerly pastor of Stanley, Cadott, and Thorp churches arrived in Waterford.

April 22 - Easter Sunday - First service by Pastor Cheever.

~~JUNE~~ 15 - Surprise Birthday party for Mrs. Garcia at morning "pot blessing".

May 17-18 - Rummage Sale

May - Series of meetings in Fellowship Hall to become acquainted with Pastor Cheever and his family.

May 27 - Rose on altar in remembrance of Pastor Garcia's birthday.

June 4-8 - Vacation Bible School. Virginia Gilhuber, supt.

June 15 - David Kruse of Eau Claire became new district supt. succeeding Rev. Richard Truitt.

July - Bishop Marjorie Matthews, first and only woman bishop in world retired.

July - Bd. of Trustees approved use of one of the rooms in the annex as a History, Records, and Memorials Room.

Sept. 9 - Bicentennial celebration. 200 years of Methodism. Clarice Bethke reviewed growth of Methodist church in Waterford. Pot luck Sunday evening. Visiting former pastors: Rev. Rakow, Rev. Riggs, and Rev. Eckert.

Sept. 16 - All-church picnic at Heg Park.

Oct. 19, 20, 21 - Lay Witness Mission. 19 lay visitors. Coffees and visitations.

1984 cont.

Dec. 15 - Open House at parsonage. Pastor and Mrs. Cheever, hosts.

Dec. 1 - Holiday Fair, Carla Keeker, president of UMW.

Dec. 22 - Sunday School Christmas Program.

1985

CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

- Jan. 1 - New Year's Eve Family Fun Night
- 3 - Women's Evening Bible Study started. Bev Schoedel, leader.
- 3 - Alice Hulbert, church member and early organist, died.
- 20 - Memorial Service for Pastor Garcia and dedication of the memorial plaque.
- 21 - Former member. Mildred Thor, passed away in New York. Funeral services in Waterford.
- 28 - Helen Beerend's 90th birthday party at Levi Barnes Manor
- Feb. 1 - World Day of Prayer at Caldwell Church.
- 14 - Valentine Party for Senior Citizens and dinner by UMW.
- Mar. 29 - Elizabeth Cornelius died. Services at church April 2.
- Apr. 23 - Pearl Schwedler passed away. Services April 26 at church.
- May 12 - Confirmation Sunday. Paul Dirks, Steve Goetsch, Edie Kramer, and Dave Koscinski confirmed.
- 19 - New Members: Shirley Lipinski, Peter Martinick, Rich Leipzig and Geri Leipzig. Kirk and Rich Leipzig joined on May 26.
- Jessica Lynn Bierman, daughter of Jack and Barbara Bierman, baptized.
- June 9 - Dedication of Ryan Christopher Buck and Andrew Joseph Buck, children of Michael and Shawn Buck.
- 25 - Debbie Schneider and Randy Leppien married at church.
- July 13 - Lorena Shenkenberg died at age of 91 at East Troy nursing home. Funeral July 16.
- Aug. 25 - Gary Ranke and Debra Naramore wedding
- June 1 - Randy Stelzner married to Carol Carruthers in Grand Junction, Colorado.
- June 8 - Christopher Korman and Ann Uhen wedding in Burlington.
- Oct. 26 & 27 - NEW LIFE MISSION at our church.
- Nov. 9 - HOLIDAY FAIR
- Nov. 19 - New organ installed. Used at Nov. 24 service.
- Dec. 11 - Open House at parsonage. Pastor and Mrs. Cheever, hosts.
- 15 - Sunday School Christmas Program at 6:30 p.m.

## CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

1986

Two morning services at 7:30 and 10:30  
Communion Service on the first Sunday of each month

Jan 28 - Shuttle, Challenger, explosion. 7 astronauts killed (1 teacher)

Feb. 13 - Golden Agers Dinner sponsored by UMW.

15 - Chili Supper by men for Camp Fund.

- Men's Fellowship Breakfasts to be known as "Solomon's Breakfast".

19 - New Rodgers 740-B Organ in use. Virginka Gandt, organist.

Mar. 4 - World Day of Prayer at Norway Lutheran Church.

Apr. 5 - Bauer Mohr died. Burial in German Settlement Cemetery.

27 - Organ Dedication Service. David Kruse, dist. supt., guest spkr.

May 23 - Rummage Sale by UMW.

16 - Albert Schwedler died. 5/19 at church funeral service.

- Landscaping on Main Street given by Mohr family in honor and memory of Bauer Mohr. (\$1760)

June 1 - Baccalaureate Service for High School Class of 1986 held at church. (Discontinued at High School)

Graduating Seniors: Dianna Chapman, Tracy Spangenberg,  
Tina Cheever, Dawn Schoedel, Raoul Perez.  
John Schnabl, Dorothy Boller (AFS Student)

July - Bishop Matthews died. (First Methodist women bishop)

June 15 - Baptisms: Marie Wolke, Amy Lee, Bob McMillan.

New Members: Mark and Carol Antzak, Darwin and Gladys  
McGinnis, Tom Cable, Amy Lee, Bob McMillan, Marie Wolke

22 - Vacation Bible School - Linda Kramer, leader.

26 - Mark Cheever and Sabrina Meeker married.

July 4 - Our church had a float in the July Fourth Parade on Main St.

Aug. 24 - Service of Dedication and Appreciation of teachers of Sun. Sch.

Sept. 7 & 14 - New Members: Ron Tichy family, Tina Swanson, Marcie Asselin

14 - Church Picnic at Heg Park

28-Oct. 1 - SPREE (Spiritual Renewal Encounter) with Cecil Williamson,  
and Lee Ann Williamson, evangelists.

Nov. 15 - Holiday Fair

Dec. 4 - Open House at Parsonage

- Pictures taken for Pictorial Church Directory

21 - Sunday School Christmas Program

1987 monthly Solomon,s Breakfast for men, Singles ~~MINISTRY~~,  
Evening Bible Strudy, Choir, Communion service every  
first Sunday of the month.  
Feb. 15 Alfred Mitsch died.  
March Final payment on mortgage for church refurbishing and  
Annex.  
April 26 Pot Blessing after service - a farewell to Beverly and  
Dawn Schoedel.  
July 25 ~~Lloyd Bryant died.~~  
Blacktopping of parking space off Racine Street.

# 1988

Jan 17 Burning of mortgage service.  
Feb 21 Dedication of Youth Room.  
18 Golden Agers dinner.  
26 Bea Shepard, wife of former pastor Elmer Shepard, died  
at Methodist Manor in Milwaukee.  
Computer purchased of secretary.  
May New carpet for kitchen and family room at Parsonage.  
July 18 New public address system installed at \$6350 cost total.  
\$1725 given as memorial to Lloyd Bryant.  
Aug 31 Barbara Finney becomes new choir diretdor.  
Sept 9 Building research committee formed to plan possible Sunday  
Scnool addition.  
Dec 4 Open house at parsonage,  
May 7 All Church Charge Conference voted to purchase 12.5 acres  
of Beck property on Jefferson Street.

# 1989

Jan New hymnals ordered.  
Aug New choir robes - a gift from Alice smith.  
Purchase of land for new church.  
Pastor and Janet Cheever celebrate their 35th  
Wedding Anniversary,  
Oct Devotional Telephone Line started - given by Dorothy  
Bryant in memory of Lloyd W Bryant

# 1990

Jan 25 Evelyn Krogst ad died  
Feb 12 Clarice Bethke died  
Mar Special Charge Conference - Building Committee elected.  
May Building Fund campaign  
Dec 21 Helen Behrend died



1990 Ongoing Activities: Chili Supper, Golden Agers Dinner, Rummage Sale. Mother-Daughter Dinner, Swiss Steak Dinner, Church Picnic, Holiday Fair,

Latch Key Program started by Ann Dirks for after school children.

1991 Youth Director - Stan Pegram - Starts many activities for youth in the church and community.

May Barb Finney resigns as Choir Director.

Aug Jim Foster becomes new Choir Director.

1992 Continued Bible Study Groups in homes.  
Solomon Breakfasts for men.

Jan Trip to Holy Land - Pastor and Janet Cheever, Selma Bonewald, John and Msry Wulz, Linda Kramer, and Bonnie Curtis.

Rick Goetsch - missionary to Russia.

Mar Funds Drive for new church - Land Debt is paid.

Start of the slogan - Building On God's Word

Mar "Buck" Edwards died.

Watson Phone auto-dialer installed - Gift from Betty Potokat in memory of her husband.

Dec Open House at Parsonage.

Dec 20 "Vital Congregation" award received.

1993 Ongoing Activities: Couples Community Groups, Bible Study Groups, Golden Agers Dinner, Over eaters Victorious, Rummage Sale.

Praise Team opens services with song

Oct All-Church Auction to help Building Fund.

Dec Open House at Parsonage.

Rick Goetsch in Moscow - International Fellowship of Evangelical Students

~~1993~~ ~~Dec~~ ~~Deconsecration of church on Main Street - Move out by end~~  
1994 of year. Sold to Lindau family to become an Antiques Mall.

Apr 10 Ground-breaking for the new church.

Sale of church on Main Street did not go through due to objections of Village Board.

June Building started - Cement work - floors laid - sewer work approved. Volunteers doing much work to help.

June Laverne Edwards retires as Church Organist after many years of faithful service.

Nov Pastor Cheever undergoes open heart surgery.

Stan Pegram and family leave our church for a position in northern Wisconsin.

All Year 1994 New church is built with much volunteer help from the whole congregation

Dec Deconsecration of the church on Main Street - Move out by end of year - Building sold to Lindau family to become an Antiques and Collectibles business.

1995 First services in the new church. Much work still to be completed.

Ongoing Activities : Praise Team opens services with song, marriage counseling and fellowship groups, men's Solomons breakfast, Prayer Chain to spread news of needs, chili supper, United Women's activities.

Ron Tichy becomes Associate Pastor. Also assumes duties as Youth director and organizer of youth activities.

Continued work of completion of lower level Sunday School rooms, carpeting, etc.

Dorothy Bryant resigns as co-chairman of the History committee.



II.

STORIES  
OF  
EARLY CHURCH HISTORY

BY:

RUTH ALBEE

ALICE TINDALL

ESTHER STEINKE

AND OTHERS

MINUTES OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
MEETINGS OF 1899-1900

2

Copy

## HISTORY METHODISM IN WATERFORD

Who can say just where and when a church originates. So many beliefs and principles are based on those of our forbears and passed down from generation to generation. "It is of these early days-- days of beginnings of our church that we would write--and since we have few church records remaining, we have consulted many of the older people who have contributed from their experience and memories."

Perhaps a bit of history of Waterford itself will set the background for the religious leanings of its early settlers: It is located in a portion of the territory ceded to the United States Government by the treaty of 1833, with the Potawatonic and other Indian tribes. By the terms of the treaty the Indians were to remain in possession of this land until 1836. It was in the fall of that year that two white men, Levi Barnes and his son-in-law Samuel Chapman, came on horseback from the east and made claim to the greater part of what is now Waterford. Their families and other settlers soon followed.

Waterford was separated from the town of Rochester in 1847, and was incorporated in 1906, with William Shenkenberg as its first mayor. The place was called Waterford from the fact that the river could be forded conveniently at this point.

Mr. Barnes was the first preacher, or exhorter, as they were called in those days. Grandmother Barnes told the following story: "One time he was reprimanding his congregation about fishing on the Sabbath. He told them that if they did not repent of their evil ways, they would surely be lost and go down to the bottomless pit--hook, line and sinker".

In the early days there were two Protestant Church Societies--the Congregational and Methodist services were held in the little, red, brick school house built in 1845 and 1847, where the graded school now stands. The Congregational Society used the school in the forenoon on Sunday and the Methodists in the afternoon.

On occasions, whenever a meeting was held in the evening, lights were furnished by the neighbors whose best lamps were carried, all freshly cleaned, to the school house. The old melodeon from the Chapman house furnished music for church services and other special occasions. The older boys, or men, carried it to and from the school house. If an afternoon service was held, the old fashioned tuning-fork was often used for the correct pitch.

The Congregational Society must have grown faster than its neighbor, for in 1859, they erected the beautiful and commodious stone church on the site of the present high school. It was well placed on the hill overlooking and facing the town and was approached by a series of steps extending the entire width of the front and reaching the entrance in the second story. The whole was surmounted by a tower and belfry. The basement was fitted for school rooms, and the more advanced pupils transferred to them from the overcrowded brick school house.

Because of its faulty construction, with its one large auditorium, and very, very high ceilings, it was impossible to heat to a comfortable degree. The people became discouraged and lost interest in the church which had been such a disappointment to them. So it was allowed to remain in disuse.

The light of the Methodist Society, in the brick school, had flickered and gone out. For four years no religious services were held. Then God sent a Christian young man to teach the public school--James E. McChesney. He reorganized the Methodist Sunday School, holding the meetings in his school rooms. He invited his friend, W. W. Painter, pastor of the Congregational church at East Troy, to come and preach occasionally.

In the fall of 1869 Rev. Painter was appointed to the Waterford-Caldwell circuit and came to Waterford to live as our first minister. His room was the parlor in the Edward Groat home. In this room he held his first meeting--a prayer meeting. There were four present. As the good work progressed the room became crowded and they moved to the graded school building which had been built in 1868. Still the interest grew and they were forced to go to the basement of the Congregational church, and later to the church itself.

There, was held the "Great Revival", the greatest religious awakening the town and community had ever known--the outpouring of God's spirit in the winter of 1869-70. The influence of that revival changed the lives of many.

At this time a last attempt was made to heat the church. The school room in the basement, being unused since the completion of the two-story school building, a furnace was installed by the M.E. Ladies Aid. This was not a success, and eventually it lead to the downfall of the church.

Again, "at an early day," came German settlers to Waterford. Among them were the four Noll brothers: Louis, Charles, Fred and William, and their brother-in-law, Philip Mitsch, from southern Germany in 1852. Being Lutheran, they attended the Lutheran church in this village until the erection of a German Methodist building.

In 1854, the F. C. Wallman and Henry Brier families arrived; the Nehls in 1865; Joseph and Christopher Topp, Fred Koch, Fred Miller and Jacob Shenkenberg about 1868.

One day as F. C. Wallman was at the Burlington depot for a load of goods, he was approached by a stranger who asked him where he lived and if there was a German Methodist church in the place. When he was told there was none in Waterford, he introduced himself as a minister and offered to preach if Mr. Wallman could find a hall or suitable place. The old, brick school house was secured. These were the first German Methodists' services held in Waterford and the fourth group to use the brick school.

After a few years during which these families sought to find a church home, several pioneers formed a church society and joined with the German Settlement and the Blue Church. The German Settlement church records show many of our family names.

In the fall of 1870, Rev. Jacob Schaefer was sent to them from the N. West German M. E. Conference of Illinois. Their services of Sunday School and preaching were held in the basement of the Congregational church in the afternoon, while the English M. E. Society had their meetings in the same place in the morning, under the leadership of Rev. Painter. The two societies grew side by side.

One Sunday as Mr. Edward Groat, who lived near the church, started from home to ring the bell for Sunday School, he said to his wife, "Now, Mary, I am going to try to ring the bell as well as that German Methodist". He did, and more too, for when he returned he said, "Why, Mary, I don't know what to do! The bell is caught up in the belfry and I can't pull it down". In a few days a severe wind storm arose, the steeple came down on

the Village Green bringing with it the bell. The new German Methodist church, just completed, needed a bell and the bell was placed there--the last relic of the First Congregational church of Waterford.

In 1868 the German Society, restless without a permanent home, planned to build a church during the pastorate of Rev. Conrad Eberhard, their second pastor. Philip Mitsch gave the site at the junction of Main and Racine Streets. Charles and William Noll were the carpenters. The pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned by George Wallman, then a boy of fourteen working in his father's cabinet shop.

In their joy and thankfulness at the completion of their new church home they did not forget their friends and neighbors of the English Society, but called the Rev. Sabin Halsey, the second English pastor, to preach in English at their church dedication. They also invited the English Society, which had formed October 9, 1870, to worship in their new church until they could build for themselves.

The English people did not accept their gracious invitation, but continued in the basement of the Congregational church while they planned and worked for their new church. A lot was purchased from Charles Moe on Main Street. The mason work was done by Daniel Foat. "When the walls were finished the church folks, in their enthusiasm, held a supper with just the blue sky overhead. They set their tables and stood up to eat just like the Israelites at the Passover. They rejoiced, thinking they had a foundation laid for a Methodist church."

The carpenter work was done by Joseph Topp and Charles Johnson. The farmers of the congregation held a "b e" and drew the lumber from Burlington. The women furnished dinner as the loads came in. This dinner was served on Mrs. Lockwood's lawn, where Archie Mucci now lives.

Invitations for the dedication of the New Methodist Episcopal church were finally sent out. They were printed in gold on a sheet of ruled paper by Ole Heg Job Press, Waterford. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. W. P. Stone, Presiding Elder, on December 28, 1878. The Rev. J. W. Carhart preached in the evening. Rev. Griswold was the resident pastor. After the sermon they raised the money to pay the debt. Three men: Daniel Foat, Edward Groat and William Sproat were appointed to take up subscriptions; Rev. Stone saying, "Here you! Foat, Groat and Sproat, get busy down these aisles."

The building consisted of what is now the central part of our present church, with the entrance to the south and the "rostrum" across the entire north end of the building. The basement was used for Sunday School for smaller children, Epworth and Junior Leagues and Prayer Meetings. The Ladies Aid held their bazaars and numerous dinners here. To say the least the lddies worked under great difficulties as there was no kitchen as we have it today. The remaining part of the basement was used to store the firewood. It was in this part of the building that a section was cleared and a couple of old cook stoves set up with a few tables on which to prepare food. Nevertheless we were served some delicious, chicken-pie dinners.

The sanctuary was heated by two pipeless furnaces and lighted with kerosene lamps. Six large, brass hanging lamps, such as you have seen, lighted the church proper, with bracket lamps on the platform. Then, as now, it was a problem to secure a janitor. So when Mrs. Steinke was 14 and 15 years of age, she and a schoolmate decided they would like to earn a little money by keeping the church clean, and filling and cleaning all the oil lamps. For this they received one dollar each per week. During the winter they were paid fifty cents extra for building the fires. During this time there was a six-week revival, which meant extra work with no extra pay!



The two churches were very active and happy in their new homes. They had their class meetings, their church service, their Sunday school, their quarterly meeting and Love Feast, their weekly, cottage prayer meeting and an occasional camp meeting. We could see God's leadership through our pastor leaders who came one after another to guide, strengthen and help in any way to carry on the work to which they were called.

The English church was placed either with Caldwell (Prairie), Vernon or the English Settlement. This occasioned the quarterly meeting four times each year--alternating between Caldwell and Waterford. It was an all-day affair, including dinner, and was anticipated as a season of profit and pleasure. Because of these days when we truly worshipped together, it was hard to break the ties that bound us when Waterford was separated from the Caldwell-Vernon circuit. (Our more recent Lenten services with Caldwell, English Settlement, Rochester and Honey Creek have renewed our friendship with succeeding generations.)

The Class Meeting was held during the hour preceding morning church service and was attended by the older people of the church. Sunday school came after the church service.

The German church continued in their association with the German Settlement and Blue Church until after the pastorate of Rev. Roeger, their twelfth pastor, when the German Settlement began to have services in English. The Waterford church, desiring to continue in the German language, was transferred to the Burlington circuit and remained with them until the union with the English Methodist church. They began to have occasional English services under the pastorate of Rev. Schellhauss.

The union of the two churches was spoken of almost in whispers at first, until in the pastorates of Rev. Wiese and Rev. Sizer sufficient union spirit was developed to hold a few union meetings. These were continued through the pastorates Rev. Wiese and Rev. Staiger on the one side and Rev. Manaton and Rev. Martin on the other. Then came two friends--Rev. Schilpp and Rev. Kistler, who were students together at Garrett in Evanston. It was natural and easy for them to plan their work together. They soon had monthly union meetings, alternating between the two churches.

In June 1922 Rev. Kistler resigned. A joint meeting of the English and German Conferences followed. At this conference Waterford was taken from the Waterford-Caldwell-Vernon circuit and Rev. Schilpp was appointed pastor for the two churches as a trial union for the three summer months. At the next joint conference the churches voted to continue the relation as federated churches for the year ending September 1923.

Both Rev. Schilpp and Rev. Kurtz came to this area from the Chicago German Methodist Episcopal Conference of N. W. Illinois; Rev. Kurtz transferring to the Wisconsin M.E. in 1922 and Rev. Schilpp leaving the ministry for the teaching profession.

Under the leadership of Rev. Wm. Kurtz the two churches went forward in every way as a united church. Incorporation was effected as the "Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Waterford" in 1923.

May 24, 1923, on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the original English church building, five persons were present at the evening service--(the last service to be held in the old church)--who were present at the first service ever held in the church--the dedication service of Dec. 28, 1873. The five were John Funk, of Honey Creek, Mrs. Louis Geif, Mrs. Edward Groat, Mrs. Irving Foat and Mrs. Henry Glueck of Waterford.

The original German church building was torn down and the material used to remodel the English church building during the spring and summer of 1923. Services were held in the high school during the reconstruction.

The dedication of the remodeled building took place Sunday, Aug. 26, 1923.

"Dr. E. R. Martin of Kenosha, who came to Waterford as a representative of the Bishop, to participate in the dedication, spoke to an audience which filled the church to its capacity on Sunday afternoon. He spoke from the text found in Math. 16:17,18. Following this splendid sermon, the official dedication of the new building took place. Among those taking part in this impressive service were the two District Superintendents of the English and German Conferences--Dr. Wm. Esslinger and Dr. H. C. Logan; Rev. W. C. Kurtz, local pastor; Rev. S. E. Ryan, of the Burlington M. E. church; Rev. Samuel Olson, of the Yorkville church; and Rev. Frank Hartl, of the Galena Street church, Milwaukee.

"The choir, enthusiastically and in the spirit of worship sang several hymns, and J. C. Yonk of Burlington gave a coronet solo. Preceding the address in the evening a 'raise service' was held. An orchestra composed of the young people of the church, gave several numbers. The Waterford male quartet--Rev. Kurtz, Archie Noble, Charles Trost and Herman Trost--sang. Other musical numbers were a saxophone solo by Harold Yonk and a violin solo by our own Alma Glueck."

Brief messages of encouragement and congratulations were brought from neighboring churches by visiting pastors. They were: Rev. F. Stanley Powles, pastor of the East Troy Congregational church; Rev. Frank Hartl, of Galena M. E. church of Milwaukee; Rev. H. S. Grandholm, of the Honey Creek Baptist church; Rev. J. E. Jordan, of the Rochester Congregational church. Mr. A. S. Titus, representing the local church and Sunday school, spoke briefly on the "Sins of Ingratitude".

There was no financial drive put on, Rev. Kurtz briefly stated that the beautiful new church, which seemed to be complete in every detail, had cost approximately \$9,000, of which \$7,000 had already been provided for. Now it was accomplished at so small a cost seems like a miracle, as does the way in which the two old buildings were builded into one in such a way that the "one" seemed like an entirely new building.

The seeming magic of combining two old buildings was no less marvelous than that used in uniting two congregations until they were one in thought and purpose.

The anniversary of the union has been celebrated only twice since 1923: on August 24, 1924, with an all-day Sunday service and a banquet on Tuesday August 26; and the fifteenth anniversary August 21, 1938. It had been decided by the official board to set aside one day each year to commemorate the union.

Accordingly in 1924, while Rev. Kurtz was still serving the church here, August 24 was set aside for the celebration. At the morning service Dr. Logan, District Superintendent, conducted communion services. At 2:00 P.M. Rev. Charles Briggs, of the First M. E. church, Racine, spoke. In the evening Dr. C. W. Hayward, of Waukesha, brought the message. At the two latter services a large, mixed chorus from Big Bend, Honey Creek, Rochester and Waterford sang.

The fifteenth anniversary on August 21, 1938, under Rev. Wandschneider, was also a three-part service. The morning message was brought by Rev. Stansell, District Superintendent; the afternoon address by Rev. Kurtz, then of Manitowoc; and an evening musical service supplied again by the union of neighboring church choruses with our own.



As a true "Community" church an effort was made to bring in talent and members from surrounding churches on Sunday evenings. A special committee was appointed, for a month at a time, to provide a preliminary program every Sunday evening. We enjoyed fellowship with Big Bend, Rochester, Honey Creek, English Settlement, Caldwell, Norris Farm and others. Often pastors from these parishes would also bring the message.

The years 1927 through 1936 were years of financial distress throughout the country. Consequently church finances also suffered. Banks were closing, the stock market crashed. During these years our community population was composed of retired farmers and small business men who had planned on living on their hard-earned savings. Ministers' salaries had to be prorated with district superintendents, bishops and retired ministers. Preference toward local ministerial support had to be in the form of produce or of our abundance of personal possessions.

After the time of depression an increase in attendance at Sunday school and church was noted. Renewed enthusiasm appeared as the financial load eased in general. An additional five feet of land was purchased on the west from A.M. and Mary Rittmann in 1932. At a later time (1956) land was purchased north of the church.

At this time it was also realized that additional space was necessary for Sunday school and church activities in general. Talk of an educational unit and plans began in 1954, under Rev. Enge. However, final plans were not completed until January 13, 1958. Earl Steinke was chairman of the committee, together with Bauer Mohr, Leon Winter, C. E. Edwards, Virgil Alby, Stephen Dirks, Bruce Hansen and C. A. Daugherty. The contracts were let in November of that year.

With more than 1800 square feet the new unit provided nine additional classrooms at a cost of \$20,000, (a contrast to the \$9,000 for remodeling in 1923). The church proper was extensively redecorated and remodeled with new carpeting, floor tile, lighting, painting and altar furnishings at a cost of about \$5,000. The WSCS was generous in donations for the project, and Methodist men put many, many hours of work on redecorating. Many of the new facilities were the result of memorial gifts.

Consecration of the new unit took place October 3, 1959, with a message by Bishop H. Clifford Northcott. He was assisted by Rev. Guy Nelson, District Superintendent, Rev. Wm. H. Foster, local pastor, and C. B. Edwards, lay leader.

\*\*\*\*\*

In all of these church activities we see the leadership of the Master Hand and the leadership of God directing the people through the pastor. These leaders came here, one after another, filled with enthusiasm and high ideals, to guide, to strengthen, to help in any way to carry on the work to which they were called. Each brought a different set of abilities. Each saw the work in a different light. Each "did his bit" in his way and passed on, leaving an imprint which changed and added to what was already here into better Christians.

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Copy 1

## THE STORY OF OUR CHURCH

by

Alice Barnes Tindall

Once upon a time, a long long time ago, two gentlemen came in the fall of 1836 from the East on horseback, seeking a new home for their families. They were Levi Barnes (my Great, Great Grandfather) and his son-in-law, Samuel Chapman. They were so pleased with what they saw that they decided to make this their future home. The story goes that they dismounted, wrapped their blankets about them and laid down to sleep. So soundly did they sleep that when morning came, they found that stealthy Indians had stolen from their heads the red handkerchiefs which they had tied over them the night before. They staked their claims and returned to their eastern homes. Soon after they came back bringing their families to this new country.

The place was called Waterford from the fact that the Fox River could be forded conveniently at this place. Mr. Barnes' possessions, which were almost wholly on the east side of the Fox River amounted to about 600 acres at one time. For some of it he paid 10 shillings an acre and for some the magnificent sum of 12 cents an acre.

Mr. Barnes was the first Preacher or Exhorter, as they were called in by-gone days. My Grandmother Barnes told the following story: "One time he was reprimanding his congregation about fishing on the Sabbath. He told them if they did not repent of their evil ways, they would surely be lost and go down to the bottomless pit, hook, line and sinker." In the early days there were two Protestant Church Societies in Waterford, the Congregational and the Methodist. Religious services were held in a little red brick school house built in 1845 and 1847, where the old stone graded school is now located. The Congregational Society used the school house in the forenoon on Sunday and the Methodists in the afternoon. The Sunday School and weekly prayer meetings were held under its hospitable roof. On occasions whenever a meeting was held in the evening, lights were furnished by the neighbors, whose best lamps were carried, all freshly cleaned, to the school house. The old melodeon from the Chapman house furnished music for church services and other special occasions. The older boys or men carrying it to and from the school house. If an afternoon service was held, the old fashioned tuning fork was often used to get the correct pitch for singing.

In 1859, the Congregational Society erected the beautiful and commodious stone school on the site of the present high school. The basement was fitted for school rooms and the more advanced pupils transferred to them from the over crowded brick school house. Because of its faulty construction, with its one large auditorium and very, very high ceilings, it was impossible to heat it to a comfortable degree. The people became discouraged and lost interest in the church that had been such a disappointment to them and it was allowed to remain in disuse.

The light of the Methodist Society in the brick school house had flickered and gone out. For four years no religious services were held. Then God sent a Christian young man to teach the public school and he reorganized the Methodist Sunday School, holding the meetings in his school rooms. He invited his friend, W. W. Painter to preach occasionally. In the fall of 1869, Reverend Painter was appointed to the Waterford circuit and came to Waterford to live. Our first minister. His room was the parlor in the Groat home. In this room he held his first meeting, a Prayer meeting. There were four present. As the good work progressed the room became crowded and they moved to the graded school building built in 1868. The interest grew and they were forced to go to the basement of the Congregational Church and then to the Church itself. There was held "The Great Revival", the greatest religious awakening the town and community had ever known. The our pouring of God's spirit in the winter of 1869 and 1870. The influence of that revival changed the lives of many. At this time our Methodist ladies installed a new furnace in the Church, but that also was not a success and eventually led to the down fall of the church.

Again at an early day, came German settlers to Waterford. Among others were the Nolls, four brothers, Louis, Charles, Fred and William and their brother-in-law, Philip Mitsch, who owned the farm now owned by the Tindalls on Racine Street. In 1854 the F. C. Wallman and Henry Beier families; John Nehls in 1865, Joseph and Christopher Topp, Fred Cook, Fred Miller and Jacob Shenkenberg about 1868.

One day as Mr. F. C. Wallman was at the Burlington Depot for a load of goods, he was accosted by a stranger who asked him where his home was and if there was a German Methodist Church in the place. When he was told there was none in Waterford, he introduced himself as a Minister and offered to preach if Mr. Wallman could find a suitable place. Those were the first German Methodist services held in Waterford, and the fourth little band of worshipers to use the little brick school house. In the fall of 1870, Reverend Jacob Schaefer was sent as the first German Methodist Minister by the conference and with Reverend Painter, the English Minister, the two societies grew side by side holding meetings in the basement of the Congregational Church. One Sunday as Mr. Ed. Groat, who lived near the church (the Rittman home now) started home to ring the bell for Sunday school, he said to his wife, "now Mary I am going to try to ring the bell as well as that German Methodist", and he did and more too, for when he returned he said, "why, Mary, I don't know what to do! The bell is caught up in the belfry and I can't pull it down." In a few days a severe wind storm arose, the steeple came down on the village green. The new German Methodist Church just built on land donated by Mr. Philip Mitch, needed a bell and the bell was placed there. The last relic of the once imposing First Congregational Church of Waterford, Wisconsin. The carpenter work on the German Church was done by Chas. and Wm. Noll and the pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned by Geo. Wallman (a boy of 14 working in his father's cabinet shop). Mr. Wallman was the father of Mrs. Esther Stienke and Mrs. Cora Bryant.

Two years later in October 9, 1870, the English Methodists organized, bought land from Charles Moe, on Main Street and started their new church. The mason work was done by Daniel Foat, Grandfather of Mrs. Ruby Miller and Mrs. Pearl Morse. Mrs. Mary Groat says, "When the walls were finished the church folk in their enthusiasm held supper within the four walls with just the blue sky overhead." They set their tables and stood up to eat just like the Israelites at the Passover, and they rejoiced, thinking they had a foundation laid for a Methodist Church. The carpenter work was done by Joe Topp and Chas. Johnson (father of the late Anna Johnson). The farmers of the Congregation held a "bee" and drew the lumber from Burlington. The women furnished dinner, as the different loads came in, in the Lockwood yard (now the A. Mucci home). The work progressed and invitations were finally sent out for the dedication of the new Methodist Church. The invitations were printed in gold on a sheet of ruled paper by Ole Heg's Job Press, Waterford.

The dedication sermon was preached by Reverend W. P. Stone, Presiding Elder, on the Sabbath morning of December 28, 1873 and the Reverend J. W. Carhart D.D. preached in the evening. Reverend Griswold was our resident pastor. After the sermon they raised the money to pay the debt. Three men, Daniel Foat, E.M. Groat and Wm. Sproat were appointed to take up subscriptions, Reverend Stone saying "Hefe you! Groat, Foat and Sproat, get busy down these aisles." The two churches were very active and happy in their new homes. They had their class meeting, their church service, their Sunday school, their quarterly meeting and Love Feast, their weekly cottage prayer meeting and an occasional camp meeting. We could see God's leadership through our pastor leaders who came one after another to guide, strengthening and helping in any way to carry on the work to which they were called.

After 50 years, working hand in hand, the two churches occasionally held an English service in the little German church about a block away and soon there was talk of uniting the two churches. During the pastorates of Reverend Paul Schlipp of the German church and Reverend Ernest Kistler of the English congregation, who incidentally had been students at Evanston, the union spirit was developed and monthly meetings were held. Reverend Kistler resigned in 1922 and Reverend Schlipp was appointed as pastor of the two churches in one for three months. This trial proved satisfactory and Reverend Kurtz of Fond du lac came to Waterford to take charge of the united work and incorporation was affected as the Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Waterford.

In 1923 the dedication of the church was held. The German Society having moved their building and joined with the English into one fine building and as Reverend Kurtz said "Building a church and a congregation at the same time." At the dedication August 26, 1923, Superintendents of both the German and English conferences were present. Dr. Esslinger of the German conference spoke at the morning service: Dr. H. C. Logan of the English conference spoke in the evening and acted as toast master at the Tuesday evening banquet. Dr. E. B. Martin, pastor of the M. E. Church of Kenosha spoke at the dedication in the afternoon, as the representative of the Bishop, who was unable to be with us.

ie years following have brought other pastor leaders who have each done their  
it and passed on, leaving imprints which helped to produce christian lives  
and christian living. To the pastors to whom praise is due are:

Referends Painter, Halsey, Griswold, W. J. Wilson, T. Piep,  
Porter, Lawnsburg, Beetle, Melott, McGaha, Cadman,  
Baldock, W. A. Hall, Hepp, John Cook, W. W. Wilson,  
Olson, Weed, Perry, Pratt, Ellis, Ner, Sizer,  
Martin, Chase, Mayer, Manaton, Kistler, Schlipp,  
Kurtz, Chamberlain, Hagen, Riggs, Witherbee, Wand-  
sneider, Shepard, Dr. Miller, Enge, and our pre-  
sent Wm. Foster.

Not long ago our church basement was rebuilt. A new furnace room was built;  
also a beautiful and modern kitchen and our dining room was enlarged. Now  
we are planning a new educational center north of the existing building.

In 1963 that large, new educational center has been completed and it is an  
idifice to be proud of.

After Rev. Wm. Foster were the Rev. Kristap Caune, Rev. Leslie Simon, Rev.  
Jerry Eckert and in November 1967, Rev. Harvey Rakow.

⑧ M. E. Church History

copy  
By Esther Steunke

Methodism had its beginning in Waterford when a few imigrants of German descent withdrew from the German Lutheran Church and organized the Methodist Church. Incidentally, my Grandfather, Mr. F. C. Wallman, was one of this group.

Soon they erected a building on the Triangular piece of land west of the Village where Main Street and Racine Street converge. In October of 1870, the English speaking people of the congregation organized a church of their own and erected a building on the present site of our Community Church, the lot having been purchased from Chas. Moe who owned the property now belonging to Merle Stalbaum.

The people were very enthusiastic and went to work with a will to build their new Church home. (The mason work having been dne by Daniel Foat, Grandfather of Mrs. E. H. Miller.) They put up tables and held a supper within the walls with just the blue sky above. They had no chairs so had to stand up to eat. The church was a frame building built by Jos. Tapp, Father of the late A. J. Tapp and a Mr. Chas. Johnson. The farmers held a "Bee" and hauled the lumber from Burlington while the ladies of the congregation served them dinner on the lawn of what is now the home of Mr. and Mrs. Archie Mucci. The pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned out by my Father, Mr. G. F. Wallman, who was at that time a boy of 14 years working in the cabinet shop of his father.

The building consisted of what is now the central part of our present Church, with the entrance being to the South and the "rostrum" as it was called at that time across the entire North end of the building. In 1873 this building was completed and dedicated on a Sunday morning, December 28. Just when the work was done in the basement, I do not know, but my first recollections were of a large room in the South end which was used as a Sunday School room for the smaller children. This was also used for the Epworth and Junior Leagues and the prayer meetings held every Wednesday evenings. The Ladies Aid held their bazaars and numerous dinners here.

To say the least, the ladies worked under great difficulties for there was no kitchen as we have it today. The remaining part of the basement was used to store the fire wood and etc.; and it was in this part of the building that a section was cleared and a couple of old cook stoves set up along with a few tables on which to prepare the food. Nevertheless, we were served some delicious chicken pie dinners.

The sanctuary was heated by two pipeless furnaces and lighted with kerosene lamps. Six large brass hanging lamps, such as many of you have seen, lighted the church proper with bracket lamps on the platform. Then, as now, it was a problem to secure a janitor, so when we were about 14 and 15 years of age a school mate and myself decided we would like to earn a little money and took the job which consisted of keeping the Church clean and filling and cleaning all those oil lamps. For this we each received a dollar a week. During the winter months I received an extra fifty cents a week for building the fires  
~~Building the fires with wood. (Remember, I had to fire with wood.)~~  
~~extraxpayxxxWillyxitxxxxxxxpxrxixxxt~~  
and seeing that the room was warm. (Remember, I had to fire with wood.) During this time, there was a six week revival which meant extra work with no extra pay. Well, it was an experience!

As most of you know, there came a time when there was much talk of uniting the two churches. This was in the early 1920's. Sometime in the summer of 1922, this was accomplished and then the plans got under way for enlarging the English Methodist Church. The German Church was torn down and what lumber was good was used in the remodeling of the other building. The result was the Community M. E. Church building as you see it today, with dedication planned for sometime in August, 1923.

Once more there was quite an extensive remodeling program when the basement was changed giving us the now more modern kitchen. And, now again, we are expanding by the addition of Sunday School rooms to the north.

In closing, I would add, that it was in 1894, when I was nine years old that my parents felt that their children should be in a Sunday School where they could understand what they were being taught. Thus, they transferred their membership from the German Church to the English M. E. Church. Our family, which is now in its fifth generation, has been active in a great many branches of the Church. We are proud that we have been able to carry on the work of our forefathers and that now our children of the fourth and fifth generations are taking over where the older ones left off.



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COMMUNITY M. E. CHURCH

"At an early day"--how often we have heard our grandfathers and grandmothers begin thus to tell of their experiences and we have listened with eager interest to those tales of a time so distant and so different from ours. It is of those early days--days of beginning of our churches that we would write--and, since we have no church records remaining, we have consulted many of the older people who have willingly contributed from their experience and memories and searched old diaries, letters and records. So we feel that withal our history, if we may dignify it with that word, is well substantiated though it be largely traditional.

"From my earliest recollections," says Mrs. Carr in her recital of events in which some of the dear old fathers and mothers of Methodism figured,-- "from my earliest recollection, protestant religious services were held in the little red-brick school house where the graded school is now located. There were two societies, viz. Congregational and Methodist. The former used the school house in the forenoon on Sunday and the latter in the afternoon."

The Congregational society must have grown faster than its neighbor for in 1859 they erected the beautiful and commodious stone church on the site of the present high school. In passing we must note how well it was placed on the hill overlooking and facing the town; how it was approached by a series of steps extending the entire width of the front and reaching to the entrance in the second story; and the whole surmounted by a tower and belfry. The interior, too, was imposing with its gallery for the choir at one end of the large auditorium and the high pulpit at the other end. There was no platform but several pews faced each side of the pulpit and the steps by which it was reached. The basement was fitted for schoolrooms and the more advanced pupils transferred to them from the overcrowded brick schoolhouse.

Again quoting from Mrs. Carr: "The first revival conducted in the new church was under the leadership of Rev. Pettibone of Burlington, a Congregationalist, and many members were added to both societies. As cold weather came on it was found, through the faulty construction of the building with its one large auditorium and very, very high ceiling, that it was impossible to heat it to any comfortable degree. (It was heated by two box stoves in the rear, and the long reaches of pipe the entire length of the room.) Several plans were tried of changing the position of the stove and pipes, but it always resorted to the basement school rooms to hold services in the winter. It was no wonder that the people became discouraged and lost interest in the church which had been such a disappointment to them; and it was allowed to remain in disuse."

The light of the Methodist society in the brick schoolhouse had flickered and gone out. For four years no religious services were held. Then God sent a Christian young man to teach the school, James E. McChesney. Besides his work as teacher of the public school, he saw also the field for the Master's work, and reorganized the Methodist Sunday school, holding the meetings in his schoolrooms. He invited his friend and former school mate, Rev. W. W. Painter, pastor of the Congregational church at East Troy, to come and preach occasionally. In the fall of 1869 Rev. Painter was appointed to the Caldwell-Waterford circuit and came to Waterford to live, the first minister. Rev. Painter's room was the parlor of the house. It was not electrically lighted, nor furnace heated, nor overcrowded with fine furniture, but what the Grouts did not have was cheerfully furnished by neighbors. In this room he held his first meeting, a prayer meeting. There were four present: Mr. & Mrs. E. M. Groat, Mr. George W. Stone and Rev. Painter. These four held several meetings, then one more was added--again several meetings. On January 2, Mr. Painter was called away but he asked that the meeting be held. The meetings were discussed in the village--curiosity and interest increased the attendance. The minister's room became too crowded



and they met at the graded school building which had been built in 1868. Still the interest grew. There were more converts, and larger meetings, and they were forced to seek other quarters, going first to the basement of the Congregational church and later to the church itself. There, was held "The Great Revival" as it was known; "a gracious revival started and spread, resulting in the greatest religious awakening the town and community had ever known"--"the outpouring of God's spirit in the winter of '69 and '70, and the changes wrought at that time in the hearts and homes of the community." Among the converts were men about town not interested in the things of the soul and decidedly interested in other things, who faded about and began again at this time. One man confessed he had been an infidel, another, a young man, influenced several companions by his glorious death. Enemies became friends. The home life of many was completely changed. We can look back today and see the influence of that revival all down through the life of many.

At this time a last attempt was made to heat the church. The school rooms in the basement being unused since the completion of the two-story school building. A furnace was installed by the M. E. Ladies Aid, but it was not a success. The heating problem was the weak point and eventually led to the downfall of the church.

Again--"at an early day"-- came German settlers to Waterford. Among others were the Nolls--four brothers--Louis, Charles, Fred and William, with their brother-in-law, Phillip Mitsch, from southern Germany in 1852. Being Lutherans they attended the Lutheran church in this village. A little later, Mrs. M. Glueck remembers a Lutheran minister from Burlington conducted services in the brick school for a time. In the meantime other German settlers had arrived: F. C. Wallman and Henry Peier in 1854, John Nehls in 1865, Joseph and Christopher Topp, Fred Cook, Fred Miller, Jacob Shenkenberg about 1868.

One day when Mr. F. C. Wallman was at the Burlington depot for a load of goods, he was approached by a stranger who asked him where he lived and if there was a German Methodist church in the place. When he was told there was none in Waterford, he introduced himself as a minister and offered to preach if Mr. Wallman could find a hall or suitable place. The old brick school house was secured and this minister (whose name is forgotten) held services there-- the first German Methodist services held in Waterford and the fourth little band of worshippers to use the brick school house.

After a few years during which these families sought to find a church home, several of those pioneer men formed a church society and joined with the German Settlement and The Blue church, and Rev. Jacob Schaefer was sent to them by their conference--the first German M. E. minister. This was in the fall of 1870, and their services consisting of Sunday school and preaching services were held in the basement of the Congregational church in the afternoon on Sunday while the English M. E. Society had their meetings in the same place in the forenoon.

So through 1870 and 1871 the two societies grew side by side with their first leaders, Rev. Schaefer and Rev. Winter, the former a fine Christian man, a tireless worker, holding revival meetings for weeks. The latter distinctly a man of prayer. Mrs. Groot says often when awake in the night she has heard him at prayer and heard him say, "Bless the Lord!" Sometimes he prayed all night. Truly, he was a man known, remembered and revered by all. Thus was laid the spiritual foundations of the two churches.

The German society, restless without a permanent home, planned to build a church during the pastorate of Rev. Conrad Eberhard, the second pastor. Phillip Mitsch, who occupied the farm now owned by Mr. Tindall, gave the site at the junction of Main and Racine streets. Chas. Noll and Wm. Noll were the carpenters. The pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned by George Wallman, then a boy of fourteen working in his father's cabinet shop. Ten

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years later the bell on the old Congregational church was blown down by a storm. It was bought by H. Beier and donated to the new German M. E. church.

In their joy and thankfulness at the completion of their new church home, they did not forget their friends and neighbors of the English society, but called the Rev. Sabin Halsey, the second English pastor, from Milwaukee, to preach in English at their church dedication. And they invited the English society, which had effected an organization, October 9, 1870, to worship in their new church until they could build for themselves. The English people did not accept their gracious invitation, but continued in the basement of the Congregational church and planned and worked for their new church. A lot was bought of Chas. Moe on Main street. The mason work was done by Daniel Foat. Mrs. Groat said: "When the walls were finished the church folks in their enthusiasm held a supper within the walls with just the blue sky overhead. They set their tables and stood up to eat just like the Israelites at the Passover. They rejoiced, thinking they had a foundation laid for a Methodist church."

The carpenter work was done by Joe Topp and Chas. Johnson. The farmers of the congregation held a "bee" and drew the lumber from Burlington. The women furnished dinner as the different loads came in. This dinner was served in Mrs. Lockwood's yard where ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Muccia now live.

So the building progressed and the invitations were finally sent out for the dedication of the New Methodist Episcopal church, as it was called. The invitations were printed in gold on a sheet of ruled paper by Ole Hags' Job Press, Waterford. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. W. P. Stone, presiding Elder, on Sabbath morning, December 28, 1873 and the Rev. J. W. Carhart, D.D. preached in the evening. Rev. Griswold was the resident pastor. After the sermon they raised the money to pay the debt. Three men, Daniel Foat, E. M. Groat and Wm. Sproat were appointed to take up subscriptions, Rev. Stone saying, "Here you! Groat, Foat and Sproat, get busy down these aisles."

After the activity of building, the two churches changed to the activities of their religious work and the enjoyment and satisfaction of worship in their new homes. Their manner of worship differed somewhat from that of the present day. That is also history. The Sunday school seemed to originate from the church and the teaching the training of the young was the starting point of these services. Then came the religious services; then the prayer meeting and especially the cottage prayer meeting called the "thermometer of the church," with the weekly meetings and their spiritual uplift. The preaching service which had been only occasional in the early days had become the regular church service had always to be shared with the other points on the circuit. The English church was placed either with Caldwell or the English Settlement and this occasioned the quarterly meeting four times each year.

Mrs. Perkins says: "Mr. Painter was the first pastor of these two churches, Waterford and Caldwell Prairie (as it was then called), 1869-70. Since then Caldwell has been put with East Troy and served by the East Troy minister four different times; at such time Waterford was with the English Settlement. In those early days every alternate quarterly meeting was held at Waterford and Caldwell. No service was held at either place when the other had the quarterly meeting. There was a morning and an afternoon service. Waterford entertained the Caldwell people at dinner and Caldwell did the same for Waterford. There was the nine o'clock Love Feast, which was a truly a spiritual feast, that every Methodist member enjoyed. The Waterford folks were here (Caldwell) at the early meetings and I can well remember the testimony of those days, and it is because of those days when we truly worshiped together that it was hard to break the ties that bound us. (referring to the separation of Waterford from the Waterford, Caldwell and Vernon circuit)."

Of this time Mrs. Carr says: "Quarterly meeting occasions were anticipated and looked forward to as seasons of profit and pleasure, when people would come in wagon loads from other places and were entertained over Sunday by the resident church. When it was the turn of the local church to be entertained, "Uncle Sutton," who lived in the halfway house on the west side road to Rochester, would put seats in his lumber wagon, hitch his team to it and drive to the village to collect one load, while Harvey Weage, who was Mrs. Caley's father and the owner of the Henry Caley farm, made the same plans to transport the other load of church-goers to the meeting."

One other meeting of those days was the Class meeting. This was always held during the hour preceding the morning worship service. (Sunday school in those days came after the church service) and was attended by the older people of the church. It was a meeting of prayer and testimony--an experience meeting in which the acts and thoughts of those Christian people were discussed by themselves, in praise of right and confession of mistakes and condemnation of wrong, and came very close to the actual lives of the people. The Class leader was looked upon as very close to Christian perfection.

Thus they had their class meeting, their church service, their Sunday school, their quarterly meeting and Love Feast, their weekly cottage prayer meeting, and an occasional camp meeting.

In all of those activities we see the leadership of the Master hand, the leadership of God first directing the people through the pastor. These pastor leaders came here one after another, filled with a fine enthusiasm and noble and high ideals, to guide, to strengthen, to help in any way to carry on the work to which they were called. Each brought to the work a different set of abilities, a different "stock in trade", as it were; each saw the work in a little different light; each "did his bit" in his way and passed on, leaving an imprint which changed and added to and molded what was already here producing the composite of Christian character and Christian living. To those pastors all praise is due. In the German church there were eighteen in all: Revs. Jacob Schaefer, Conrad Eberhard, John C. Rinder, John Brier, Chas. Hedler Sr., Henry Lemuke, Meixner, Berg, F. Neitzel, Bohr, Chas. Hedler Jr., Roege, Wm. Elske, Schellhause, Wiese, Theodore Staiger, Paul Schilpp and W. C. Kurtz. In the English church there were (may be out of order) Revs. Painter, Halsey, Griswold, W. J. Wilson, T. Peep, Andrew Porter, Lawnsburg, Beetle, Melott, McGaha, Cadman, Baldock, W. A. Hall, Hepp, John Cook, W. W. Wilson, Olson, Weed, Perry, Francis Pratt, John Ellis, Ner, Sizer, Manaton, Chase, Mayer, Kistler, Schilpp, Martin, Kurtz, Neff, Wm. Riggs, Hagen, H. S. Witherbee, D. L. Wandschneider, Elmer Shepard, Thoburne Enge, Wm. Foster, Kristap Caune, Leslie E. Simon, Jerry Eckert, and Harvey Rakow, Peter Nelson, Marcia

The German church continued in their association with the German Settlement and the Blue church until after the pastorate of Rev. Roege, their twelfth pastor, when the German Settlement began to have preaching in English. The Waterford church, desiring to continue in the German language, was then transferred to the Burlington circuit, and remained with them until the association of the two Waterford M.E. churches. But they began to preach occasional services in English in the pastorate of Rev. Schellhause.

The union of the two churches was spoken of almost in whispers at first, until in the pastorates of Rev. Wiese and Sizer sufficient union spirit was developed to hold a few union meetings. These were continued through the pastorates of Rev. Wiese and Rev. Staiger on the one side and Rev. Manaton and Rev. Martin on the other. Then came two friends as pastors; Revs. Schilpp and Kistler, students together at Evanston. It was easy and natural for them to plan their work together, and they soon had monthly union meetings alternating between the two churches. In June 1922, Rev. Kistler resigned. A joint

meeting of the English and German Conferences followed. At this time Waterford English M.E. church was taken from the Waterford, Caldwell and Vernon circuit and Rev. Schilpp was appointed pastor for the two churches as one and as a trial union for the three months remaining in that year. At the next joint conference the churches voted to continue the relation as Dr. Mulfinger, district superintendent of the German conference, stated it "not as amalgamated but as federated churches" for the year ending September 1923. Under the leadership of Rev. Kurtz the two churches have gone forward, in every way, as one united church."

In 1923 incorporation was effected as the Community Methodist Episcopal Church. The original German church building was torn down and the material used to remodel the English church building during the year 1923. Dedication of the remodeled building took place Sunday, August 26, 1923. The morning service was conducted by Dr. Wm. Esslinger, of Chicago; an afternoon service by Dr. E. R. Martin, of Kenosha; and an evening service brought messages from various visiting pastors and Dr. H. C. Logan, of Milwaukee. On Tuesday, August 28, a "Homecoming" banquet was held with Dr. H. C. Logan as toastmaster and toasts by various visiting friends.

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way back in the days almost beyond recall, in 1850, there was a little red brick school house, which was built in 1847 on the present site of the graded school, which was used for town hall and church, as it was the only public building having sufficient seating capacity for a large assemblage. There were few musical instruments used in churches then, but every Sunday for morning services, two men might be seen carrying between them Ellen Chapman's little four octave melodion and at the close of the service returning it. If another service was held in the afternoon, the old fashioned tuning fork was brought out to get the correct pitch for singing.

This little red school house was used for services until 1859, when the First Congregational Church was built where the present high school is located. The auditorium was as much to high and difficult to heat as the school room in the basement was to low and over heated. After years of struggle and discomfort the membership of the church became so reduced in numbers by death and removal that it was impossible to give a pastor adequate support.

Then the English and German Methodists were allowed to hold religious services there until each society built a church of its own. The Methodist built in 1874. (English)

One Sunday as Ed Groat, who lived near the church started from home to ring the bell for Sunday School, he said to his wife Mary, I am going to try to ring the bell as well as that German Methodist and he did and more, for when he returned he said, Mary, I don't know what to do. The bell is caught in the belfry and I can't pull it down. In a few days a severe wind storm arose and the steeple was seen to sway and the bell together with the steeple came down on the village green. The new German Methodist Church needed a bell and there will be found the last relic of the once imposing First Congregational Church of Waterford, Wis.

The first record I have of an English Methodist minister is in 1881 by the name of Rev. E. B. Lounsbury. A school mate of my mother's, Martha Stone Roe, wrote that Amelia Moe was their Sunday School teacher in the late 1865. I was 6 years old when I first attended Sunday School in 1891. I have a Sunday School paper dated 1886. Amelia Moe was our teacher and leader. She taught us how to pray our own prayers and on our knees. We gave ten cents in our Loyal Temperance Union service in the afternoon, which went to Frances E. Willard, head of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Chicago and in return we received a card with a Bible verse and her autograph. (In the fall, my grandfather, who owned and ran a saw mill and lumber yard had a cider press and every Sunday during the season, I had to sign a pledge card not to drink cider.)

Sunday was a very busy day; we went to German Sunday, our lesson and singing was all in German. We received cards with Bible verses in German. Mrs. Emma Nehls was our teacher and Herman Trost, supt. Then we attended our own Sunday School, then church and in the afternoon Loyal Temperance Union. In the evening Epworth League and evening church service. In those days was the primary department, intermediate and Bible class. In this class was Mr. Moyle and Mr. Foxwell, who were interested in Mellian dawn. Mr. Wallman and Mr. Groat some very heated discussion arose. Curtis Barnes received a Bible for learning the ten Commandments. At Christmas we had a tree at Church; we spoke our pieces and received our gifts from home. I remember my doll had a new body and dress sitting in a little red chair. Delia Drought tells of she and her sister received dolls which were hung from the bracket lamps on each side of the stage. We received booklets and Bible verse cards.

By Alice Barnes Tindall

Time sped;  
Year in, year out they slaved,  
To plow the fields, to sow the seed,  
To drive away the monster, need;  
They had no pictures, music, books,  
No beauty as of yore;  
They'd naught but fragrant lilacs there  
In spring beside the door.

And now,  
Those pioneers are gone;  
No home remains save cellar wall;  
Logs ready for the final fall;  
Those grounds, per chance, are grown to weeds,  
Those lives are hero lore,  
But lilacs bloom and bloom again  
Where once was kitchen door.

by Hazel Hankinson



## HISTORY OF WATERFORD

A Paper Read Before the Racine County  
Historical Society

At Waterford, Wis. June 27, 1954

by

Alice Barnes Tindal

(Great, great granddaughter of Levi Barnes)

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Our village is a portion of the territory ceded to the United States Government by the treaty of 1833, with Pottawatomie and other Indian tribes. By the terms of the treaty, the Indians were to remain in possession of this land until 1836.

It was in the fall of that year that two white men, Levi Barnes and his son-in-law, Samuel Chapman, came on horseback from the east and made claim to the greater part of what is now Waterford. They were so pleased with what they saw that they decided to make this their future home. The story goes that they dismounted, wrapped their blankets about them and laid down to sleep. So soundly did they sleep that they found when morning came that stealthy Indians had stolen from their heads the red handkerchiefs which they had tied over them the night before. Mr. Barnes and Mr. Chapman staked their claims and returned to their eastern homes. Soon after, they came back bringing their families to this new country.

The place was called Waterford from the fact that the Fox River could be forded conveniently at this place. Mr. Barnes' possessions, which were almost wholly on the east side of the Fox River, amounted to about six hundred acres at one time. For some of it he paid ten shillings an acre, for some the magnificent sum of twelve cents an acre. The Foat and Barnes families are today living on a part of what was once this large tract of land.

The house, now the Foat home, was built by Levi Barnes in the late thirties or early forties. The frame was of 10x10 hewn oak, fastened with pegs. All the lumber was taken from the land where the buildings now stand. It had a huge fireplace on one side of the kitchen, and many times Indians slept on the floor in front of the hospitable hearth. The old home became the property of Hiram Barnes, one of the seven children of Levi Barnes, the one with whom the aged father spent his last days. The other children were Elmira, who died before the family came to Wisconsin; (Mrs. Samuel Chapman); Harriett, Adeline (Mrs. Samuel Russ); Martha (Mrs. Richard Short); Sally, (Mrs. Hiram Page); Alpheus and Hiram. This pioneer family was of English ancestry. Lord Barnes, one of the forbears, came from England on the Mayflower.

Hiram Barnes was the father of three children: Curtis (father of Seymour Barnes) died of smallpox in the awful epidemic which swept through the little settlement 96 years ago, leaving his young wife and infant son. His body, like those of the other victims of the dread disease, was carried by ox teams at night to the old cemetery on the hill. The only daughter was Sally Ann, the mother of B. G. Foat and Irving Foat, Sr. The youngest was George Barnes, a Civil War veteran who at eighty years was a professor of violin in Axtell, Kansas.

There are several descendants of Levi Barnes in this vicinity; Namely, Mrs. H. B. Morse of Racine, Mrs. Leonard Gulick (deceased), Wayne Foat of Milwaukee;

and Irving Foat and Mrs. Ernest Miller of our village. Also there is my sister, Miss Edna Barnes, my brother Curtis Barnes with thirteen grandchildren of the seventh generation and one great grandchild of the eighth generation, and my five grandchildren of the seventh generation. (All deceased now, but myself.)

Mr. Chapman, the son-in-law, staked his claim on the west side of the Fox River. In 1839 he made a claim in the vicinity of the Caley farm and Alpheus Barnes made a claim to what is now known as the Bennett farm. The same year, Ephraim Barnes arrived with his family and made his home there.

Levi Barnes erected the first dwelling in the shape of a log hut or cabin. It was divided into three equally large rooms, an apartment house for families. Many of the first families found temporary quarters there. It was known as the "Old Ark" and was built of logs.

The present Chapman home, now occupied by the Sinclair Oil Company, was erected 110 years ago. This site was once occupied by an Indian Council House called "Cadney's Castle". Mr. Chapman's brother-in-law, Samuel C. Russ, erected the first tavern, the "Waterford House" in 1846. As Jefferson street was the connecting link with the old Milwaukee Plank Road across the bridge one mile north of the village, this tavern received extensive patronage.

In the Chapman family were three boys - Irving, Chauncey and Charlie; and four girls - Ellen, Hattie, Imogene and Mate.

In 1837 the first dam across the Fox River was built by Barnes and Chapman assisted by L. D. Merrill, Archie Cooper, Ira A. Rice, Wm. Jones, John T. Palmer, Oswald Elms, Elisha Elms and John Fischer. A saw mill was erected soon after. In 1838 the first grist mill was built with two runs of stones, one for flour and one for feed. The erection of the first grist mill was hailed as a great blessing by the early settlers. Flour, from which their bread was made, was brought from Racine by ox team; from Southport, as Kenosha was then called, and from Chicago. The long trip to mill was another tribulation. The slow travel by ox team was made still slower by poor roads or lack of roads. In the winter the journey took from three to five weeks. Lewis D. Merrill, one of the earliest settlers, is said to have made the first cradle, and in July 1837 cradled the first winter wheat raised in this vicinity. The wheat was threshed on the floor with oxen and cleaned with a hand fan made from boards split out of an oak log. He took this wheat to Root River in the eastern part of the county, and from the grinding he obtained a little bran, a little fine flour and a good deal of shorts. As he said, "It all made good bread". The early settlers ground their corn in coffee mills to make their Johnny cake. Their method of threshing and cleaning wheat is very interesting. A piece of ground was cleaned off and this was dampened and beaten until compact. Then the sheaves were unbound and spread in a circle, with the heads uppermost, leaving room in the center for the person whose work it was to turn and stir the straw in the process of threshing. As many oxen were then brought in as could conveniently swing around the circle, and these were kept moving until the wheat was well trodden out. After several "floorings" or layers were threshed, the straw was carefully raked off and the wheat shovelled in a heap to be cleaned. This was done sometimes by waving a sheet up and down to fan out the chaff as the grain was dropped before it. It is not to be wondered at that a considerable



portion of soil got mixed with the grain and doubtless got into the bread and made it rather dark in color.

The first crops raised were potatoes and rutabagas. Mr. Cooper said that at one time he lived on rutabagas alone for four days. In spite of all their privations the settlers were very happy, for they enjoyed freedom and independence. Newcomers were always welcome. Every cabin and house was open to them.

Captain John T. Rice, son of Ira A. Rise, was the first white male child born in the town of Waterford. This was on May 24, 1839.

Quoting from the "Waterford Times" published March 21, 1874, the active business men were: Ira Rice, attorney and counsellor at law; Ole Heg, notary public and conveyance; A. C. Harden, dentist; F. F. and G. E. Newell, Physicians and Surgeons; H. F. Henningfield, horse shoer; Heg and Christianson are now receiving direct from New York, a splendid assortment of goods of all kinds suited for this market; F. C. Wallman & Co. (Fred Mangeline), manufacturers and dealers in furniture and ready made coffins, "horse and team furniture" (Fred Wangli) nished at all times at reasonable rates"; Louis Sanders, manufacturer of barrels, tubs and cisterns; Fox River House, Clausen & Molzen proprietors; Wisconsin House, John Halbach proprietor, (Mr. Halbach was the father of one of our oldest residents today, Henry Halbach); Harden and Cook, manufacturers of carriages, sleighs; John Hofer and William Voss, manufacturers of wagons, sleighs, buggies, plows; Miss I. R. Chapman & Co., milliner and dealer of fancy goods, Yankee notions; Louis Noll, dealer in dry goods, groceries and general merchandise; Park, Smith & Co., proprietors of Waterford Mills; Heg and Christiansen, manufacturers of boots and shoes; Groat & McKenzie, dealers in hardware, cutlery; Barney Gusing, wagon maker and house builder; Wm. Shenkenberg, saddler and harness maker; Walker Whitley, butcher and stock dealer; J. Shenkenberg, dealer in choice liquors and cigars; Peter Rambo, saloon and billiard hall; John Huening, dealer in choice wines, liquors and cigars; Daniel Thompson, proprietor of steam saw and cider mill, planing and turning in wood and iron. His saw mill was the forerunner of the first lumber yard to be located in Waterford in 1869. He had come from the east and located on the shore of Eagle Lake. At the request of Mr. Chapman he came to Waterford with his steamer "The Daisy", for the purpose of mowing the weeds in the river. This was an effort to settle a dispute in regard to the overflow of lands north of the village.

The Daisy was the first boat to float on the waters of the Fox River. It was used for excursion parties in the summer and for hauling wood in the winter.

The first plat of the village, made by surveyor Vilas in 1845, shows five mill sites extending along the banks of the river. They extended from what is now Mr. Graf's to a point north of the present mill. At different times there were three flour mills, two saw mills and one paper mill. The water to operate these mills was carried from the dam down through a raceway. Each mill was allowed a certain amount of water and each in its turn had to shut down if there was not enough water. The beautiful islands, which lie just north and close to the heart of the village, lie between the two dams. Of their history before the two white settlers came to this community, nothing is known. One

feels sure that the nature and beauty loving Indians who roamed at will over southern Wisconsin knew and loved this beautiful spot, but it remains for some artist poet to weave into a story from the traditions and legends which were the red man's and about which he and his companions talked as they gathered around the camp fire after their day of hunting and fishing. Artists have called this spot "The France of America". In the long ago it was used as a sheep and hog pasture. It also served as a picnic ground for Fourth of July celebrations.

It was Daniel Thompson, my maternal grandfather, who erected a large summer hotel on what is now Fox Isle. Many have owned this beautiful summer resort in later years.

Two events that stand out in the history of the village are the flood of 1881 and the fire of 1898. In the spring of 1881, the Fox river began rising, and within two days the streets on the east side were covered to a depth of two to four feet. Soon afterward the dam gave way carrying with it large quantities of ice which struck the bridge, broke it in half and carried it down the river. Beside this damage, the stores lost large quantities of merchandise. One life, that of Miss Betsy Olson, a Waterford girl was lost.

On the evening of July 3, 1898, a fire broke out in the basement of Louis Noll's store. This stood on the site of the present village park. With the exception of three buildings, two entire blocks of business places were destroyed. It was a great loss to the energetic and public spirited villagers.

An early interest in education was exhibited by the early settlers. According to Mrs. Mate Chapman Jordan, the first school was held in the "Old Ark", the old log house, the first to be built in the village. Mrs. Martha Short, a daughter of Levi Barnes, was thought to be the first teacher. The next school was opened in 1840 in the basement of the Congregational Church, and was taught by Miss Harriet Caldwell. The little red brick school house was built where the graded school now stands, in 1845 or 1847. It was not only the home of the public school, but for years was used for all public gatherings in the village. It also served as town hall.

Inpartially, it opened its doors to the various denominations of the village for church services, Sunday School and prayer meetings. When these services were held in the evening, the lights were furnished by the neighbors whose best lamps and lanterns were carried, all freshly cleaned, to the school house. The old melodian from the Chapman house furnished music for these occasions. The older boys or men carried it to and from the school house.

Private schools seem to have been numerous, if not permanent, in the early days. It was the custom for the teacher to "board round" or board out the tuition of the pupil. It was not until the state took charge of the schools in 1858 that a money consideration was offered teachers.

A new stone school was built in 1868, on the site of the little red brick school. The district voted to have eight months of school; a four month winter term was taught by a male teacher for \$50.00 per month with board. The four month summer terms were taught by a female teacher at \$30.00 per month with board. The district voted \$320.00 for teachers salary and \$72.00

or incidentals. In 1902 a large brick addition was erected and 1904 the course included four years.

It soon became necessary to separate the graded and high schools. As a memorial to her grandfather, Levi Barnes, Mrs. J. B. Kehler (daughter of Samuel Russ) offered to donate \$5,000.00 to be used in building a new high school; the only condition being that it be called the "Levi Barnes Memorial" and that District No. 1 raise an equal amount. This offer was supplemented by Miss Imogene Chapman, also a granddaughter of Levi Barnes, who donated the school ground. District No. 1 accepted the generous offers, and in 1915, the present high school was completed. We regret to say that although the offer was accepted and the name placed on the building, our people fail to call it - The Levi Barnes High School. Additions have been necessary and a fine new graded school building has recently been erected. We are very proud of our fine schools and excellent teachers.

The parochial school was established soon after the erection of the first Catholic Church in 1851 and has been maintained as a part of the St. Thomas Society. One half block was given by Mrs. Sam Russ, a granddaughter of Levi Barnes for the erection of this building.

We have three beautiful church edifices in our village: the St. Thomas Aquinas, the Lutheran and the Methodist. Levi Barnes was the first preacher, or exhorter as they were called in by-gone days. My grandmother told the following story: "One time he was reprimanding his congregation about fishing on the Sabbath. He told them that if they did not repent of their evil ways, they would surely be lost and go down to the bottomless pit - hook, line and sinker.

The village cemetery, situated on the west side of Jefferson Street, along the old plank road and opposite the home of Mrs. Marian Whitley Noll (one of our oldest residents) was a gift to the town from Levi Barnes. Evidently this was soon after these pioneers started to build their village in the late thirties or early forties. It was called the "Old Settlers Cemetery". The first death and burial there was the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Hiram Barnes in the winter of 1837. From my earliest recollections, which is more than sixty years ago, I remember reading the following names carved on the stones: Levi Barnes, The Chapmans, Russes, Foats, Suttons, Temples, Mitches, Sawyers, Bergers, Hiram Barnes, Joshua Woodhead, Alfred Lockwood, Hiram Page and Lewis D. Merrill. The cemetery has long since fallen into disuse. Many of the bodies have been removed to other cemeteries located outside the village; namely, Oakwood, Rochester, Lutheran and St. Thomas. Beautiful wooded hills form a background to this sacred spot, and picturesque old Mt. Tom may be seen lifting his majestic head skyward, and, like a noble sentinel, keeping watch over all.

#### Memories

Long since  
Yes, many years ago,  
Men and women toiled with might  
From morning dawn to fading light,  
To hew log house and barn and shed  
On this new untried shore;  
Then planted each a lilac bush  
Beside the kitchen door.

A BRANCH OF THE BARNES FAMILY TREE  
AND HOW IT GREW

By  
Alice Barnes Tindall

A fifth generation branch of my Great, Great Grandfather, Levi Barnes - the first settler in Waterford with his son-in-law, Samuel Chapman in 1836.

"I remember, I remember, the house where I was born, the little window where the sun came peeping in each morn on North Jefferson Street. Yes - on a Monday morning, September 10, 1883. I came, the second baby daughter of Lillian Emma Thompson Barnes and Seymour Hiram Barnes. My sister Edna Laura was born on January 28, 1881, the year of the flood and of the Waterford bridge going out, and my brother Curtis Daniel, on October 23, 1886. We all attended and graduated from our village school and I'm sure brother Curtis and I were not little angels, and the pranks I didn't think up, I'm sure he did; in school and out.

Dad Barnes had his paint shop where the Graf Garage now stands and gave an old man, a Mr. Beyer, a regular job of sawing and splitting wood for the old kitchen range and mother kindly kept the coffee pot boiling for his regular lunches during the day. After his good dinner, it was his regular habit of taking a little nap. Brother Curtis and I with mischief in our hearts thought we would put an end to such regularity, so we got out our air gun and filled it with water and hid in the garden behind the currant bushes and aimed and it hit the mark. The startled old man got to his feet and started muttering and looking around. With feet as fleet as a deer, we ran and innocently took refuge at Grandpa Thompson's house next door. After our brief call, we thought it safe to return home. The poor old man enlightened us that the neighbor boy, Willie Sawyer, had shot water at him as he slept. Naughty Willie got the blame without even a laugh from us.

We, with the Sawyer children and cousins William and Walker Whitley had good times at Mount Olive, the beautiful home of Grandpa Whitley. One of the chief attractions was the large hunks of delicious bologna sausage given by Uncle Aaron Leach, which was made for the Whitley meat market for many years. One of our pleasant days, the group in their play happened to find Uncle Leach's barrel of cider by the barn and Willie Sawyer with a straw, took a generous nip. We placed a ladder up to the cattle shed and climbed up to rest in the sunshine on the roof, in a short time Willie had passed out and we were afraid he was going to die, so we hurriedly made the ladder into a stretcher and carried him to his home a block away. His mother was frightened and asked what had happened, we told her he had taken cider through a straw, just one look and a whiff was all she needed to know. It's too bad good things will age.

I spent many pleasant times at Mount Olive and learned to ride Miss Olive's black riding pony. On one occasion, if you could have seen me, you would have thought I was Paul Revere. But all is well that ends well and I did. One day filled with the Barnes determination, I crawled through a hole in the fence into Grandpa Thompson's garden, and I never tasted apples as good as those

stolen red harvest apples. Dr. Lodica Merrills, when a girl, also sampled some of those red harvest apples and when Grandpa caught her climbing through the fence, she called back, "The Lord helps those who help themselves."

I attended the school in the village and my first teacher in 1888 and 1889 was Miss Annie Waller, now 92 years old and with whom I've lived in Burlington, the past 11 years and helped care for her and her sister Nellie (now deceased). My class in school graduated May 31, 1901, under Mr. Geo. Starin as teacher, with exercises in the Methodist Church, with first honors going to Miss Sensie Berger and second honors were equally divided between Miss Esther Wallman and myself. The other members of the class were Isacc Moyle, Avis Moyle (deceased), Frances Quinn, Lulu Nelson, George Glueck (deceased) and Pearl Foat. Those were happy school days. Sensie, Esther and I remain.

I sang in a young ladies quartette, composed of Sensie Berger, first soprano, now Mrs. Olaf Hovda, Evansville, Indiana; Pearl Foat, second soprano, now Mrs. Hillie Morse, Racine, Wisconsin; myself, first alto; and Avis Moyle, second alto. Our teacher, Mr. Starin, drilled us and we thought we were pretty good, at least we were told so and were invited to sing at concerts and farmers institutes and all the doings around Waterford. Of that group, Sensie, Pearl and I still remain. I also sang in a mixed quartette with Pearl Foat and Albert and George Glueck. Mr. Herman Noll came in one evening at the Glueck home, where we were rehearsing, and told us we were doing very fine, and we really thought we were good, after that compliment from such a musician as Mr. Noll. Pearl Foat Morse and I are left of that quartette. (Now I am the last of this quartette)

As friend George and I sat visiting about dusk one evening at my home, on Racine Street, the bells in the Catholic Church started ringing vigorously, we both yelled "Fire" and started toward the village. That was the night of July 3, 1898 when most of the business places of the East side were destroyed by the disastrous fire. It was a night never to be forgotten.

In our early childhood, my father had an ice cream parlor next to the Nelson Hotel and "Seymours homemade ice cream with the free piece of Lill's homemade white cake with the chocolate covered icing was just out of this world"; according to Henry and Josephine Plucker after eating several helpings of each. My sister, brother and myself turned those little ice cream freezers till our arms nearly dropped off, way into the night when my father furnished a hundred gallons or more for the big Fourth of July or Modern Woodman picnics held in the big Caley Woods; now Waterford Woods.

We enjoyed ice skating, roller skating and dancing at our home parties. I had a wonderful mother and many fine parties were enjoyed in our home. The hospitable home of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Wallman was often the scene of merriment and on February 27th, when we celebrated Miss Esther's birthday. He was our village undertaker and many times gave us a bobsleigh ride with his pair of beautiful black horses and the very lovely bobsleigh with the red plush trimming. Parties were also held at the homes of George Shenkenberg, George Glueck, Sensie and Harry Berger, Pearl and Ruby Foat, Florence and Claud Caley, Olive and Elm Beardsley, Hillie and Zella Morse and Kathryn and Ralph Bennett, west of the village. Our genial hosts, Mr. John Bennett or Mr. Walter Morse would

kindly set the hot kitchen range outside, if we wished to dance in the kitchen. The young folks of Honey Creek and Waterford were very friendly and we joined with them and had many house parties. Of the Honey Creek friends of long ago, I still recall the names of Robert Drummond, Ira Hull, (the Baptist Minister's son), Herbert Palmer, Ray Vaughn, Eunice Earle, Flora Martin, Blanch Babcock, Flo Blackburn and Boyde and Floy Rose.

As a girl I never passed up Halloween. Lulu Nelson, the hotel keeper's daughter and May Wilson, the Methodist Minister's daughter and myself enjoyed playing pranks. On one occasion, after ringing door bells and soaping windows on the Wm. Shenkenberg harness shop, we went down to L. Nolls general store, bank, drugstore and saloon, where the village park now stands, and seeing a large beer barrel parked in front of the saloon, we rolled it up in front of the door and rapped; of course, Mr. Louis Noll, Jr. came to the door and went a rolling with the barrel. We heard loud mutterings and so started legging it as he gave chase. Lu and I ran through the alley and reached our haven, the hotel kitchen, but May ran the wrong way and got lost in the dark, amid the old blacksmith buildings of Mr. Fred Heitkemper, and it was some time before she dared to venture out and join us at the hotel. There was one big laugh and that ended our halloweening that night.

In later years, some of the most pleasant times I ever had were our neighborhood "Sunset Heights" parties, and we oldsters would tog up on Halloween and have dress up parties at our homes and also at our Royal Neighbor meetings. We couldn't do the hot Cha-Cha like Princess Margaret, but we could dance the Virginia Reel very gracefully in our "Gay Ninties" outfits. Lu and I learned to ride bicycles and loved to ride three miles out into the country to see all the new babies. I still haven't grown up, as I at past 70 have showed my grandchildren, I could still ride a bicycle. One day they asked me if I could still ride horseback and I mounted Sally's riding horse and demonstrated. They called their parents to see what grandma was doing and I think Don was horrified, he said "Mother why don't you act your age?" I'm beginning to try to grow up and I'm glad to say all my days have not been wasted in frivolity.

As a little child, I loved this little poem.

"If any little word of mine,  
May make a life the brighter,  
If any little song of mine,  
May make a heart the lighter,  
Godhelp me speak the little word  
And take my bit of singing  
And drop it in some lonely vale  
To set the echoes ringing."

"If any little love of mine  
May make a life the sweeter,  
If any little care of mine  
May make a friend the fleeter,  
If any lift of mine may ease  
The burden of another,  
God give me love, and care and strength  
To help my toiling brother."

From childhood on, I've tried to play "The Good Samaritan." When my Grandpa Thompson lay crippled in bed after a leg amputation, I tried to help ease the pain, supposedly, in his toes by scratching the stub leg, it made him happy and so was I to be able to ease him. I also helped care for my Grandfather Foat who was crippled with rheumatism, by giving him a bath, shave and trimming job every Sunday morning. I also did baby sitting and took care of many babies and little children. Among them were my two cousins, the Whitley boys; whose mother was my father's sister. Their father died when William, now Dr. Whitley of Evanston, was a baby and I stayed with my aunt and helped her for sometime at their home, where Mrs. Noll now has the village library, and later helped care for Grandma Barnes Foat before she passed away, and also my own dear Mother and Father who passed away, twelve days apart the year of 1938.

After sometime spent at home after graduation, I went into the general store of Halbach Bros. and Co., here in Waterford as their first girl clerk. I gained a lot of experience in clerking in those three years, but wages were low in those days; my first wages were \$1.50 a week, but as my experience increased so did my wages and I was given a raise to \$6.00 a week. I then started saving for my hope chest and my wedding trousseau and also as my brother said "To learn to boil water without scorching it." I'm glad to say, I mastered that art and also of cooking. I was married to Frankish B. Tindall on Christmas Day, December 25, 1904 at my home on my Mother and Father's Silver Wedding Anniversary. I had two boys, Francis, born on November 25, 1905 and Donald, born April 26, 1911. Our home was the property where a part of the new graded school now stands. That was sold to the school district as we had purchased the 34 acres, "Out where the west begins," of the John Nehls and John Trost properties, where our home is today. Many "Merry Christmas" parties were celebrated at our home, on our anniversary with my Mother and Father and the Buttles and Tindall families as our guests. After twenty-five years of marriage, we celebrated our Silver Wedding Day on my parents Golden Wedding Day at the Masonic and Modern Woodman halls to which one hundred and fifty friends and relatives from Waterford and distant cities were guests to a banquet prepared by my brother and his wife, my sister and cousin Mabel. There were speeches by the Mayor, Mr. Wm. Shenkenberg, Mr. Raymond Bryant, Arthur Hulbert, Dr. Will Whitley of Chicago, Wm. King of Milwaukee, Dick Short of Lake Geneva and others. A nice program of music, solos and recitations by the guests. Mrs. Daisy Tindall Buttles sang "Put on your old gray bonnet" and I paid tribute to my parents by appropriate remarks and recited the poems "Mother" and "Father". The delightful evening was enjoyed by all. Mr. Tindall, on account of ill health was obliged to go to Arizona for a year and after his return I cared for him till he passed away in the autumn of November 28, 1932, yes, it was

"Just such a day in autumn  
Hazy and soft and sweet,  
With the Indian summer walking  
Abroad in her sandled feet."

"Just such a day in autumn  
With sunshine all about,  
Just such a day in autumn  
The light of a life went out."

I did not despair or lose my faith and for many years with Don's help and with Francis, the older son, who had been sick since early childhood, we managed to



keep the home fires burning. I did a hired man's job out on our farm along with my household duties and tried to smile. We had the village milk route at that time with about 200 customers. It is a tedious job to wash 200 milk bottles by hand each day, but I made a game of it and cultivated one of my best loved hobbies. I placed a favorite poem on a shelf over the kitchen sink and by the time the bottles were clean, I had my poem memorized and I can never forget them. About this time, in helping my boys cut thistles in the oat field, I unfortunately got blood poison in my right hand and had to go to the Burlington Hospital for 18 days but with thanks to God, my good Dr. Wigot and my sister, Edna, the arm was saved.

Times were hard, and money was very scarce and many times I had to ask my customers "Brother can you spare a dime." Our home was threatened with foreclosure, but with God's help, we managed to save it. That fall with hard work and our savings, we put \$1,400.00 in improvements on the house to make it more comfortable or warmer for winter, but before the winter was over, in fact, the cold month of February, 1950, a zero morning, our house was practically destroyed by a terrible fire which has taken us years to rebuild and replace.

Longfellow said:

"Be still, sad heart, and cease repining  
Behind the clouds the sun is still shining  
Thy fate is the common fate of all,  
Into each life some rain must fall  
Some days must be dark and dreary."

In 1939, Don was married to Miss Alice Paull and their five children are the seventh generation branch of the family tree of Levi Barnes. Charles Donald, 18, is in the service of Uncle Sam at Fort Bliss, Texas, Sally Ann, 17, is a senior at Waterford High School, Robert Bruce, 16, is a junior, Donna Kay, 15, is a sophomore and Cheryl Lynn, 13, is in the 7th grade.

For years it's been my pleasure to be able to give a helping hand to others. For three years in the Callan Restaurant, and also in the Mucci, Horner and Bakke homes and one year caring for an old friend, Miss Flora Orvis, and many days I helped lift the burden in caring for sick friends and near neighbors, and then these memorable past eleven years at the Waller home Burlington and also with Mrs. Bottomly and Mrs. Wm. Rieneman in Burlington to the present date.

The people in Waterford will always be remembered for the kindnesses shown to our family during that hard winter of our fire, by donations of gifts, clothing and food, and labor given on the rebuilding of our home.

I have learned:

"It's the little things we do and say  
That means so much as we go our way,  
A kindly deed may lift a load  
From weary shoulders on the road."

"Or a gentle work like summer rain  
May soothe some heart and banish pain,  
What joy or sadness often springs  
From just the simple little things."



Written by Alcie Lillian Barnes now 80 years young September 10, 1963

I, Alice Lillian Barnes, Tindall, was born in Waterford, Wisconsin, September 10, 1883, Monday morning at two o'clock, in our tiny house on Racine Street to parents Lillian Emma Thompson and Seymour Hiram Barnes. I had an older sister, Edna Laura, born January 28, 1881 and a brother, Curtis Daniel, born October 23, 1886. I expect I was, as all cute curly headed girls - naughty, but nice. I attended our Waterford graded school and graduated from the 9th grade in 1901 with my school mates, Pearl Foat, Lulu Nelson, Frances Quinn, Avis Moyle, Geo. Glueck, Isaac Moyle, Sensic Berger and Esther Wallman. First honors went to Sensic Berger and second honors were equally divided between Esther and myself. Those still living in our class are Sensic, Esther, Frances, Dr. Isaac Moyle and myself. Our teacher was a fine red headed young man by the name of George F. Starin. My first teacher in 1888 was my old friend Miss Annie Waller, followed by Miss Edith Rice and Miss Emma Olson. They helped to instill in our minds -

"Its the little things we do and say  
That mean so much as we go our way,  
A kindly deed can lift a load  
From weary shoulders on the road.

Or a gentle word, like summer rain,  
May sooth some heart or vanish pain,  
What joy or sadness often springs,  
From just the simple little things."

P.S. During my school days I was Waterford correspondent to a Milwaukee paper. (Milwaukee Times) edited by Towell Bors.

As a little girl, I loved to help others by baby sitting and playing "The Good Samaritan" in every helpful way. I was very fond of my Grandfather Thompson, who lay crippled in bed after a leg amputation. I tried to help ease the pain, supposedly in his toes, by scratching the stub leg. It made him happier and me also. I also helped care for Grandfather Foat, who was badly crippled with rheumatism, by giving him a bath, shave and trimming job every Sunday morning. He was my father's step-father from babyhood on and was a real father and dearly beloved. Dad Barnes had an ice cream parlor where the Bob Beck market now stands and Edna Curtis and I used to turn those little hand ice cream freezers far into the night when Dad had to supply one to two hundred gallons of ice cream for the big Fourth of July picnic in Henry Caley's woods now "Waterford Woods". My Grandfather Thompson owned "The Daisy", the first large boat to float on the waters of the Fox River. A large skow was attached to the front of the double decked boat to accomodate large picnic or excursion parties in the summer and it was used for hauling wood in the winter. The old "Kicker Band" furnished the music for those excursion parties, of which my father was the drummer. My mother was a wonderful mother and many parties were given us at our home every winter, to all our school mates. After graduation from our ninth grade school, I went in to "The Halbach Bros. General Store" for three years, as their first girl clerk. In those days labor was very cheap. At first I received \$1.50 a week, but later as I gained experience, I received \$6.00 a week. I saved enough to buy my trousseau and was married December 25, 1904 on my Father and Mother's Silver Wedding day to Frankish B. Tindall. We lived in his cream brick house (The Nelson Palmer house) where the new grade school now stands. My two sons, Francis and Don were born in this house in 1905 and 1911 and we lived here till we moved to our present home in

1914. The John Nehls and the Trost properties consisting of 34 acres. We farmed on a small scale and it was uphill and downhill business - mostly down. We started out bravely in our milk delivery business and worked early and late, I washing and bottling about 200 milk bottles daily till the big man crowded the little milk dealer out of business. Mr. Tindall had bronchial asthma for many years and a year spent in Arizona failed to save his life, and we had to take up the reins from that time until after his death in 1932. The farm was not a good dairy farm - only stony hills- so we started other jobs to bring home the bacon. Don got work in Milwaukee with Schlitz and also did gardening after his marriage to Miss Alice Paull. There were a few hard years during the depression and the year 1950, February 26, a zero morning, our house was practically destroyed by a terrible fire which took years to rebuild and replace. With Reinhold Niebusch I pray -

"God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change;  
Courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the  
difference."

As I could leave home at this time, I was free to play the Good Samaritan. I had taken a Red Cross nursing course and now I found it very helpful to care for many neighbors and friends. My first nursing job, for a year, was caring for Miss Flora Orvis with a broken hip, also Mrs. White in Burlington who had a broken hip. After that I worked for three years in the John Callan restaurant. Then I spent part of a year at the Mucci home and enjoyed caring for baby Jim. Then I lent a hand for some time at the Horner home. Then I spent part of a year helping care for the Bakke home and their three little boys. Then I went to Burlington to take care of Mrs. Nellie Healy (at the Waller home) who had suffered a broken hip. Her sister Miss Annie Waller was my first school teacher in Waterford in 1888. Miss Annie also later suffered a broken hip and I cared for her 15½ years, till her death. I also nursed Grandpa Brach five weeks till he passed away and also helped with his son, Henry Brach in Waterford and his cousin Miss Wilma Neuman at Caldwell. I was at my home after Mill Waller passed away for a year and now I'm helping Mrs. Wm. Reinemann here in Burlington for part of a year. I've always like this work and the thought of being wanted and able to help these friends has been a great comfort to me through the years. To serve others has been:

### "My Life"

Lord, grant that I may seek rather to comfort, than to  
be comforted - to understand, that to be understood -  
to love, than to be loved - for it is by giving, that  
one receives - by self-forgetting, that one finds -  
by forgiving, that one is forgiven - by dying, that one  
wakens to eternal life.

St. Francis of Assisi

Now at past eighty six years, I'm resting in my home and trying to be of help to my family and "Looking for the Sunrise". (One of my favorite poems)

"Now my youth has slipped away, I'm drawing close to  
life's December, and I have many a yesterday ago  
with joys that I remember."

## LOOKING FOR THE SUNRISE

I'm not looking for the sunset,  
As the swift years come and go;  
I am looking for the sunrise,  
And the golden morning glow,  
Where the light of heaven's glory  
Will break froth upon my sight,  
In the land that knows no sunset,  
Nor the darkness of the night.

I'm not going down the pathway  
Toward the setting of the sun,  
Where the shadows ever deepen  
When the day at last is done;  
I am walking up the hillside  
Where the sunshine lights the way,  
To the glory of the sunrise  
Of God's never-ending day.

I'm not going dow, but upward,  
And the path is never dim,  
For the day grows ever brighter  
As I journey on with Him.  
So my eyes are on the hilltops,  
Waiting for the sun to rise,  
Waiting for His invitation  
To the home beyond the skies.

Waterford Dec<sup>r</sup> 18 1899

At a meeting of the Trustees of the  
M. E. Church held at the Parsonage  
Dr J. W. Flett was Chosen Chairman  
George Wallman Treasurer and  
E. M. Groat Secretary —

The following bill was presented and  
allowed — Chas Moore & Sons — Bill to  
this date \$8<sup>00</sup>

Motion made and carried that the  
Treasurer be empowered to pay the  
Janitor each month without having  
an Order from the Secretary —

Motion made & carried that  
George Wallman be appointed to ascertain  
the cost of making a Storm Vestibule  
on the West Side of the Parsonage

Motion made & carried that  
the Trustees adjourn until Thursday  
Evening Dec 21 — at Seven O. Clock  
P. M. At the Store of E. M. Groat

DEC 21 1899

At a Meeting of the Trustees this  
Evening the following bills were  
presented and allowed Irving C  
Hoate \$15.46 & George Wallman \$1.32

Mrs. Hugh Cooper & Secy. B. J. Flett

Motion made & carried



orders drawn on Treasurer for the same - Mr George Mallman reported that the estimated cost of placing a storm vestibule on the parsonage would be from eight to nine dollars -

Mr Geo Mallman was appointed a committee of one to see that said vestibule was at once built & completed -

Meeting Adjourned to meet Tuesday Evening January 2<sup>d</sup>.  
At Store of E. M. Groat - - -

January 2<sup>d</sup> 1900

Trustees Dr J. G. Pett, Geo Mallman and E. M. Groat in particular business on hand of importance meeting Adjourned to meet January 12 - - -

January 12 1900

At a meeting this evening held at the store of E. M. Groat the following bill was presented and allowed H. Baumgard for building vestibule \$1.50  
Meeting Adjourned - - -

(Rev Weed Apr. 11 1900) 3

Waterford Feb. 12-1900

At a meeting of the Trustees held this evening held at the store of E. M. Groat the following bills were presented allowed and orders drawn on Treasurer for the same -

Thompson & Co	\$14.25
E. M. Groat	1.39
G. F. Wallman	4.89

No other business presenting itself meeting adjourned

Waterford Mar 9-1900

At a meeting of the Trustees held this evening at the store of E. M. Groat the following bills were presented and allowed

Dennis Lachel	\$1.25
G. F. Wallman	2.75

No other business of importance meeting adjourned

Waterford April 11-1900

At a meeting held this evening the following were present -  
J. G. Flett, Rev Wallman - E. M. Groat  
and Rev. Weed - Motion made &



Carried that Rev. Hallman be  
appointed to have four of the  
windows in the Church fixed  
so that the upper sash could  
be lowered at pleasure, so as  
to afford proper ventilation

Motion made & Carried that  
Mr. Hallman ascertain the cost  
of placing a furnace in  
the Church sufficiently large  
to heat said building also  
the cost of two heating stoves  
in place of the furnace  
No other business being before  
the house meeting adjourned  
to meet First Tuesday in May

May 1 - 1900

Meeting of Trustees this  
Evening - No particular  
business of importance before the  
meeting - Suggestions made that  
we should proceed to take some  
action in regard to procuring  
a furnace but no action  
taken Meeting adjourned to  
meet 1st Tuesday in June

Watertown June 5 - 1900

Meeting of Trustees this evening held  
as usual at Store of E. M. Groat  
Present. Dr J. G. Platt. Rev Wallman -

Ernest C. Toate & E. M. Groat -

Mr George Wallman reported that  
his estimate of cost of Furnace  
for Church would cost about  
one hundred & thirty dollars -

And the cost of Stoves would  
be about fifty dollars including  
the Pipe for said Stoves -

Mr George Wallman was appointed  
a committee of one to see that  
some person was secured to  
clean the Church -

Meeting adjourned to meet  
first Tuesday in July -

Watertown July 3<sup>d</sup> 1900

At a meeting of the Trustees this  
evening it was voted that a  
Furnace be placed in the  
Church suitable pipe for  
heating said building and  
that we at once take the  
necessary steps to raise the  
amount needed to procure



Such a furorace by circulating  
subscription

No other business being before  
the Trustees - Meeting Adjourned  
to meet 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in August

Waterford Aug 7 - 1900

Meeting of the Trustees this  
evening - Motion made and  
Carried that we at once  
advertise for receiving bids for  
placing in the Church the  
Sund furnace - Motion made  
and Carried that we advertise  
in the "Waterford Post" bids  
to be received until the  
31<sup>st</sup> day of August at 7-P.M.

Meeting Adjourned to meet  
August 31 - to open the bids  
&c

Watertown Aug 31 - 1900

Meeting held this evening -

Proceeded to look over the bids received for placing furnace in the Church - Only two bids had been received - One from Mr C. H. Williams and one from Mr George Hallman -

After examining said bids it was unanimously voted that Mr George Hallman be awarded the contract - His bid being far the lowest of the two Mr Hallman agreeing to furnish suitable furnace for the sum of One Hundred and Nineteen Dollars above foundation -

Meeting adjourned to meet 1st Tuesday in September -

III.

INFORMATION CONCERNING  
PASTORS  
AND THE PARSONAGE

REV. F. M. PRATT

PASTORS OF EARLY CHURCH

OCCUPANTS OF PARSONAGE

REV. ELMER L. SHEPARD

PASTOR PETER N. GARCIA

## REV. F. M. PRATT DIES IN HIS PULPIT

(in part)

Copied/from THE WATERFORD POST (1911)

Probably no death ever occurred in this community which occasioned more profound sorrow, general regret and genuine sympathy than the sad and tragic passing away of Rev. F. M. Pratt, pastor of the English M. E. Church, last Sunday morning. He was in the midst of an impressive sermon and had delivered one of its most beautiful passages when he swayed and fell backward. He was caught in the arms of Elmer Anderson a member of the choir. Physicians were summoned but life was extinct. Heart failure was the trouble and death was instantaneous.... His wife and three children were present.... Those present will never forget it or the lesson it taught of the uncertainty of life.

.....

Deceased was born on a farm near Walnut, Illinois, Sept. 6, 1871. His early boyhood days were spent in attending country school and working on the farm. Later he took a course at the Dixon, Ill., business college and also the commercial college at Burlington, Iowa. Shortly after he accepted a position in a dry goods store and remained with the firm for several years. It was about this time he felt called to the ministry and entered the Academy of Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., remaining for a time and afterwards attending Moody Bible Institute at Chicago. He entered the ministry in the fall of 1900, his first charge being at Nemaha, Iowa, Northwest Iowa Conference. Following in succession he served the church at Yukon, Okla., and the second church in Oklahoma City. He entered Garrett Biblical Institute and graduated in 1908. He then served the charge here at Waterford, Caldwell and Vernon. He married Margaret Winkler December 31, 1901 and had three children: Elizabeth now age 8, Virginia 6, and Frances 3. He is survived by his wife, three daughters, three brothers and three sisters: Mrs. Martha N. Stone, Syracuse, N. Y., Misses Sara and Elizabeth Pratt, Evanston, Ill., George T., of Villisca, Iowa, Nelson C. of Omaha, Neb., and Charles G. of West Liberty, Iowa.

.....

The funeral was held on Wednesday. The body laid in state in the church from 11:30 to 1 o'clock and was viewed by hundreds, including the school children he loved so well..... The floral offerings were beautiful and appropriate, among them being "The Gates Ajar" from the Caldwell congregation, a wreath from English Settlement, a bouquet of American beauties from Vernon, and three set pieces from the Waterford congregation.

.....

After the public service at the church the remains were taken to the parsonage where private services were held and conducted by the visiting clergy..... Interment was in Rose Hill cemetery in Chicago.

.....

That his rest be as peaceful as his life was good and serene is our parting wish.



METHODIST PASTORS

German Church

	Wis.	Elder	Years Served	Birth	Retired	Death	Charges Served
Berg, Albert C.	1881	....	....	....	1933	1951	GS-B1-W
Bohl, F. T.	1894	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Brier, John	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Eberhard, Conrad	...	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Elske, Wm. F.	1893	....	....	1877	1924	1924	B-W
Hedler, Chas. Sr.	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Hedler, Chas. Jr.	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Kurtz, Wm.	1917	....	1923-26	1892	....	1940	B-W
Lemuke, Henry	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Meixner,	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Neitzel, Chris. F.	1880	....	....	1852	1905	1912	GS-B1-W
Rinder, John C.	....	....	....	....	....	....	GS-B1-W
Roegge, Wm.	1879	....	....	1857	1922	1934	GS-B1-W
Schaefer, Jacob	1858	....	1870	1834	1902	1915	GS-B1-W
Schellhase, C. F.	1904	1899	....	1881	....	....	B-W
Schilpp, Paul	....	....	1922	....	....	....	B-W
Staiger, Theodore	1908	1912	1919-20	1876	....	....	B-W
Wiese, Wm. H.	1913	....	1913-14	1892	1962	....	B-W

Note: GS - German Settlement  
B1 - Blue Church  
B - Burlington  
W - Waterford

Early Methodist Pastors often served two or three churches by holding morning, afternoon services and often evening meetings to accommodate all three. (Horse and buggy days.) Later it was possible to arrange two morning services (9:00 and 11:00 A.M.) when travelling by automobile.

# METHODIST FACTORS

## English Church

	Wis.	Elder	Years Served	Birth	Retired	Death	Charges Served
Baldock, Chas	1891	1864	1891	1828	....	1902	ES-C-W
Beetle,	....	....	....	....	....	....	-W
Bowden, John T.	1914	1919	1960	1882	1957		-W
Cadman, T. H.	1882	1886	1886	1856	....	1909	C-W
Caune, Kristap	1953	1952	1960-5	....			W
Chamberlain, Mark	1915	1928	1927-8	1898	....		W
Chase, H. B.	....	....	1920-1	....		1921	C-W
Cook, John	1861	....	....	....	....	....	-W
Eckert, Jerry G.	1959	1962	1967	....			W
Ellis, John S.	1911	1908	1911-2	1870	....	1942	C-W
Enge, Thoburn	....	....	1953-5	....			ES-W
Foster, Wm.	....	....	1955-60	....			W
Garcia, Peter N.	1966	1967	1970-				W
Griswold,	....	....	1873	....	....	....	W
Hagen, Carl E.	1925	1929	1928-30	1904	1965		W
Hall, Walter	1888	1890	1887	1858	....	1950	ES-C-W
Halsey, Sabin	1869	....	1870-3	1843	1912	1912	W
Hepp,	....	....	1894	....	....		ES-C-W
Kistler, Ernest	1929	1922	1921-2	....	1958		C-W
Kurtz, Wm.	1917	....	1923-6	1892		1940	W
Launsburg, E. B.	....	....	1881	....	....	....	W
McGaha, C. F.	....	1885	....	1854	....	....	W
Manaton, Rich. K.	1898	....	1914-19	1853	....	1921	C-W
Martin, H. S.	1906	1906	1919-20	....	....	....	C-W
Mayer, Paul S.	1907	1911	1921	1884	....	1962	C-W
Mellott, Wm. R.	1881	1885	....	1851	....	....	W
Miller, Rich. W.	1959	1938	1953	....			ES-W
Neff, John S.	1890	1895	1912-13	1865	....	1958	C-W
Olson, Samuel	1890	1895	1902-5	1865	1930	1955	ES-C-W
Painter, Wm. W.	1868	1873	1869-70	1843	....	....	C-W
Peep, Thomas	1858	1862	....	1827	....	1903	W
Perry, John W.	1906	1910	1905-8	1877	1944	1951	ES-C-W
Porter, Andrew	1869	1875	....	1847	....	1917	W
Pratt, Francis M.	1908	1909	1908-11	1871		1911	ES-C-W
Rakow, Harvey	....	....	1967-70				W
Riggs, Wm. A.	1928	1929	1930-3	1899	1968		ES-W
Schilpp, Paul	....	....	1922	....			W
Shepard, Elmer L.	1936	1935	1941-52	....		1952	ES-W
Simon, Leslie E.	1951	1931	1966-7	....		1967	W
Sizer, John L.	....	....	1913-14	....	....	....	C-W
Wandschneider, D. L.	1934	1938	1936-41	....	1971	1975	ES-W
Wood, Clarence	1899	1905	1899-02	....	1945	1961	W
Wilson, Wm. J.	1866	1850	....	1818	1886	1899	W
Wilson, Wm. W.	1873	1879	1895-9	1846	1916	1929	ES-C-W
Witherbee, H. S.	1905	1903	1933-6	1875	....	1950	ES-W

Note: ES - English Settlement  
C - Caldwell  
W - Waterford

Clarence Cheever

1984-

# OCCUPANTS OF PARSONAGES

## Jefferson Street

		<u>Family</u> <u>Daughters</u>	<u>Sons</u>
1895-1899	W. W. Wilson	5	0
1899-1902	Clarence Weed	3	0
1902-1905	Samuel Olson	3	1
1905-1908	John W. Perry	0	2
1908-1911	Francis M. Pratt	3	0
1911-1912	John Ellis	1	1
1912-1913	John Neff	2	0
1914-1919	R. K. Manaton	1	0
1919-1920	H. S. Martin	0	1
1920-1921	H. B. Chase	0	2
1921	Paul S. Mayer	0	0
1921-1922	Ernest Kistler	0	1
1922-1923	Paul Schilpp	2	2
1923-1926	Wm. Kurtz	0	2
1927-1928	Mark Chamberlain	0	0
1928-1930	Carl Hagen	1	0
1930-1933	Wm. Riggs	1	1
1933-1936	H. S. Witherbee	1	1
1936-1941	D. L. Wandschneider	1	1
1941-1952	Elmer L. Shepard	1	2
1953-1955	Thoburn Enge	0	2
1955-1960	Wm. Foster	0	2
1960-1965	Kristap Caune	1	0
1965-1967	Leslie Simon	1	2
1967	Jerry Eckert	0	0
1967-1968	Harvey Rakow	1	2

## Harmont Road

1968-1970	Harvey Rakow	1	2
1970-1984	Peter N. Garcia	1	2
1984-	Clarence Cheever		

## Other Homes

	Beetle		
	John Cook		
	C. F. McGraha		
	Mellott		
	Thos. Peep		
	Andrew Porter		
	Wm. J. Wilson		
1869-1870	Wm. W. Painter		
1870-1873	Sabin Halsey		
1875-1878	Griswold		
1881	E. B. Launsburg		
1884	Hepp		
1886	T. H. Cadman		
1887	Walter Hall		
1891	Chas Baldock		
1953	Rich. Miller		
1960	John T. Bowden		

Copied from THE WATERFORD POST of

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1952

By Dorothy Bryant, hist. chmn.  
1984

.....

REV. E. L. SHEPARD, 55, SUFFERS FATAL  
HEART ATTACK WEDNESDAY

All Waterford and vicinity was virtually stunned speechless when it was announced that Rev. Elmer L. Shepard, age 55 years, and pastor of Waterford and English Settlement Methodist churches, died suddenly and unexpectedly of a heart attack at his home last week Wednesday at about 3:45 p.m.. The attack occurred without provocation or previous warning as he was talking with his daughter in the kitchen of the Shepard home. The rescue squad was called and administered oxygen; a physician administered medical restoratives, but all to no avail, and he passed away without regaining consciousness a few minutes later.

Rev. Shepard had been in apparently the best of health, and had been about town attending to last minute Christmas shopping details, talking with many people as he went into stores and met people on the street. At that time there was no indication that he might be in ill health. His sudden and unexpected passing, therefore, left hundreds of people in a quandary, hardly able to believe their ears or the truth of the statement that he had passed on. Rev. Shepard had never had a previous heart attack nor any indication of heart disease and was apparently in the best of health.

Rev. Shepard was born April 21, 1897, in Delphi, West Virginia, the son of Ada Lewis and Jerome Shepard. He received his early education in the local schools at Delphi, and attended seminary at the Evangelistic Institute of Chicago, graduating in 1924. He also had a two-year seminar at Taylor University at Upland, Indiana, and was ordained into the ministry by Bishop Magee of the North Dakota Conference at Grand Forks, N. D. in 1933, accepting a charge with a small church near Bismark.

In 1936 he was transferred to the Wisconsin Conference, and was assigned a church at Parfreyville, near Waupaca, and came to Waterford eleven years ago - in 1941, where he had served the pastorate of the Waterford and English Settlement Methodist churches.

In 1926 Mr. Shepard met and married Miss Beatrice Liezert, the ceremony taking place at Bonners Ferry, Idaho. She has been his constant companion and helpmeet all during the years of his pastorate.

He is survived by his aged mother, of Chillicothe, Ohio; his widow, a daughter Janet at home, two sons, John in the U. S. Army, who fortunately was at home on leave, and Willard of the Naval Reserve; Also four brothers: Paul of Chillicothe, Ohio, Miles and Will of Wenatchee, Washington, and Hartley of La Jolla, California; and two sisters: Mrs. Sarah Leroy Brown of Chillicothe, Ohio, and Mrs. Edgar Junkermann of Columbus, Ohio.



Funeral services were held Saturday at 2 p.m. at the local Methodist Church with District Superintendent Rev. Earl Allen of Milwaukee, Rev. Richard Noble of English Settlement now serving a church at Sharon, Wis., and Bishop Clifford Northcott of Madison conducting the services. The church was filled to absolute capacity as mourner-members of the congregation and friends of the family attended to pay their last respects to their beloved pastor, friend, and counsellor. All available room in the church auditorium was taken, with an overflow crowd assembled in the basement where a public address system carried the funeral services.

Members of Essmann-Schroeder Post No. 20 attended in a body and acted as a Color Guard during the services. Rev. Shepard was a member of that Post, having served in the Marines in World War I. Members of the church choir also attended in a body. Between 45 and 50 ministers of the Wisconsin Conference were in attendance at the last rites which were touching and beautiful. The funeral eulogies were replete with kind comment and beautiful poems delivered by his colleagues as a testimony of the love and respect they held for their departed friend and comrade. Floral tributes were evident in the greatest profusion, and mutely told of the love, affection, and esteem the community held for their departed pastor.

Following the services the body was taken to the Crystal Lake church near Waupaca, where Rev. and Mrs. Shepard had ministered for five years, and where burial was made in the family plot in the Crystal Lake cemetery on Sunday afternoon. Incidentally it is where Rev. and Mrs. Shepard had planned to ultimately retire, and where they had started the building of a home.

The passing of Rev. Shepard is a distinct loss to the community, and it can be truthfully said that no person has done more, both in his capacity as Spiritual Leader and a leading citizen. He never hesitated to extend a helping hand of wisdom, advice and counsel both inside and outside his parish flock. His interest in the welfare of the congregation he served as well as the community in which he lived never wavered. His Holy calling never prevented him from performing arduous hand labor, and he was as much at home in a pair of overalls working with others as he was in his ministerial garb. A man of the people in every sense of the word, humble, unassuming, and kind, always with a cheery word of spiritual condolence in times of sorrow and distress. Surely no man has given more. His life is perhaps well portrayed by a touching poem "Full Stature" by Iva Durham Vennard, President of C. E. I., which he had framed in a plaque in his home.

#### FULL STATURE

- To enjoy all beauty with a responsive spirit;
- To receive all truth with an unprejudiced and humble mind;
- To have that poise of soul that comes only from contemplation;
- To minister to all who need me without ostentation and always with sincerity;
- To be a tower of strength to other hearts;
- To have my home in the Lord; - And my life single to the Glory of God; - These go to make up the measure of the soul's full stature.

## A V E R Y S P E C I A L D A Y !

On Sunday, April 27, 1975, there was a fire at the Community United Methodist Church but no tears were shed. Instead there were shouts of praise and thanksgiving. Why? Because the fire was the burning of the parsonage mortgage.

At our special service commemorating the event, Mrs. Arvilla Hanson read the following history of the parsonage. Then the congregation was favored with a beautiful song by Cindy Edstrom entitled "Bless This House"

Steve Dirks said a few words concerning the happy event and then actually burned the mortgage. A beautiful cake was served at the Pot Luck following church services that morning.

### "The Parsonage"

Why should we have a new parsonage? The old one had many inconveniences; it was built in the early 1900's. It had only two bedrooms. When the Shepards lived there with two sons and a daughter they put bunks in the wide upstairs hallway for the boys with a draw curtain for privacy. There was a pipeless furnace with the one and only register in the dining room. When Jimmy Wandschneider was a toddler he stumbled and fell on it giving himself a painful face burn.

The pastor's study was actually a part of the living room; an archway separated them.

It was located on the corner of Jefferson and Washington when Jefferson was HY 36 and very noisy and busy. Need I say more?

We were able to get a lot in a residential subdivision and two small side lots for a sum of \$4000. The trustees sold the parsonage for \$13,500 less \$920 sales costs which left the sum of \$12,580 to start the new venture with. The trustees then were Al Schwedler, C. B. Edwards, William Smith, Stephen Dirks, Robert Hill, Harold Stelzner and Earl Paynter.

Rev. Jerry Eckert, a summer replacement for Rev. Simon who passed away in June, appointed the following building committee: Robert Joehnk, Howard Dysard, George Fremming, Herbert Bethke, James Dawson, William Rysdam, Earl Ranke, Marcia Ranke, Ann Buchal, Betty Potokar, as financial secretary and Irene Stelzner as recording secretary.

After many meetings with local carpenters and the Kilp building contractors plans were approved by the conference committee and the trustee and the job given to the Kilp Co. The contract was signed November 17, 1967. On December 4 the lot was paid for so now the new house had a secure foundation.

On November 27, 1967, the trustees signed for a mortgage to the Waterford Bank for \$31,500 with an interest rate of 6%. Payments of \$50 per month plus interest were agreed to. As money came in larger payments were made. The final clearance of this debt was made in October, 1974. Done in seven years.

In January, 1968, the church received a surprise gift from the estate of a Mrs. Brooks who was a relative of one of the early German Methodist ministers. Yes, at one time Waterford had two Methodist churches which later combined.

The parsonage building was started January 12, 1968, and completed in April. The final payment to Kilps was not made until September because Al Schwedler found discrepancies in their work which he insisted be taken care of. Thanks, Al, you should have been building inspector from the start.

Special thanks are also due to Betty Potokar and Ann Buchal for their many trips scouting for bargains on inside furnishings. Mrs. Rakow was consulted for her suggestions. They moved into their new home in

August, 1968.

I must also add that the Women's Society gave \$3000 toward the home we are all proud of. From the days when it was known as the Ladies' Aid their aid has always been and still is needed. This old poem that Lorena Shenkenberg hunted up tells the story.

### THE LOYAL LADIES' AID

Some years ago a church was built in a suburban town,  
The congregation all agreed each one pay so much down,  
That made a tidy little sum, no doubt each did his best,  
Then left it to the Ladies' Aid to take care of the rest.

Old Deacon Jeremiah Jones said, "See our new church grand  
We trustees got to work and built?" (The Ladies' Aid bought the land)  
"Plans drawn by city architects, we picked the very best.  
"We paid a big deposit down". (The Ladies' Aid paid the rest.)

Regard our windows, admirable, mosaic glass you see,  
We gentlemen decided that exquisite they should be".  
Thus spake to me Judge Bertram Brown, but when the bill was paid  
For those stained windows, red, blue, green, twas by the Ladies' Aid.

"We built a belfry, bought some chimes, so said Willoughby Wright.  
"We ordered those huge chandeliers, prism reflected light.  
O-ooo yes/ of course the ladies helped, they worked with right good will  
Raised cash with dinners, plays, and such to help us pay our bill"  
Those men believed they built that church pointing it out with pride,  
Nor realized, it was the Aid, who really stemmed the tide.  
But when they reach the pearly gates and answer to their test,  
"A member of the Ladies' Aid", St. Peter will know the rest.

by Ellie Wilcox Burt

Postscript: Our Women's Society voted at their last meeting to pay  
one half the cost of painting the parsonage. We are still "aiding"!!!  
#####



. . . . . ADDITIONAL PARSONAGE INFORMATION

An Open House was held on July 26, 1968, at the new parsonage at 208 Harmont Road giving everyone an opportunity to view the completed building before Rev. Rakow and his family moved in on July 28.

On Sunday, November 3, 1968, members and friends gathered at the parsonage following the worship service for a short service of consecration.

The old parsonage at 125 S. Jefferson Street was entirely vacated on August 1, 1968, and sold. It had been the home for most of the 43 pastors and families serving the Waterford church. A breezeway had been added during the ministry of Elmer Shepard and the house remodeled and painted when Rev. Caune came to Waterford.

The Afternoon Circle gave money to purchase a lamp post to light the front entrance. Many individuals contributed labor to complete the outside of the building. Frank Deak donated 2000 rolls of sod from his sod farm and laid it, and Rupert Construction Co. loaned their machinery for the completion of the black-topped driveway.

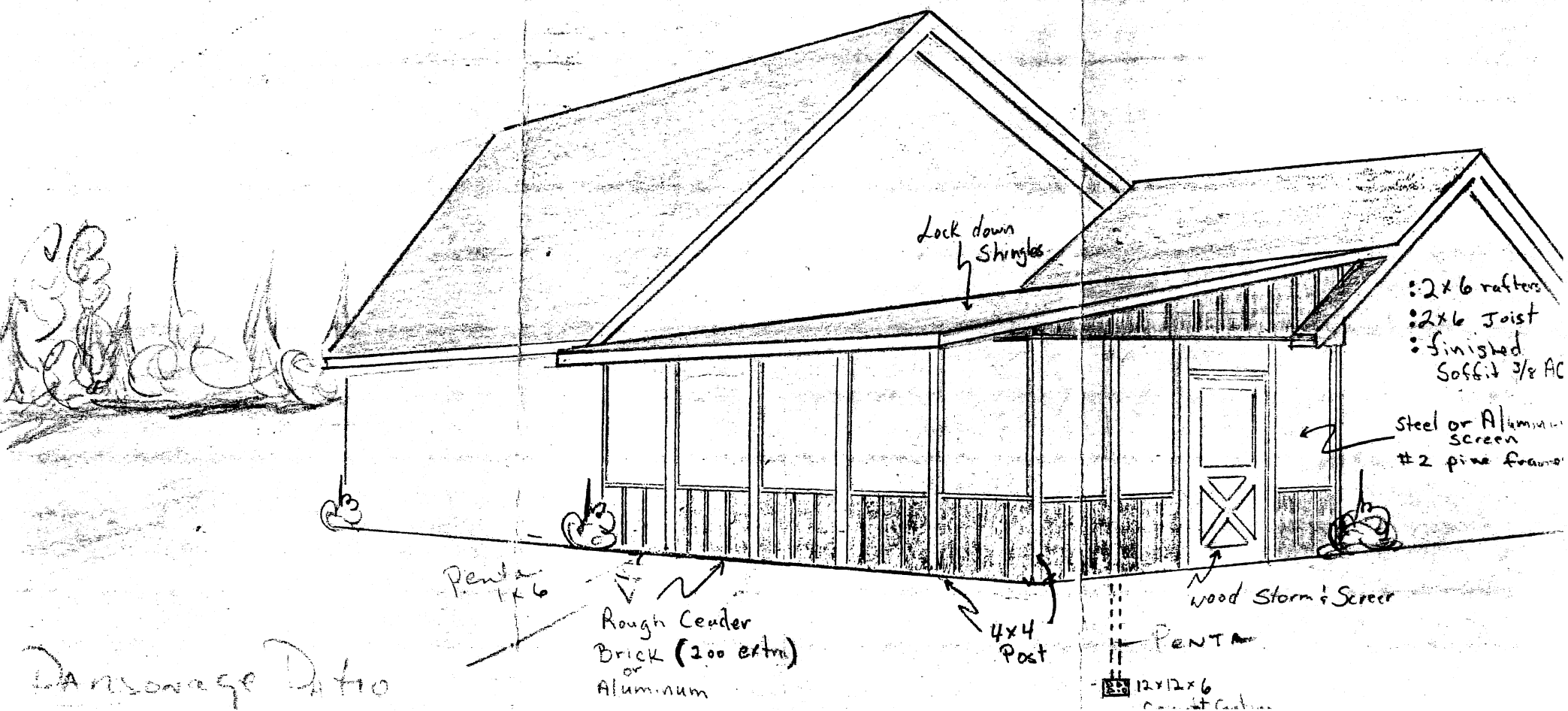
Mrs. Earl Paynter made a sketch of the parsonage and placed it in the foyer. After each \$140 payment made on the mortgage a brick was colored. On Sunday, April 27, 1975, the mortgage was burned.

In 1976 a patio was added to the rear off from the kitchen giving additional space for family living and enjoyment.

footing + 2 x 6 =  
galv. screen  
no ceiling

Windt, August To C son  
Build - winter/spring '76

77



*First Book*

DIARY OF EVENTS OF EXTRA NATURE \_ PETER NELSON GARCIA

- 1970 --- June 21 - Began ministry on Fathers Day  
Faith at work - Bible Study and teaching every Friday night  
at Walworth Correctional Center. In addition worship service  
every Sunday P.M. until the prison system closed down Oct. of  
1972.  
A chicken barbecue was held every summer.
- 1971 --- Each year began with a week of prayer, the first week of January.  
January 27 - Pastor formed a morning circle for Bible Study  
under his leadership.  
A monthly Dialogue was mailed to members.  
Pastor Garcia held Rosemaling teaching classes in Wat erford.  
Burlington, and Kenosha from 1971 to 1984.  
Established monthly f ellowship meetings with "pot luck"  
dinners. These began on Sunday evenings, then changed t o  
Sunday mornings after worship service. They became known as  
"Pot Blessings".  
The church chimes were installed.  
Baptisma by immersion were offered using the lake or a  
swimming pool.  
Oct. 5 - An organizational meeting was held at the par-  
sonage to form the 12 Group for Prayer and Bible Study.  
Oct. 27 - Rev. Pudate prepared an Indian meal and served  
it to the congregation.  
Nov. 13 - Saturday morning Bible Study was started.  
Waterford, Rochester, Honey Creek, and Caldwell joined  
in Union Thanksgiving and Union Good Friday services.  
Dec. 31 - WATCH NIGHT SERVICES were begun on New Years  
Eve with food, fun, and fellowship. COMMUNION was held  
at midnight to begin the New Year.
- 1972 --- Feb. 12 - Monthly Bible Study groups began meeting in homes.  
Led by Pastor.  
Women ushers were used on Father's Day and on every  
fifth Sunday.  
June - Thursday evening Rap Sessions or Jesus Study with  
Drew Garcis leading started for interested young people.  
Meetings were held each week until fall.  
~~October~~ - First Lay Witness weekend.
- 1973 --- Telephone Chain was set up to alert congregation os  
special events or short notice happenings, such as funerals, etc.  
Easter Sunrise Services with Lay speakers in charge.  
Enthusiastic VACATION BIBLE SCHOOLS each summer.

- 1974 --- Feb. Tithe demonstration Sunday set up.  
Lent adventure in March and April.  
Church divided into small groups, meeting in member's homes all through the congregation.  
April 10 - A typical Jewish Passover dinner was served and was led by the Levy's from Cambridge in Fellowship Hall.  
May 7 - Pastor left for a preaching mission in Red Bird Mission, Kentucky.  
Dec. 11 - Church evening "Pot Blessing dinner and chrismon tree trim where families made the chrismons which were hung on the tree.
- 1975 --- Extensive counseling of all kinds, but especially marriage counseling for church folk, community and Racine County.  
June, July and August - Brave Christians program.
- 1976 --- June - Began planning for church refurbishing.  
July 21 - Special meeting of Administration Council to hire an architect.  
Sept. - UMW sponsored a "WELCOME TEA" for Waterford's teachers, both new and returning . Very well received.
- 1977 --- Ecumenical Bible Study started on Tuesday mornings for anyone in the community . Coffee and snacks were served . Meetings were under Pastor Garcia's leadership and were well attended. They continued for several years.  
Telephone chain was set up for immediate prayer needs. This was apart from the church telephone chain.
- 1978 --- Started the annual CHILI SUPPER cooked and served by the Methodist men of the church.  
April - "Porridge Week" instituted for fund raising This was the same as tithe demonstration s and harvest offering.  
Nine lay speakers took training.  
NEW LIFE MISSION held at the church. Many key events ~~led by Pastor~~ led by Pastor in addition to song service which he also led.
- 1979 --- New office machines were added over the years, as addressograph IN L (& C).  
March and April - Missionary Conference for Lenten Period four Sundays prior to Easter.  
One-on one Bible studies for many new Christians.  
Sept. - Tried Children's Church during morning worship service.

- 1979 --- Oct.9 - Stalbaum property closing  
Oct 13 - 20 - Youthprogram. Also April 19-26 of 1980.  
Nov. 18 - Pineapple story for Sunday sermon.
- 1980 --- Palm Sunday had "Challenge of the Cross" drama for  
A.M. worship.  
Fall 1980 to March 29 of 1981 - Talent experience tried  
and was very successful.
- 1981 --- October - Key Event with Mary Council Austin at our  
church.
- 1982 --- 5th Sunday evenings - "Song Fest".
- 1983 --- April 17 - Porridge Week  
May 21 - Spaghetti supper with Rev. Summartino put on  
by men of church.  
5-Day Clubs each summer for several years.  
Pineapple story repeated for morning worship.
- 1984 --- Lenten film series by Swindell.

These events were recalled by Steve Dirks



*Black Book*

PASTOR GARCIA'S FAREWELL MESSAGE

ON JANUARY 22, 1984 PASTOR GARCIA DELIVERED HIS LAST SERMON TO THE CONGREGATION OF THE COMMUNITY METHODIST CHURCH OF WATERFORD. UPON LEAVING CHURCH AND RETURNING TO THE PARSONAGE, HE SUFFERED A MASSIVE HEART ATTACK AND DIED.

ATTACHED IS A COPY OF HIS SERMON NOTES WHICH INCLUDE A PERSONAL TESTIMONY. HE REFERS TO THE DATE OF JANUARY 22, 1984 AS HIS SPIRITUAL BIRTHDAY AS IT WAS 49 YEARS AGO THAT HE GAVE HIS LIFE TO CHRIST.

HIS SUDDEN DEATH WAS A SHOCK TO THE CONGREGATION AND TO THE COMMUNITY.

HE ENDED HIS SERMON WITH THE SONG "NOONE EVER CARED FOR ME LIKE JESUS".

YE ARE BOUGHT WITH A PRICE

1-22-84

1. I Cor. 6:19, 20--"What? Know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom ye have of God, and ye are not your own. vs. 20--For ye are bought with a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's."

The Bible says "all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God"--Romans 3:23.

1. Paul in Romans is undertaking to show that this had happened.
2. He shows the Gentiles that ~~they~~ deliberately turned ~~their~~ back upon God.
3. Then he shows that the Jew with all of his religiosity and form and ritual has also turned his back upon God.

Hence the sweeping indictment--ALL have sinned.

If we have sinned then when were we bought?

1. Romans 6:23 further indicts by saying that the wages of sin is death--eternal separation from God.
  - a. When we have served sin and the source of all sin--Satan--we'll receive only what we have worked for; what we have given our lives for.
    1. lives whose backs have been turned upon God
    2. The full wages of sin--being death--
    3. Sin at \$ turning one's back upon God.

3. If we have this condemnation upon us then when were <sup>we</sup> bought?

1. The Bible hastens to tell us in that same verse that the gift of God is eternal life--the very nature of God.

4. What is the gift of God?

What is a gift?

1. ~~It is not~~ something that I have worked for
2. ~~It is not~~ something that I have earned or deserved.
3. ~~It is something~~ that is freely given to me by the giver

5. Should I suggest to you that I have been here long enough now and I should have a gift from you--you would ~~repel~~ the idea.

6. Should I suggest that my birthday is coming soon and you should give me a gift--you would feel the opposite; you'd not give me a thing.

7. Should I suggest that Mrs G and I have been married for over 40 years and we have an anniversary coming soon; that I think it would be nice if each of you would remember this special date in our lives with a gift--you would become concerned about your pastor's mentality; that he could be on the verge of senility.

A gift is not something that is given because there have been hints and suggestions or broadsides given concerning a gift

1. A gift is given because of the generous nature and heart of the giver.

ence, God's gift to us can not be merited; cannot be earned; cannot be won in any way.

The gift of God is eternal life--the very nature of God Himself  
cf. II Peter 1:4--we become partakes of the divine nature!

There is no religious rite that I can involve myself in that will give me eternal life.

Baptism--sprinkling, pouring or immersing cannot cause the Giver to give me eternal life.

Confirmation--cannot do this; as fine as this may be

Church membership--cannot do this tho' it be commendable and beneficial.

Communion, Eucharist, the Lord's Supper cannot do this; even though it is truly beneficial.

a. There is no religious exercise that I can involve myself in that will ever give me merit enough to say I have earned the very gift of God--Salvation.

Even keeping the Ten Commandments will not earn God's gift.

GOD'S GIFT IS NOT EARNED IN ANY WAY THAT MAN CAN DEVISE.

Ephesians 2:8,9--"for by grace are ye saved through faith and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God. Not of works lest any man should boast.

How do I get this gift of eternal life

How do I become a partaker of the Divine nature

by simply recognizing that I have sinned--one sin makes a sinner

ONE LIE MAKES LIAR

That Christ came to give me eternal life; He came to purchase my soul. Christ died on the cross to pay the penalty for my sin and purchase a place for me in heaven which he wants to give me as a free gift.

The story of Hosea and the buying of his wife again

The story of the little boat twice owned--I made you and now I have bought you; you are twice mine.

He has bought me with a tremendous price--the life of His only begotten Son.

The Son has bought me with the great cost of His life? Why? because He loves and He has a plan for my life.

Not only BOUGHT but now made the residence of the Holy Spirit.

Bought and no longer my own. I'm God's purchased possession; I belong to Him in full

Today--January 22, 1984--is my spiritual birthday. 49 years ago

May I share some memories with you?

MAY 27, 1918

I was born in Bakersfield, California while my father was in military training at Camp Lewis (Fort Lewis) Washington, during World War I.

Mother was from northwestern Iowa; of Danish and Swedish parentage with grandparents living in Aarhus, Denmark.

Father was of early California Spanish descent; his father, Felix, was a wealthy don with velvet suit, lace jabot and gold cane; who had been given a large land grant by the King of Spain in California that now comprises considerable area known as Marin County, north of the Golden Gate Bridge; but he gambled it all away at the gaming tables of San Francisco.

Memories of early childhood linger as I remember a sister who died when she was 13 months old from whooping cough.

Another memory persists and breaks through is the traumatic experience of a 5 yr old child's perspective of parents obtaining the final divorce decree and fighting on the streets for the custody of the child--each one pulling an arm of the child.

Sad memories linger on as I recall being shuttled back and forth between a father who cared little about his son (really an unnecessary burden) and a mother who loved her child but had little time for him because of the dire necessity of working to be able to live.

A Catholic paternal grandmother seemed to offer some security in my terribly insecure childhood but she was not able to carry the full responsibilities of parent for she and Dad would argue and fuss; and I would be alone again.

So much of my childhood was well-watered with tears of disappointment, disillusionment, lonesomeness and longing for someone to really care.

When I was twelve I ran away from my father.

Vacation time was over; I was to meet Grandmother at the train depot at midnight and she would take me back to the backside of the Mojave Desert where Dad worked as an engine watchman for the Southern Pacific railroad.

1. Grandmother would see to it that I would get started in school and stay with Dad and me until there would be a row--and then I'd be alone.
2. This pattern had persisted for years
3. Just before train time with this midnight milk train pulling out of the station I detoured and somehow managed to get the several miles across town to Mother's home in Bakersfield.
4. Several days later Dad and Grandmother drove up into the yard and demanded that I get my clothes; I ran into the house by the back door and out the front door, across the fence and into the neighbor's house, into a closet to hide. I remained there until I heard Dad's car drive off.

4. 5. He recognized that I had made a choice and let me remain with my mother.
  - a. I started school in Bakersfield, 8th grade. Had a Christian teacher who was concerned about me.
  - b. 2½ months after enrolling in school, Mother was dead--dying very suddenly at the age of 39.
  - c. So back to the desert town of Owenyo--Mt Whitney on the east and the Panamint Mountain range and Death Valley on the West.
6. We lived in this small railroad community of about 150 people for a couple of years.
  1. Don't think that each community doesn't have its cross-section of sin.
  2. I found this out very early for I was involved in much of what was going on.
  3. There was no one to care! Who did care anyway?
    - a. one exception: a school teacher who conducted a Sunday School and gave me my first Bible. May Young.
7. The depression was being felt in the early 30's
  1. Dad was bumped--railroad jargon for losing one's job due to the lack of seniority.
  2. We returned to Bakersfield and knew what it was to be with the bare minimum of food and necessities of life for work was certainly not available. Dole was
  3. During this time Dad married a woman from Arkansas who had three children. Stepbrother and Stepsisters and Stepmother were not compatible with me and so life became a greater burden; besides this I was in the throes of early adolescence.
  4. After a year or so of this kind of living I went to San Francisco to live with a cousin of mine--it was here that I learned the rest of what I didn't already know about. *SN*
8. These were days of prohibition, but I saw liquor, whiskey, beer flow;
  1. I was taught to make it, to deliver it, to run it, etc.
  2. I learned to frequent speak-easys,
  3. I had to make my way around the perverted, the twisted and the warped, socially and morally.
  4. I lived in sin up to the hilt and I was only a youthful teen-ager.
9. Life became a burden to me; so much unhappiness, so much misery and seeing other miserable and contributing to their misery began to tell on me: I longed to get away from it all.
  1. Why not end it all; thoughts of suicide were not mere passing thoughts but real points of contemplation. Had it not been for the lack of real moral courage and because of fear, I would have chosen this way out of life.
  2. But God had other plans.
10. Fed up with the life of San Francisco and the fact that my cousin was divorcing and had no place for me, I returned to Dad's home on another part of the Mojave Desert--Lancaster.
  1. Dad now had another job with the railroad.
  2. My step-mother had become a born-again Christian and through her witness and others of the church, I soon found my way to a little

5. Mission church there. JAN 22, 1985
3. It was there at 10 p.m. 49 years ago I surrendered my life to Jesus Christ and I received eternal life

Bought with a price. Yes, indeed!

He redeemed me!

He bought me when I was sold out under sin

He loved me! He cared enough to reach and touch my life.

Praise the Lord!

And life has never been the same since.

1. It never can be for He made all right that which had been all wrong

Would I change the way of life I now have for what I had had?

Never, in a thousand years, never.

God has been good! --but no more loneliness and misery.

God made my song "No One Ever  
Cared for me like Jesus"

Cambridge--1-22-67 am


Waterford--1-22-84 am

# No. 9 No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus



C. F. W.

Copyright, 1932, by Hall-Mack Co.  
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The Rodeheaver Co., ownde. By per.


C. F. Waigle




1. I would like to tell you what I think of Je-sus, Since I found in Him a  
2. All my life was full of sin when Je-sus found me, All my heart was full of  
3. Ev-'ry day He comes to me with new as-sur-ance, More and more I un-der-

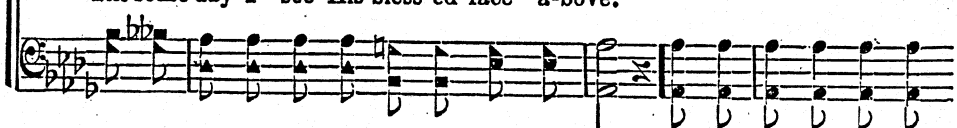

friend so strong and true; I would tell you how He changed my life com-plete-ly,  
mis-er-y and woe; Je-sus placed His strong and lov-ing arms a-bout me,  
stand His words of love; But I'll nev-er know just why He came to save me,



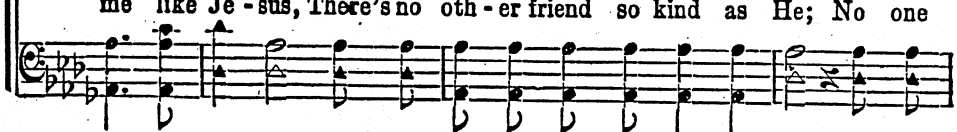
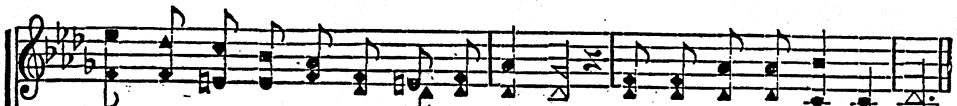
CHORUS.



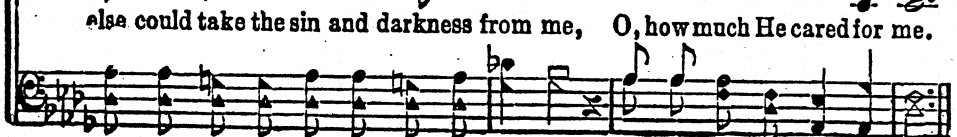
He did some-thing that no oth-er friend could do.  
And He led me in the way I ought to go. No one ev-er cared for  
Till some day I see His bless-ed face a-bove.

me like Je-sus, There's no oth-er friend so kind as He; No one

else could take the sin and darkness from me, O, how much He cared for me.



Preferably--key of D--guitar  
Tudy--melody on verse; alto on chorus

copied from THE WATERFORD POST of  
JANUARY 25, 1984.

. . . . .

SUDDEN DEATH OF PASTOR PETER NELSON GARCIA  
STUNS CONGREGATION

Story by VALERIE JOHNSON\*

In a recent editorial in this paper, the editor wondered why some people are seemingly unconcerned about the plight of others within our community. On Sunday, January 22, 1984, our community lost one of the people who did care and was concerned, with the sudden death of Pastor Peter Nelson Garcia of the Waterford Community United Methodist Church.

He spent his last day with us serving the Lord. During his sermon on Sunday morning, he gave his testimony and related the story of his life and how he came to know the Lord. Sunday was the 49th anniversary of his "spiritual life", he said. After the service, he returned home to change clothes for a trip to Milwaukee. There he collapsed in the bedroom and was taken, unconscious, to Burlington Memorial Hospital by the Waterford Rescue Squad.

Pastor Garcia was born on May 27, 1918, in Bakersfield, California. After a difficult life as a child, he confessed to being influenced in his early teens by a Christian Sunday School teacher and by his "born-again" Christian stepmother. The Lord saved him, he said, at a time when he ~~would-devote-his-life-to-the~~ was at his lowest point in life. Pastor Garcia, then felt if the Lord could save him, he would devote his life to the Lord and saving others. Upon his ordination in 1940, he began his life's work.

Pastor and Mrs. Garcia arrived to accept the pastorate at Waterford Community United Methodist Church in June of 1970, and they have resided here since that date. Before coming to Waterford, Pastor Garcia served churches in Texas and Kentucky and in Madison, Fond du Lac, and Cambridge in Wisconsin.

HIS INTERESTS WERE WIDE:

While serving the church in Cambridge in 1966, Pastor Garcia became interested in the Norwegian Folk Art Painting known as Rosemaling. His interest grew along with his abilities as a painter, and approximately seven years ago, he began teaching Rosemaling for Gateway Technical Institute. He began teaching in Kenosha, but in the last few years confined his classes to Burlington and Waterford. He was a member of the Wisconsin Rosemaling Society.

Pastor Garcia recently served as a counselor for the Racine County Social Services Department. He also served as Chaplain for the Walworth County Correctional Institute until its closing. He was Chaplain for the Women's Prison at Taycheedah while he pastored in Fond du Lac. He was also a spiritual advisor to Women's Aglow in recent years.



Pastor Garcia was a man of many talents. He taught piano and guitar to many young people. At one time he played the accordian and his beautiful resonant voice stood out during every hymn.

#### HIS LIFE TOUCHED MANY:

Pastor Garcia was a man true to his faith in God and in God's Word. He upheld those beliefs and lived by them without wavering. The lives he touched, not only in his congregation, but of those who knew him, will be forever changed. He was a good listener who was kind and understanding, but above all he was a good Christian.

Pastor Garcia will be missed by all who knew him. He has left a rare legacy behind - the legacy of knowing the joy and happiness that salvation and belief in the Lord can bring. He has left all of us better for having known him, and the knowledge that the Lord is our strength to carry on.

I In John 5:24 we read "Verily, verily, I say unto you. He that heareth my word, and believeth on Him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but is passed from death unto life". With joy and gladness, we know that Pastor Garcia has indeed "passed from death into life" at home with the Lord.

. . . . .

\*Valerie Johnson lives at 4626 Maple Road, East Troy, Wis., in the town of Waterford. She and her husband Richard and family moved to the Waterford area from Mukwonago seven years ago. They belong to the East Troy Bible Church but have been attending Community United Methodist Church in Waterford. Valerie had been a part of the Tuesday evening Bible Study class and has been active with the Holiday Fair and the Morning Circle. She has also attended Pastor Garcia's Rosemaling classes for the past four years.

db

## OUR PASTOR PETER NELSON GARCIA

Pastor Garcia died suddedly of a heart atgack on Sunday, January 22, 1984. He had been in church as usual conducting his Sunday School Adult Class and delivering the morning sermon. After the service he had greeted everyone with pleasant words and a handshake with no indication to anyone including Mrs. Garcia that there was a problem of any kind. After returning to the parsonage he suffered the heart attack and died almost immediately.

Members were notified throughout the afternoon via the church "telephone chain", and all experienced shock and disbelief.

Funeral services were held at the church at 7:30 on Wednesday, January 25. The church was filled to overflowing with church members and friends all mourning the loss of a great pastor and friend. The United Methodist Women served cake and coffee in Fellowship Hall following the service.

Burial was in Watertown, Wisconsin, in Oak Hill Cemetery on Thursday, January, with a private family graveside service.

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The weeks following Pastor Garcia's sudden death were difficult ones for the congregation which sorely missed him. However, everyone made a valiant effort to carry on, and services were held regularly conducted by lay speakers in a manner that Pastor Garcia would have approved. In April it was learned that Rev. Cheever had accepted the call to our church.

Pastor Garcia had planned to retire in the spring of 1984, and he and Mrs. Garcia had purchased a home in Rochester, Wisconsin, where they had planned to live and remain a part of this community. It was to this new home that Mrs. Gertrude Garcia moved when it was necessary to vacate the parsonage. The address of her new home is 502 Ryan Avenue, Rochester, Wisconsin.

Lloyd and I saw much of Pastor in the weeks prior to his death as Lloyd and undergone heart surgery. The telephone call at 6 a.m. to pray with Lloyd just before he left for the operating room meant a great deal as did the subsequent visits. This is but a small sample of how he served and understood all of the members of his congregation and knew their needs.

Dorothy Bryant, history chairman  
1984

## OBITUARY

### REV. PETER NELSON GARCIA

22,  
Died January/ 1984, at Memorial Hospital, Burlington. He was born May 27, 1918, at Bakersfield, California, to Felix and Anna Sophie Nelson Garcia. His early life was spent in California and Springfield, Mo.. He attended Central Bible College, Springfield, Mo. and Garrett Seminary Northwestern, Ill.. On May 19, 1943, he was married to Gertrude Ellen Ziemann in Madison, Wis.. He served churches in Madison, WI, Pecos, TX, Hopkinsville, KY, Fond du Lac, WI, Cambridge, WI, and Community United Methodist Church in Waterford since 1970. He was a marriage counselor in Racine County and taught Rosemaling through Gateway Technical Institute.

Survivors include his wife, Gertrude, 2 sons, Daun Nelson Garcia, Atlanta, GA, Drew (Lucia) Fredric Garcia, Miami Beach, FL, 1 daughter, Daryl Garcia, Watertown, WI, 3 grandchildren, Krystal, Cory, and Carla Garcia, 1 brother-in-law, Rev. Edwin (Bernice) Ziemann, Watertown, 3 sisters-in-law, Erline (Wayne) Skaret, Colorado Springs, CO, Arlett Ronshausen, Tampa, FL, Donna (Donald) Mundt, Watertown.

Services will be conducted at the Community United Methodist Church, Waterford, at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday by Rev. Edwin Ziemann, with visitation at the church from 4:00 to 7:15 p.m. Interment will be at Oakhill Cemetery, Watertown, WI.

. . . .

from THE WATERFORD POST of

JANUARY 25, 1984

db

ROMANS

1:16 FOR I AM NOT  
ASHAMED OF THE  
GOSPEL OF CHRIST:  
FOR IT IS THE  
POWER OF GOD UNTO  
SALVATION TO EVERYONE  
THAT BELIEVETH;

3:23 FOR ALL HAVE  
SINNED, AND COME  
SHORT OF THE  
GLORY OF GOD;

6:23 FOR THE WAGES  
OF SIN IS DEATH,  
BUT THE GIFT OF  
GOD IS ETERNAL LIFE  
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST  
OUR LORD.

JOHN

1:12 BUT AS MANY  
AS RECEIVED HIM,  
TO THEM GAVE  
HE POWER TO  
BECOME THE SONS  
OF GOD, EVEN TO  
THEM THAT BELIEVE  
ON HIS NAME;

REVELATION

3:20 BEHOLD, I STAND  
AT THE DOOR, AND  
KNOCK; IF ANY MAN  
HEAR MY VOICE, AND  
OPEN THE DOOR, I  
WILL COME IN TO  
HIM,

IN MEMORY OF  
PASTOR PETER NELSON GARCIA

Date JULY 17, 1984 Mounting INVISIBLE FRAME

Order Number 36-7402 Enlarge Graphics 2007

This Drawing was prepared in accordance with information submitted to Matthews. Changes to Drawings may incur charges as stated in price list. Signed approval of submitted Drawing is required prior to manufacture. Approval of Drawing acknowledges that it is correct and supersedes all previous sets of drawings and/or specifications related to this order. Any changes, corrections or re-takes of products manufactured in accordance to approved Drawings will be at the purchaser's expense.



**Matthews**

1315 W. Liberty ... Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15226

Material CAST BRONZE

Size (Hor. x vert.) 20" X 30"

Letterstyle OPTIMA LIGHT

Font LIGHT CLIDE

## MEMORIAL PLAQUE DEDICATION

On a bitter cold Sunday evening (January 20, 1985) with temperatures at -30 degrees below zero, a special service was held at church to dedicate a bronze plaque in memory of Pastor Peter Nelson Garcia who died just one year ago in January of 1984. Despite the bitter cold the service was well attended, though many older members were forced to stay at home. Steve Dirks opened the meeting, Bob Iverson delivered a message, personal remarks were given by Norman Keeker and Audrey Horner, and hymns were sung before the verbal dedication ceremony. A copy of the program is in the History Album, Vol. II.

The idea of a plaque in memory of Pastor Garcia had its beginning with a nucleus of members who were close to him over the years he served the church, and the cost was born by donations from members and outside friends who knew him through the ecumenical Bible Study classes he conducted and also through his counseling. The plaque was designed with the help of the church architect, Clayton Juno, and the Bible verses were chosen by Steve Dirks and Norman Keeker. The plaque was hung in the new entrance to the church above the visitors' register, where all could see it and be reminded of Pastor Garcia who served the church so well for so many years.

D. Bryant  
History Chmn.

DEDICATION OF  
NEW CHURCH IN 1923

REMODELING OF  
CHURCH IN 1980 AND  
OTHER CHANGES



Copied from THE WATERFORD POST of  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 1923

by Dorothy Bryant, hist.  
(1984) shmn.

.....

NEW CHURCH TO BE DEDICATED SUNDAY

The Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Waterford  
to be Formally Opened

Homecoming Banquet on Tuesday

The dedication of the new community Methodist Episcopal church,  
of which Rev. W. C. Kurtz is pastor takes place on Sunday, August 26.  
The following program has been arranged for the day:

DEDICATION DAY SERVICE

- 9:00 a.m. - Sunday School. Special music and speaker.
- 10:15 a.m. - Morning Worship. Sermon by Dr. Wm. Esslinger,  
Chicago. Music by local choir.
- 2:00 p.m. - Dedication Service. Speaker, Dr. E. B. Martin,  
Kenosha. Music by the choir. Cornet Solo  
by J. C. Yonk.
- 7:00 p.m. - Praise Service. Brief messages by visiting  
pastors. Music by local orchestra. Saxophone  
solo by Harold Yonk. Violin Solo by Alma  
Glueck.
- 8:00 p.m. - Address - Dr. H. C. Logan, Milwaukee.

The district superintendents of both the German and English conferences to which the two churches, ~~constituting~~ the new one have belonged and are still associated will be present and have part in the program. Dr. Wm. Esslinger, of the german Conference, will speak at the morning service; Dr. H. C. Logan, of the English conference, will be the speaker in the evening and will act as toast master at the Tuesday banquet.

Dr. E. B. Martin, pastor of the M. E. Church of Kenosha, who speaks at the Dedication service in the afternoon, comes as the representative of the Bishop who can not be here.

The Dedication services are not to be marred by putting on a "financial drive". The money, not already subscribed for the completion of the work, will be arranged for in some other manner. Plans have also been made for the entertainment of out of town friends who will attend the dedication services.

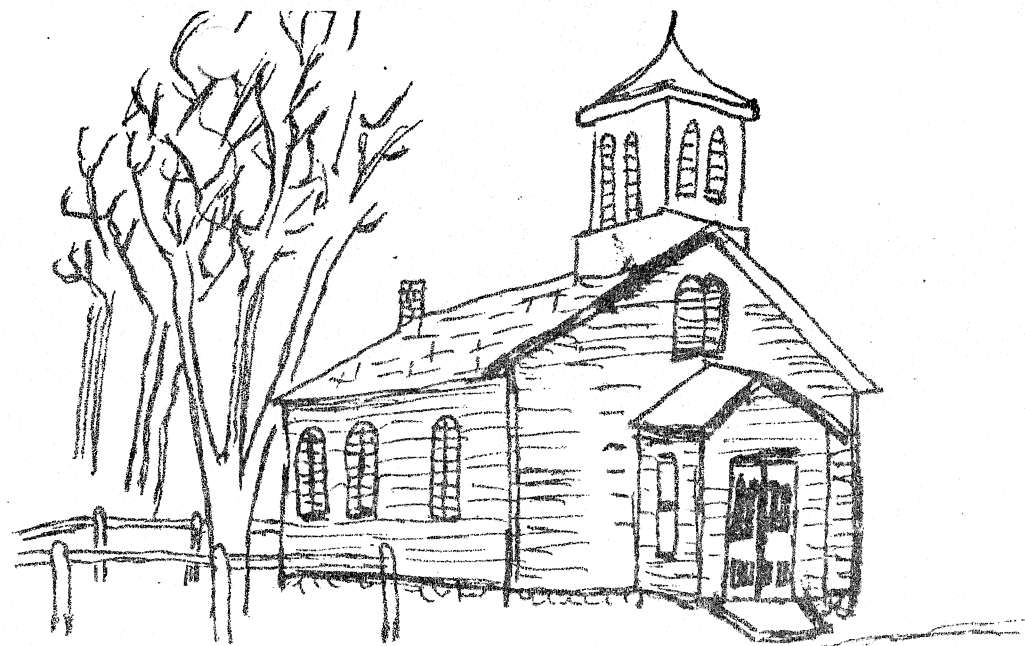
A "Homecoming Banquet" will be held in the parlors of the church at 8 o'clock, Tuesday evening, August 23. Dr. H. C. Logan will serve as toast master. There will be "toasts" by visiting friends and entertainment furnished by Dr. Case, impersonator, of Janesville. As the accommodations are limited, friends who wish to attend the banquet, are asked to make their reservations early. The tickets are in charge of Mrs. E. Starkey.

Pastor, officers, and members are working tirelessly and unselfishly in their effort to make the services in connection with the dedication of the church a success. Herman Trost, Rev. Kurtz, and Mrs. E. Starkey have arranged the program. Other committees are: Building. W. C. Kurtz, G. F. Wallmann, A. S. Titus, J. Steinke, A. Schubel; Finance, R. Bryant, H. W. Trost, A. L. Noble, H. Glueck, Mrs. E. Starkey.

This fine new community church, of which all Waterford is proud and which promises to be a real power for good in the service of the Master in whose honor it is to be dedicated on Sunday, is the outgrowth of a meeting held in this village, May 12, 1922, when the German and English Methodist Episcopal churches, which had lived and worked side by side in this village for over fifty years, decided to unite the two organizations for three months. Rev. Paul Schipp, pastor of the German M. E. Church of Burlington, who was ~~pastor-of-the~~ also serving as pastor of the Waterford church, took charge of the united church for the summer, and Rev. Kistler, pastor of the English church, accepted a call to the north Montana conference.

The three months trial proved satisfactory and Rev. W. C. Kurtz of Fond du Lac came to Waterford to take charge of the united work, nearly a year ago. Early in the year plans were made for the building of a new church home which was large enough and properly equipped for the program being outlined by the pastor and people. The German M. E. church which had been built in 1872 on a lot donated by Peter Misch at the junction of Main and River Streets was torn down and moved to the site of the English M. E. Church. From the material found in the two old buildings with a little new added, a fine new church has been erected. It was on December 28, 1873 that the old M. E. Church was dedicated. It had been in continuous service since that time until closed about two months ago, when work on the new building was begun. Since then church and Sunday School have been held in the Union High School building.

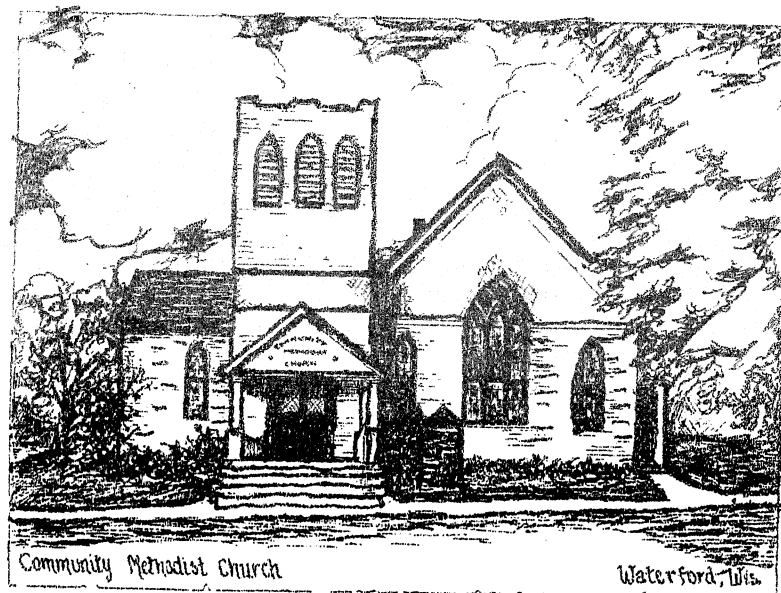
Early this summer the two M. E. churches were incorporated as the Community Methodist Episcopal church of Waterford. The two old church buildings have been so fitted together as to make one large, handsome, modern structure suited to the needs of a twentieth century church. Under the leadership of their faithful pastor, Rev. W. C. Kurtz, the two congregations have been blended into one strong, efficient, united people who look forward toward the fields, ripe for the harvest, which is theirs to reap, with true Christian eagerness.



German M. E. Church  
1868 - 1923



English M. E. Church  
1873 - 1923



Community Methodist Church

Waterford, Wis.

9

Copy  
Aug. 26, 1923

## DEDICATION OF CHURCH IMPRESSIVE RITES

Dr. E. R. Martin, of Kenosha, who came to Waterford as a representative of the Methodist Episcopal bishop to participate in the dedication of the new Community M. E. church, spoke to an audience which filled the church to its capacity on Sunday afternoon Aug. 26. He spoke from the text found in Matt. 16:17,18 "And Jesus answered and said unto them, Blessed are thou Simon Bar Janah: for flesh and blood have not revealed it unto thee, but my Father who is in heaven. And I also say unto thee, that thou art Peter and upon this rock I will build my church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

Following the splendid and inspiring sermon by Dr. Martin the official dedication of the new building took place. Among those taking part in this impressive service were the two district superintendents of the German and English M.E. conferences. Dr. Wm. Esslinger and Dr. H. C. Logan, of Milwaukee; Rev. W. C. Kurtz, the pastor of the Waterford church who has labored so untiringly for the new church; Rev. S. E. Ryan, pastor of the Burlington M. E. church; Rev. Samuel Olson, pastor of the Yorkville M. E. church, a former pastor of this village; and Rev. Frank Hartl, pastor of the Galena Street M.E. church, Milwaukee.

The vested choir, enthusiastically and in the spirit of worship, sang several hymns, and J. C. Yonk gave an inspiring coronet solo.

The morning and evening services also brought out audiences which completely filled the church, and were as greatly enjoyed and of the same uplifting nature as the one of the afternoon. The message brought to the people by Dr. Wm. Esslinger, of Chicago, district superintendent of the German M.E. conference, at the morning service was a vital one and will long be remembered by those who heard it.

Preceding the address in the evening a "praise service" was held. An orchestra composed of the young people of the church gave several numbers and lead the singing of the words of praise. The Waterford male quartet--Rev. W. C. Kurtz, Archie Noble, Charles Trost, and Herman Trost--sang. Other musical numbers were a saxophone solo by Harold Yonk, of Burlington, and a violin solo by Miss Alma Glueck, the talented young woman violinist of the church.

Brief messages of encouragement and congratulations with greetings were brought from neighboring churches by visiting pastors. They were Rev. F. Stanley Powles, pastor of the East Troy Congregational church; Rev. Frank Hartl, of Galena M.E. church, Milwaukee; Rev. H. S. Grandholm, of the Honey Creek Baptist church; Rev. J. W. Jordan, of the Rochester Congregational church. A. S. Titus, representing the local church and Sunday school spoke briefly on "The Sin of Ingratitude".

The services of the day closed with the earnest, thoughtful, inspirational sermon by Dr. Logan, of Milwaukee, district superintendent of the M.E. Conference.

There was no financial drive put on. Rev. W. C. Kurtz briefly stated that the beautiful new church, which seemed to be complete in every detail, had cost approximately \$9,000, that \$7,000 had already been provided for and that there was remaining \$2,000 to be paid before the congregation would be entirely out of debt.

Many friends and many former members from Chicago, Milwaukee, Racine, Honey Creek, Rochester, Dover, Burlington, Norway, Caldwell, Mukwonago and other places were present, thus showing their interest not only in the past but in the future of the church.

The new church is one of which any community may well feel proud. It is beautiful in its architectural design and its decorations. The art glass windows, the splendid electric lighting system, its adequate equipment thruout make it one of the finest churches to be found in Southern Wisconsin outside the large cities. How it has been accomplished at so small a cost seems like the work of magic as does also the way in which the two old buildings have been builded into one in such a way that the "one" seems like an entirely new building.

The seeming magic in the combining of the two old churches into a new one is no less marvelous than that used in the uniting of the two congregations until today they are one in thought and purpose, ready to take up the new work awaiting them with vigor and enthusiasm and in the spirit of the Master whom they serve.

The home coming banquet held in the parlors of the new church on Tuesday evening also brought out a capacity crowd. The dinner which was perfect in every detail was served in the large dining room which comfortably seated 175. The rooms were decorated in yellow and green. The same colors were used in the table decorations. Dainty place cards in yellow and green, bearing the name of church and date of banquet were the souvenirs of the delightful occasion. Between courses "toasts" were given by out of town guests. Dr. H. C. Logan was unable to be present but his position as toastmaster was ably filled by A. S. Titus. Following the dinner the guests assembled in the auditorium where for an hour or more they listened with the greatest enjoyment to the entertainment given by Dr. Case, of Janesville, an impersonator.

An interesting history of the M.E. churches of Waterford and of their amalgamation was given in a recent number of the Waterford Post.

Feb. 25, 1945.

By a special dispensation from Dist. Supt. Dr. Cannon, the Official Board was called together in a session of the Quarterly Conference of Waterford Methodist Church for the sole purpose of considering the transfer of the former lot of the German M. Church, to the Village of Waterford under the terms set forth.

Members present: - Mrs. J. Steinke, Mrs. Cora Bryan, Mrs. M. Rebstock, Mrs. Herman Kanke, Mrs. A. Zucke, Mrs. Geo. Cook, Mrs. Henry Krieger, Mr. & Mrs. M. Wason, Mr. E. Aber, Mr. H. B. North; H. W. Krieger.

A motion as follows was made by Mr. North and seconded by H. W. Krieger -

"To transfer by deed, to the Village of Waterford the former lot of the German M. Church with the provision it be made into a memorial or park site and not used for commercial purposes; to erect a suitable marker designating the location of the church and to assume all outstanding obligations against it."

The motion was carried by the board as stated and the following committee was appointed and approved by the board to take care of the transfer: Mrs. J. Steinke, Mr. E. Aber, H. W. Krieger.

Adjournment -

Mrs. E. Shenkenberg Rec. Sec.



1980 CHURCH REMODELING AND REFURBISHING  
AND  
EARLIER CHANGES

The idea of making some changes in our church had its beginning some years before 1980, but the thought of building a brand new structure at a different location had to be discarded due to the inflated cost of such a project.

A remodeling committee was formed early in 1979 consisting of: Normah Keeker, chairman, Richard Goetsch, Donald Porn, Don Clement, Steve Dirks, Shirley Gulick, Paul Bixler, and David Steinke with Pastor Garcia as a non-member and advisor. At this time a bank balance of \$35,696.00 existed of which \$17,115.00 was in a Building Fund.

At a meeting in May plans drawn by architect Clayton Juno of Waukesha were examined. They included a new entrance to the East, reversal of the church interior, and a stairway access to the downstairs restrooms. At this point it became known that the Stalbaum house east of the church might be for sale, so plans and action were suspended until the Long Range Planning Committee could look into this matter and submit a report.

Subsequently, in December of 1979 purchase of the Stalbaum property was made with the approval of the congregation at a price of \$54,207.00. A loan was approved from the Heritage Savings and Loan in Waterford for \$96,000.00 for 30 years at 11% with payments of \$914.30 monthly. This amount would cover the house purchase and other remodeling costs. Plans were then drawn to join the church and the house forming an entrance between the buildings and stairs upward into the house. A "Reduce Our Debt" Committee was formed to work out ideas to reduce the debt within two years to avoid the high interest being generated. Families were asked to give an additional \$1000.00 in 1980, or if not able, any additional amount which would be applied to the principal of the loan. A "thermometer" was placed in the church entrance to show the progress being made toward the two-year goal. This project was a success and the loan was substantially reduced.

At the February meeting in 1980 of the Remodeling Committee, it was reported that the state had approved the plans, so a vote was passed to start construction at the estimated cost of \$91,318.00.

Church services continued regularly in spite of the construction work and the project was completed in the summer of 1980.

With the work completed, the old hardwood dark pews were now replaced with upholstered pews arranged in two sections forming a center aisle, instead of the three sections that formerly had made two side aisles.

The pulpit and altar were now to the West end of the sanctuary with choir risers back of them. The piano and organ were on opposite sides. Modern lighting fixtures hung from the ceiling giving indirect light with ceiling fans to circulate the air. A modern pulpit and altar rail replaced the old blond furnishings.

Complementing the oak wood, bright green carpeting covered the entire floor replacing the beige carpet strips, and rust colored fabric was used on the pews. Choir benches were covered in gold, and the walls were painted off-white.

Entrance to the church was now to the East between the Stelbaum house and the church with steps leading upward into the house (now referred to as the Annex) and glass doors that opened into the sanctuary.

The "new look" was total. Only the windows remained the same. As a whole the congregation was happy with the alterations. However, some older members regretted the loss of memories the old church had for them.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### EARLIER CHANGES

A number of changes and improvements had been made to the original church as it was built in 1923. One of the most extensive was carried out in the 1950's, when the choir was moved from the back of the pulpit area to the northeast corner where risers were constructed. This was necessary to accommodate the organ which had been purchased. Velvet draperies were hung against the East wall to shut off the windows, the light from which was disconcerting. Brass Candelabra placed in the former choir area were lighted before morning services. Beige carpeting was placed in the aisles and used to upholster the altar rail and step. The old chandeliers were replaced with more modern hanging light fixtures.

The new Educational Unit completed in 1959 provided needed Sunday School space and opened Fellowship Hall into the additional room needed for activities. The kitchen went through a number of improvements and in 1981 the serving shelf was lowered and cupboards improved. Paneling was added to Fellowship Hall in 1977. The Lyman Room for storage and choir robes was added in 1963. Earlier a nursery room was planned and fixed up by the Women's Society in 1956.

A railing was added to the front entrance steps in 1961 and much remodeling was done to provide a Pastor's Study in the old Sunday School room on the Southwest corner.

During the month of March, 1984, new white vinyl siding was added to the church and annex exterior, giving the church a fresh new look.

D. Bryant, hist. chmn.  
1984

## WHY THE CHIMES RANG

They are now a reality and not a dream. Ten years ago, in 1960, while doing practical nursing at the Waller home in Burlington, Miss Annie Waller and I were inspired by the chimes at the Burlington Methodist Church, and I remarked, "If I ever get home in Waterford I will see that we will have chimes on my Methodist Church. I started a project by honoring our mothers that Mother's Day and I realized \$75.00, to which I added \$126 to make \$201, and was told by Pastor Caune that I had to "bank" it in the Methodist Church account. I added to it slowly by selling plants, lily bulbs, flowers and vegetables and many memorials from friends. I had written three histories of "My Home Town". "My Church" and my own personal history, intending to sell this booklet to increase my chimes fund, but was told the printing cost would be too large. So I gave up that idea. Then in 1966 other church members started adding memorials to my fund. Now thanks to God, also Pastor Garcia and our good friend and editor, M. J. Chapman, I can say it's the happiest gift I've ever helped to buy. Every one can now hear our beautiful chimes in dear old Waterford, my home town for over 88 years.

We don't boast of crowded cities  
Where the millions come and go,  
But we have our share of beauty,  
I was raised here and I know,  
Where God made old Mt. Tom  
And these valleys fresh and fair.  
He put His seal upon them,  
You will find it everywhere.  
And when you are right down tired  
And rest and change are implored  
Just pack your grip some fine day  
And take a trip to Waterford.

Alice Barnes Tindall

(Memorial to Great, Great Grandfather

Levi Barnes first settler in Waterford, 1836)

My Mother's Day chimes project were gifts from 29¢ to \$1.00 as follows: Madms.  
In 1960: Aber, Eugene Albee, Ruth Albee, Lawrence Albee, Gertrude Adams, Wayne Allen, Wm. Allen, Lee Buttles, Edna Barnes, Margarette Berndt, Herb. Bethke, Sam Boldt, Ella Cook, Hilda Butke, Harry Cahill, Alice Caley, John Callen, Krist Caune, Daisy Buttles, M. J. Chapman, David Christianson, C. A. Daugherty, Edna Duerst, C. B. Edwards, Howard Favell, June Gross, Shirley Gulick, Melvin Hanson, Ruth Hansen, Arthur Hulbert, Earl Jensen, Ben Kauppi, F. J. Kennelly, Walter Kopling, Otto Krogstad, Pearl Krueger, Donald Lang, Peter Lukas, John Mamerow, Florence Mamerow, Hal Mealy, Grace Mealy, Loretta Banthin, Alf. Mitsch, Bauer Mohr, Ivan Moore, Morton Murry, Frank Noll, E. G. Paynter, Earl Paynter, Joe Potokar, Chas. Priest, Earl Ranke, Harold Ranke, Herman Ranke, Frieda Rebstock, Wm. Reineman, Willis Reineman, Russell Rupert, Chester Schroeder, Lorena Shenkenberg, Albert Schwedler, Wm. Smith, Harold Stelzner, Ruth Sugden, Grace Stewart, Alice Tindall, Florence Tindall, Don Tindall, Wm. Weiland, Cecil Wilson, Leon Winter, Arno Zimmer, Eleanor Zimmer, Lolye Barnes, Edith McEachron & sisters (Mina & Margaret), Bea Shepard, E. R. North, Peter DeBach, Paula Alby, Henry Schubel, E. Trost, Delia Drought, Alice Hulbert, Harold Mealy, Cora Bryant, Fred Dixon,

NEW DECK ENTRANCE  
 STEPS & PARKING (NORTH SIDE)  
 WHEEL CHAIR RAMP FROM MAIN ST.

NARTHEX

NAVE

SEATING  
 HANDICAP 7  
 REG 180  
 187

CHANCEL

ORGAN SOUND RM

PASTOR'S  
 OFFICE - STUDY

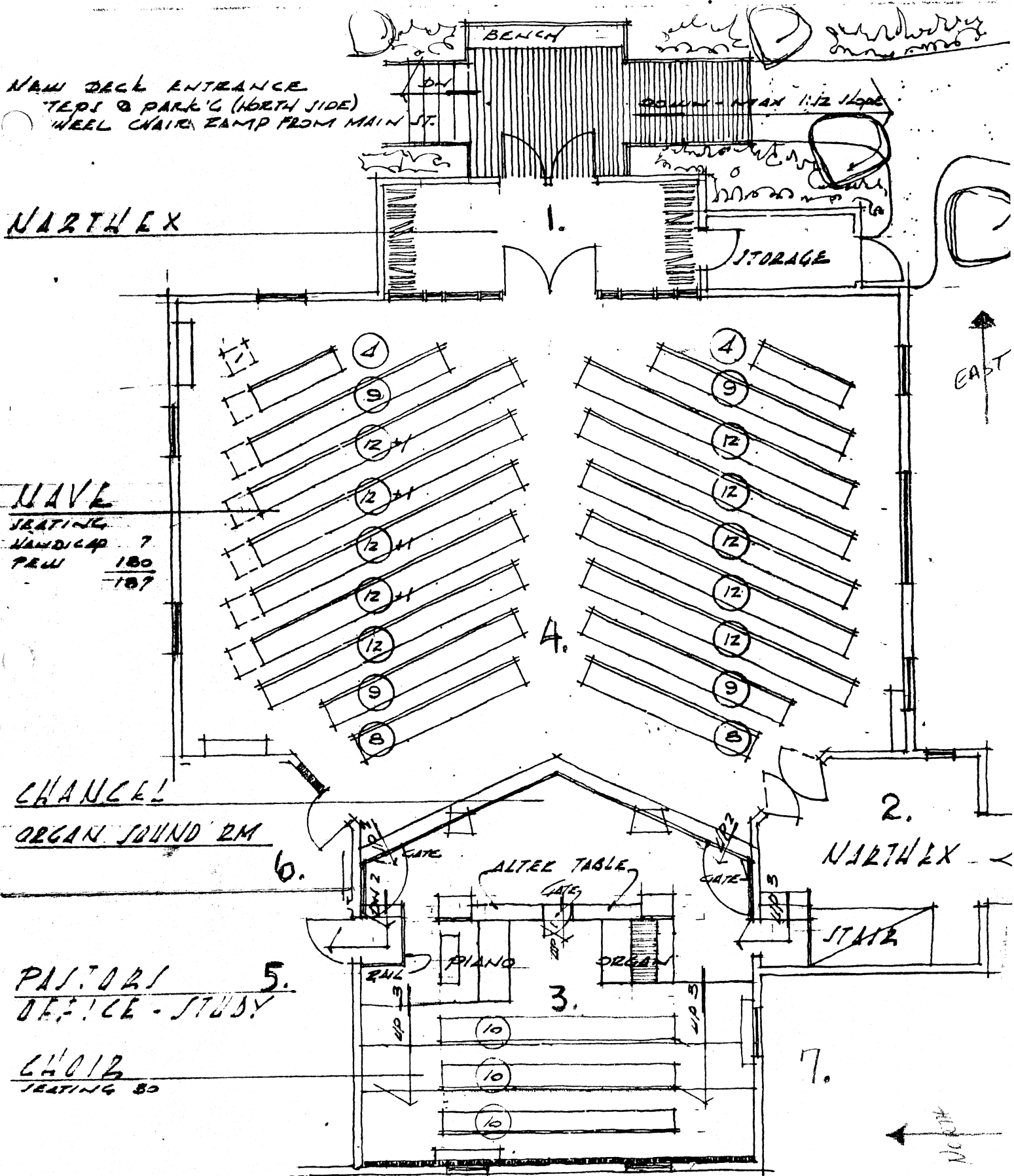
CHOIR  
 SEATING 80

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
 WATERFORD WISCONSIN

NAVE SEATING  
 SCHEME C 187

CLAY 1940 A.M. P.L.

104



CLAYTON L JUNO  
A Z L U I T L C T

19450 DAVISON ROAD  
VAUKELESA WISC. 53126

Feb.10,1980

Community United Methodist Church, Waterford, Wi.

Church remodeling & new east entrance

Excavations,concrete,& masonry.....	\$ 5730.00
Lumber (material only) .....	8500.00
Windows .....	1153.10
Barrowed Lite .....	1430.00
Millwork .....	6700.00
Carpentry .....	12000.00
Church Furniture .....	10135.85
Misc. Metals .....	2171.00
Cross Brackets .....	140.00
Lumber Connectors .....	250.00
Hardware .....	2974.00
Exterior Rail (allowance) .....	500.00
Dry Wall (allowance) .....	500.00
Painting (material only allowance) .....	500.00
Insulation (allowance) .....	1000.00
Sheet Metal .....	1400.00
Quarry Tile .....	2825.00
Carpet .....	3275.00
* Coat Racks .....	278.00
* Projection Screen .....	1316.00
Asphalt Shingles .....	300.00
Electrical (base) .....	11400.00
connection & nave .....	11620.00
Sound System .....	2820.00
Phones .....	650.00
Fans .....	400.00
Organ Work .....	350.00
Heating .....	1000.00
	<u>91317.95</u>

New Stair - Southwest Corner

Excavations,concrete,& masonry .....	\$11700 .00
Lumber (material only) .....	1223.00
Windows .....	420 .00
Millwork .....	980.00
Insulation .....	300.00
Wall Insulation & Drywall .....	750.00
Flashing .....	2000.00
Shingles .....	300.00
Painting (material only) .....	400.00
Carpet .....	360.00
Carpentry .....	1500.00
Hard Tile .....	1230.00
Misc. Metals .....	500.00
Electric .....	930.00
Heating .....	700.00
	<u>23293.00</u>



# 

AND LOAN ASSOCIATION

## 

TO: Community Methodist Episcopal Church

10/9/79

Name of Borrower

Date

318 West Main Street

318 West Main Street

Mailing Address

Location of Property

City Waterford

State WI

Zip 53185

City Waterford

State WI

Zip 53185

Loan No. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \$ 96,000.00

Term 30 years

Rate of Interest 11 %

Each monthly payment of \$ 914.30 beginning 6 SIX months after date hereof, or at the completion of construction whichever is sooner including Principal, Interest, and Escrow is due on the 1st day of each month.

Tax Key No. Tax Exempt

Tax District Village of Waterford

Amount of Loan

\$ 96,000.00

B. Appraisal Fee	Amount
Attorney Fee	\$ <u>650.00</u>
Loan Origination Fee	<u>960.00</u>
Credit Report	
Survey	
Title Policy	<u>506.50</u>
Recording Fees	<u>6.00</u>
State Transfer Tax (credit allowed by seller)	<u>56.00</u>

Total Settlement charges

\$ 2,178.50

C. Loan Disbursements to be made:  
payee

Merrill E. Stalbaum and Lucille A. Stalbaum

\$ 54,207.00

Construction L.P.

\$ 82,000.00

Total Loan Disbursements

\$ 136,207.00

D. Total Disbursements and Closing Charges

("B" plus "C")

\$ 138,385.50

Balance due Association

("D" minus "A")

\$ 42,385.00

## 

Principal and Interest \$ 914.30

T. Insurance

Life Insurance

Accident and Sickness

Total Payment

914.30

106

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of this statement, and agrees to the correctness hereof, and authorizes and ratifies the disbursement of the funds as stated herein.

Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Waterford, Wisconsin

By: David E. Steinke, Trustee

THIS IS A COPY OF THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE MEETING  
HELD ON JULY 1, 1979.

SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

July 1, 1979

Community United Methodist Church  
318 West Main Street  
Waterford, Wisconsin 53185

Peter Nelson Garcia, Pastor  
Shirley Gulick, Secretary  
Present: Members & friends  
who elected to stay

The meeting was called to order at 11:40 A.M. by Pastor Garcia who stated said meeting had met all the necessary requirements. It had been announced three times prior to its start, District Superintendent Richard Truitt had granted his permission and Pastor Garcia had submitted his written approval. (Both letters are a part of these minutes.) Also present were Architect Clayton Juno; Chairman of the Refurbishing Committee, Norman Keeker; and Verna Novak who, with her experience in real estate, was a member of the negotiating committee that met with Mr. Merrill Stalbaum. Following his opening remarks, Pastor Garcia prayed for God's wisdom and insight to conduct the business at hand.

Pastor Garcia, with the aid of our overhead projector, proceeded to show Clayton Juno's Scheme C. He mentioned that Mr. Juno had previously submitted two or three other sketches for consideration and Long Range Planning, the Board of Trustees and Administrative Council had selected Scheme C and its concepts as the preliminary sketch to work from. It was pointed out that we were unable to do any actual remodeling such as tearing down walls and relocating them because we would then have to update our complete facility to meet all the requirements of the present day code regarding the handicapped. As pertinent questions were made, Pastor Garcia stated there were three points to be considered:

1. Whether we shall follow the architect's Scheme C to redecorate and refurbish the church interior.
2. Whether we shall consider the purchase of the Stalbaum property that adjoins our church property immediately to the east; which would make the above-mentioned Scheme C more workable in that it would give us room to complete a new entrance and provide for more narthex space.
3. Whether we should use the Future Building Fund money that is in savings to purchase the above-named property.

Due to the type of questions asked, Items 2 and 3 were brought up somewhat prematurely. Our original line of presentation had been to consider each item individually before moving on to the next. At this point the question was asked, "How much money are we talking about?" Mr. Juno responded with the following figures:

1. Approximately \$50,000 to accomplish Scheme C.
2. \$10,000 to \$12,000 for the connection between the two properties.
3. Approximately \$7500 to remodel the Stalbaum house to make it functional in accordance with Scheme C as revised 6/24/79.

A lengthy discussion followed during which all questions were answered as factually as possible. The \$7000 Pew Fund was mentioned along with more than \$1000 which the Women's Society has available for new carpeting. No accurate figure on undesignated memorials was available. A motion was made by Beverly Schoedel to refurbish the sanctuary in accordance with Scheme C. Jean Cornelius seconded the motion. A short discussion followed and the vote was taken. A show of hands carried the motion with no dissenting votes. We now moved on to Point #2 above.



July 1, 1979

Community United Methodist Church  
Waterford, Wis.

Pastor Garcia said it was now time to consider whether we should purchase the Stalbaum property immediately east of our building. "How much will it cost?" Pastor Garcia stated that Mr. Stalbaum had offered the property to us for \$57,000. The negotiating team had met with Mr. Stalbaum and he made a final offer of \$56,000. This would seem to be a rather inflated price for this particular piece of property. "What would the actual market value be?" Verna Novak was called on to answer this question. She stated market value for this two-bedroom house with no garage and the fact that it is built beyond the acceptable lot-line limit would be about \$25,000. Add to that the land value and the total would be about \$45,000. It was brought out that in November 1977 an easement for walking or pedestrian space had been requested by Mr. Stalbaum and granted. This easement is ten feet wide on the south, or street side, of his property and goes for 70 feet to the north tapering to five feet at that point. The easement also includes parking space for two cars and access to a garage should Mr. Stalbaum decide to build one. He currently has a building permit to construct a garage. The easement prevents us from building a functional addition on the east side of our present facility.

Mrs. Novak stated that, when the negotiating team met with Mr. Stalbaum, two types of contracts had been submitted for his consideration. A cash purchase offer and a land contract were made. The land contract was for \$52,000 which would help his capital gains tax. Mr. Stalbaum was not interested in this offer. He would consider a trade of his property for another site of equal value. Other sites were offered and refused and are no longer available. In response to the feeling that \$56,000 was too much to pay, Mrs. Novak told of a church on County Trunk F and "ES." They have acquired property on which to build. They recently received bids on development of said property regarding a septic system. The cost to comply with all types of codes, including the DNR, would be well over \$50,000. We, as a church, have no property. Land is at a premium and most developers do not want to sell to a church because of the amount of land needed. It is all but impossible for us to consider relocation due to the inavailability of land, lack of funds if it were found and future increased costs involved. We have a centrally located facility which can be reached by walking if desired. The rear part of the Stalbaum property can be converted to much needed parking space.

"If we make an offer to Mr. Stalbaum to buy his property, how binding is such an offer?" Mrs. Novak stated there are several contingencies the buyer has to his advantage and a time period of approximately three weeks in which to employ them. First of all, we have to find a lending institution that will lend us the amount of money needed. "How much money will we need?" Norm Keeker said it would be hard to tell at this point. The church has some funds available. Beyond that Mr. Juno will have to prepare working drawings in order to get prices from the various sub-contractors. Norm suggested that Mr. Juno's suggested costs, even if they became reality, could be lowered if some of the work was done by capable church members. "What is the going interest rate?" Mrs. Novak offered that the current rate is 11-3/4% BUT, if we shopped around, we might be able to find it for between 10% and 11%. At this point, Fay Tichy made a motion that we, as a congregation, authorize the Board of Trustees to make an offer to purchase the Stalbaum property at his price of \$56,000. Bob Iverson seconded the motion. A show of hands carried the motion with three dissenting votes.

SPECIAL CHARGE CONFERENCE

July 1, 1979

Community United Methodist Church  
Waterford, Wis.

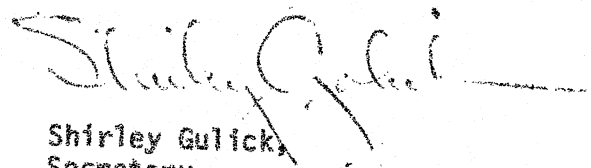
The question was asked, "Why can't we use paper ballots for voting?" Pastor Garcia stated that we could use secret ballot if requested. A small discussion followed. Pastor Garcia said it would not affect the voting that had already been done. We could use secret ballot for the next issue to come before the congregation. Irene Stelzner moved that we use secret ballot for voting on the use of the Building Fund. Evelyn Chapman seconded the motion. A show of hands disclosed three in favor and the balance of those present opposed. A small number of people left at this point.

Pastor Garcia stated the next, and final, subject to be considered was use of the Building Fund. Due to the lack of comprehensive minutes when the Building Fund was set up, it is now necessary to ask the congregation exactly how these funds may be used. Considering the plans that have been shown and discussed this morning, would it be possible to use the current Building Fund, which is at approximately \$17,000, to help pay for refurbishing and/or purchasing the Stalbaum property. A short discussion followed after which Don Porn moved that we use the future Building Fund for the purchase of the Stalbaum property and/or the refurbishing of our present structure. Tom Clement seconded the motion. Some questioned whether the motion included using the funds for the refurbishing. Yes, it did. The point was made that we are not likely to relocate in the very near future. With the new, and more attractive, interior of our church, we would probably attract more members. Even though Scheme C does not give more seating capacity, except for the 30 seats in the choir area, when our membership increases to the point it cannot be handled at one service, two services will be held. With a membership of that size, future building could be considered. A show of hands carried the motion with no dissenting votes.

"What about future donations to our Future Building Fund? Can they be used to help retire the debt we are about to incur?" A short discussion followed during which time it was suggested we change the name of the Future Building Fund to Debt Retirement Fund. Ron Tichy so moved and Beverly Schoedel seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Shirley Gulick,  
Secretary

cc: District Superintendent Richard Truitt  
Pastor Garcia  
Ron Swan, Chairman of Ad. Council  
Ron Tichy, Lay Leader  
Dave Steinke, Chairman of Board of Trustees  
Norm Keeker, Chairman of Refurbishing Committee  
Steve Dirks, Chairman of Long Range Planning

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
WATERFORD, WISCONSIN

JUNE 1979

Checkbook balance May 31, 1979.....	\$3,370.21
Received from Financial Secretary.....	5,067.60
	<u>\$8,437.91</u>

Disbursements

Salaries	\$1,617.86
Utilities (Parsonage \$83.53; Church \$190.66)	274.19
Conference: Apportionment	678.00
Program: Child Evangelism (Diana Bentley)	60.00
Operating expense:	

Office	\$252.93
Maintenance:	
Church	13.75
Parsonage	<u>53.95</u>

320.63

Capital Improvements:

Church: Bathroom doors	\$300.00
Redecorating: Architect fees	<u>304.00</u>

604.00

Camp Scholarships

490.00

Non-expense:

Parsonage: (draperies dry-cleaned - paid by donation)	\$ 30.72
Upper Room/DR	3.75
Refund of camp scholarship	<u>55.00</u>

89.47

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS.....

4,134.15

Checkbook balance June 30, 1979.....

\$4,303.76

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BUILDING FUND

MONEY MARKET CERTIFICATE.....	\$16,300.00
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PASSBOOK ACCOUNT: Balance May 31, 1979.....	\$742.95
Received in June.....	<u>237.00</u>
Balance June 30, 1979.....	\$979.95

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
WATERFORD, WISCONSIN  
1988

THE CALLEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY

Dorothy Bryant

The library at the church began with a nucleus of fifty-five books purchased with money given by friends and relatives in memory of John L. Callen, an active member of the church until his death in 1958. It was decided to name the new library THE CALLEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY, and it was first opened in 1968.

Harry and Nancy Watson chose the books originally purchased, and other books were later added with funds from the Sunday School budget. Interested church members as well as the Callen family continued to contribute to the effort. A set of Bible story slides was given by Arvilla Hansen. Rosemary Graf and Wilma Callen cataloged the volumes and set up a card index file and a system for checking items in and out.

Shelves were built in Fellowship Hall by C. A. Daugherty, making the collection accessible to Sunday School teachers and borrowers. Books could be checked out using the card file, but, unfortunately, more were taken out than were returned and many were "lost" over the years. Later glass doors were added to the shelves to avoid some of the dust collection.

Sometime in the '70's a decision was made to separate adult reading from the children's books, and shelves were built at the rear of the sanctuary. Books and magazines could be examined and checked out after service on Sundays. Children's reading remained downstairs.

Once again the library had to be moved when the interior of the sanctuary was reversed. When the purchase of the Annex was completed, shelving was arranged along the walls of the large room now being used for Sunday School. More and more books continued to be donated, many not on a selective basis. until piles and boxes of unsorted material became unmanageable and unsightly.

A decision to use the second small room of the Annex as a library seemed logical. In 1985 Paul Bixler removed the shelves from the large room and arranged shelving in the small room, and THE CALLEN MEMORIAL LIBRARY finally had a home of its own.

As of now (1988) this room is full of boxes and piles of books that need culling, cataloging, and displaying. A definite policy is needed concerning type and quality of the book collection, method of acquiring materials, and a workable plan for circulating the reading materials to the benefit of the church members.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **Callen Memorial <sup>1973</sup> Library Started at Methodist Church**

Waterford Methodist church has started a church school library of general religious reference works, books on child development and story and picture books for Sunday school pupils to read in class or at home.

It is named the Callen Memorial Library, in memory of the late John L. Callen of Waterford. Friends and relatives gave most of the funds in his name for the purchase of 55 books which are the nucleus of the new library. A number of other books have been donated by members of the congregation.

A card index and book charging system have been set up so church school pupils, teachers and members of the congregation can borrow volumes from the library, for a week at a time.

More books will be added to the library on a regular purchase basis, according to Mrs. Earl Ranke, church school superintendent. Funds for the purchases will be allocated from the annual church school budget. Suitable books also will be welcome as gifts, she said.

The library will be an "open shelf" type, so borrowers may look over the volumes and check out books themselves. The church school is now looking for suitable bookcases or shelving, either by purchase or gift, Mrs. Ranke said.

General reference works in the new library include the Westminster Historical Atlas, the Encyclopedia of Bible Life, the Complete Concordance of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible, The Bible as History, Harper's Bible Dictionary, the Abingdon Bible Commentary, the New Testament in Modern English, Bible Cyclopedia, The Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah and the Life and Epistles of Paul.

Child development books include These Are Your Children, Understanding Your Child, Children's Games from Many Lands, Let's Play a Story, The Storyteller in Religious Education, Use of the Bible With Children, Music in Christian Education, Religious Living with Nursery Children, Guiding Kindergarten Children, and books on work-

ing with various age groups in church schools.

For church school pupils themselves, there are such books as Tell Me About the Bible, Tell Me About Jesus, Tell Me About Christmas, Tell Me About Heaven, Tell Me About Prayer, Tell Me About God, Jesus, the Children's Friend, the Picture Book of Palestine, Old Testament Stories, Bible Stories, A Life of Jesus and others.

I came to Waterford as a bride in 1911. I joined the M. E. Church. Rev. Ellis was the Minister. Mrs. Alice Storms was the pianist. The church had a very good choir. Many fine male singers. Later Mrs. Walter Trost took over the piano and helped with the choir, she was pianist for several years. When Rev. Kurtz became our pastor, we had a wonderful choir and a very fine male quartet, the quartet consisted of Rev. Kurtz, Herman Trost, Charlie Trost and Archie Noble.

Many fine Sunday afternoons were spent in our home practicing, they sung at many of our evening services and many out of town functions. Rev. Kurtz was a very capable choir director, a very strict one; if you failed to come to choir practice you could not sing on Sunday; if you failed to come three times without a good excuse you were let out. Choir met at 7:30, if we were not there by 8 P.M. he would close the church and go home. His mastery shined by producing a wonderful choir. We were asked to sing at many occasions in Waterford and other towns. After Rev. Kurtz left and Mrs. W. Trost passed away, I Eleanor Trost took over piano and directing; after a number of years I still played, but gave up directing. Mr. H. Krueger took over the directing and he also proved a fine director. We were told many times by outsiders and summer visitors that for a small church we had an outstanding choir. Mr. Krueger's selections of anthems were splendid. We gave fine cantatas at Easter and Christmas. One year we presented part of the Messiah. After I resigned playing, Alice Hulbert took over the piano and later the organ. Some of our church members advised against buying the organ, they said we would have no one to play. Alice showed them they were mistaken.

Prof. Gordon, of Madison, heard of our choir and we were asked to sing with the choirs from all over the state to sing at the Methodist Ministers Convention held at the Auditorium in Milwaukee. It was a wonderful experience for the choir and Prof. Gordon told us we had an outstanding choir; fine compliment for Mr. Krueger and the singers. Dear Hila Krueger with her fine low voice thought best to stay home, thought she might have to sit with the men. Hila's fine low voice has always been a big asset to the choir.

Hilda<sup>3</sup> Nutke and Clarice Bolst<sup>4</sup> were the old reliables. No matter how bad the weather Mr. Krueger could always depend upon them being to choir practice. Mr. Krueger appreciated their cooperation; he could depend upon them to take over solo parts and duets. They were asked to sing at many weddings and funerals. Charlie Sherman, Mildred and myself enjoyed many years of singing in the choir in the winter we had them meet at our home to have the church save on light and heat. Time brings many changes. Many of the old singers have passed away; some have moved away and others getting to old to sing in the choir.

Daisy Buttles and her all girl choir is still equal to the occasion; you will hear them sing tonight. Daisy sang many solos in the early days; she and Charlie Trost sang many duets together. Alma Glueck, who recently passed away, did both voice and violin solo work for many years in our choir. Alma was a very capable musician. We will soon see changes in our present choir; several of our singers and our fine organist will be leaving. With the years comes progress and progress of necessity means

changes. With humble gratitude we give thanks to God for past opportunities permitted us to give our service through the medium of sacred song and music, the love of which never dies.

by Eleanor Trost



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SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMORIES

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A few cherished memories of my early  
Sunday School Days  
by  
Alice Barnes Tindall

It has been my pleasure for nearly 75 years to attend this Community Methodist Church and Sunday School. We had not just one hour, but six, one hour services each Sunday. At 9 A.M. we trudged up the hill to the little German Church School, with our little German book, which I still have. Emma Topp (Nehls) was our teacher and she gave to us each Sunday a tiny little flowery picture card with a German Bible verse on it to memorize. At 10 A.M. we came back to our own Sunday School. Mr. Thomas Moyle (our veterinarian) was my teacher and also Sunday School Superintendent for a long time.

His son Isaac (now Dr. Moyle) was one of my school mates and I can never forget, as we were sitting in class after Christmas. Isaac had received as a Christmas gift, one of those real large Ingersol Dollar watches. Of course, he kept taking it out of his pocket, so we could all see that he had one, and his father, in his loud gruff voice, yelled out "Ike, put that turnip in your pocket"; of course, every one in the class laughed and of course, it caused disturbance and I have never forgotten it.

For many years, I was the Sunday School artist and I copied the picture of the lesson on a large roll of black board and hung it up in the front of the church, so Superintendent Moyle, with a long pointer could review the lesson to the classes. From 11 to 12 o'clock we attended church service and at 3 P.M., Miss Amelia Moe (living in the red brick house next to the church) being an ardent admirer of Frances Willard, organized a Loyal Temperance Legion. It was at that time I signed the pledge and I have always kept my promise. After our Loyal Temperance Legion meeting, we used to love to go over to the Moe home and draw water from the old fashioned well and drink the cold, pure water from the old oaken bucket. We had time to go home and rest till the Epworth League and the evening Church Service. It was a busy day and I enjoyed it. I wish I could live it over again.

With Miss Eliza Groat as accompanist, I also directed a junior choir for a time. It was good while it lasted, but blame the rest on the choir director. I had the pleasure of singing with our church choir for many years till it was recently reorganized.

My happiest 18 years in late years was when I was Superintendent of the Cradle Roll and I have lived to see all my 40 Cradle Roll babies (grow up) in our church school.

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Following is a list of names of people who gave of their time and talents to carry on the very important work of the Sunday School. The list begins with the early days of Waterford Methodist Church and ends about 1970.

AMELIA MOE (1858)

MRS. ED. Groat

MR. BERT MOE (1891)

MISS BESELE MOE

MRS. DANA ALBEE

MRS. WM. POWERS

MISS ETHEL BUTTLES

MR. LON TITUS

MRS. RAYMOND BRYANT (45 YRS.)

MR. RAYMOND BRYANT

MR. & MRS. BUYNER

MR. ARCHIE NOBLE

MR. MELVIN HANSON

MRS. ARVILLA HANSON

MISS ALMA GLUECK

MRS. ALICE TINDALL

MRS. ALICE PAUL TINDALL

MR. & MRS. KEN. BRANDON

MRS. RUTH BEHLING

MISS IRMA COOK

MR. C. B. EDWARDS

MR. LYLE WEISENTHAL

MR. & MRS. JOHN CALLEN

MRS. CLARICE BOLET

MRS. LUCILLE BUTTLES

MRS. ALMA DIXON

MRS. RUTH LEE

MRS. ALICE HULBERT

MRS. HAZEL FECHRIEB

MRS. ALICE SMITH

MRS. HILA KRUEGER

MRS. RUTH BANTA

MR. HERMAN TROST (ADULT)

MABEL JOHNCOX

### PIANO ACCOMPANISTS

ESTHER STEINKE (Sec. for 13 yrs)

ELIZA AND GERTIE Groat

EDNA BARNES

LOIS GEMINER

JUDY HRUZ

IRENE MITSCH

KATHY STELZNER

KAREN JENSEN

ELEANOR TROST

ALICE HULBERT

The Sunday School was reorganized under the leadership of Alice Smith in the 1950's.

Departments arranged were:

HOME DEPARTMENT

GRADEE ROLL

ATTENDANCE

SECRETARY AND TREASURER

MUSIC

LIBRARY

NOTE: These names are from a list compiled by an unknown person. (Possibly Alice Tindall)

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Following is list of names of workers in the Sunday School compiled by Ruth Albee:

### SUPERINTENDENTS:

A. S. TITUS

THOS. MOYLE

1942-46 MELVIN HANSON

1946-53 MRS. SAM BOLDT  
MRS. BUENGER

1953- MRS. ALICE SMITH

1957 MRS. HARRY WATSON

1959 MRS. RUSSEL EDWARDS  
MRS. EARL RANKE

1962-63 MRS. MELVIN HANSON

1964-65 MRS. HARRY WATSON

1966-70 MRS. STEVE DIRKS

1970- MRS. GERTRUDE GARCIA

When I was superintendent of the Cradle Roll for 18 years, I built it up from about 4 to 40 babies to four years of age. I received a gift of \$25 when Rev. Shepard was our pastor, and I bought kindergarten chairs for the little ones. The gift was from Dr. Frank Newell of Burlington, who was brought up in our village and in our Sunday School.

ALICE BARNES TINDALL

### TEACHERS: (1949)

MRS. RAYMOND BRYANT

MARJORIE MOORE

SHIRLEY GULICK

MRS. NORMAN NELSON

MRS. LEONARD DIXON

MRS. KENNETH BRANDON

MRS. BARBARA (REBSTOCK) BUCHOLTZ

MRS. RUTH LEE

MRS. ALFRED BUTKE

MRS. ELMER SHEPARD

MRS. LYLE WEISENTHAL

### TEACHERS: (1965)

MRS. EARL PAYNTER

MRS. ROGER BUCHOLTZ

MRS. PETER LUKAS

MRS. CAUNE

MRS. JOE POTOKAR

MRS. JUNE GROSS

MRS. EARL RANKE

ELAINE SCHMIDT

BARBARA LEE

ROBERT HILL

MRS. TOM GULICK

MRS. EM. WERNER

MRS. JOHN CALLEN

MRS. PAUL BIXLER

MRS. M. J. CHAPMAN

ALICE PAULL (TINDALL)

MRS. MELVIN HANSON

MRS. ALICE HULBERT

MRS. LEE BUTTLES

was 6 years old when I first attended Sunday School in 1891. I have a  
 iday School ~~paper~~ dated 1886. Amelia Moe was our teacher and leader.  
 She taught us to get down on our knees and make our own prayers. We  
 gave 10¢ in our Loyal Temperance Union services in the afternoon which  
 went to Frances E Willard in Chicago and in return we received a card  
 with a verse and her autograph. In the fall my grandfather who owned  
 and ran a sawmill and lumber yard had a cider press and every Sunday  
 I had to sign a pledge during the season. Sundays were very busy days  
 We went to German Sunday School. Our lesson and singing was all in German.  
 We received cards with Bible verses in German. Mrs Emma Nehls was our  
 teacher and Herman Trost our Superentendent. Then we attended our own  
 Sunday School, then church and in the afternoon Loyal Temperance Union.  
 In the evening Epworth League and Church services. In those days  
 there was the primary, intermediate and Bible Class. In this class was  
 Mr. Moyle and Mr. Foxwell who were ~~Millian~~<sup>Millenium</sup> and Mr Wall~~man~~<sup>mann</sup> and some  
 very heated discussions arose. A school mate of my mothers, Marth Stone Roe  
 wrote that Amelia Moe was their first Sunday School teacher in the 1865's  
 ~ 70's.

Amelia Moe  
 Mrs Great  
 Bessie Moe  
 Bert Moe  
 Mrs Wm Powers  
 Mrs Dana Albee  
 Mr Lon Titus  
 Ethel Buttlles  
 Mr Raymond Bryant  
 Mrs. Cora Byrant 16-50 yrs primary  
 Rev. & Mrs Bynger (Buenger)  
 Mr & Mrs Melvin Hanson  
 Mrs. Alice Paul Tindall  
 Mr & Mrs. Brandon  
 Mr. & Mrs. John Callen  
 lma Gulick Glueck  
 rs Ruth ~~Schulte~~<sup>Schubel</sup> Behling  
 Irma Cook  
 Mr. C.B. Edwards

Lyle Wiesenthal  
 Clarice Boldt  
 Hazel Froehrich Frohrieb  
 Alma Dixon  
 Ruth Lee  
 Esther Steinke Sect. played organ  
 13 years old on  
 Elisa and Gertie Groat  
 Edna Barnes  
 Lois Albee Geminer  
 Judy Hruza  
 Alice Smith reorganized our S.S.  
 and made it what it is today under  
 the leadership of Mrs. Wets. Watson

## List of Teachers and Officers

Amelia Moe 1858

Mrs. Ed Groat

Bert Moe

Bessie Moe

Mrs. Dana Albee

Mrs. Wm Powers

Mr Lon Titus

Ethel Buttles

Mrs. Raymond Bryant -Primary 45 yrs

Mr Raymond Bryant

Rev and Mrs. ~~Bymgar~~ *Buenger*

Mr. and Mrs Melvin Hanson

Mr Archie Noble

Mrs. Alice Paul Tindall

Mr & Mrs Ken Brandon

Mrs Alice Barnes Tindall

Alma Gluick

Mrs. Ruth <sup>u be l</sup> ~~Schable~~ Behling

Irma Cook

Mr C B Edwards

Lyle Wiesenthal

Mr & Mrs Callen

Clarice Boldt

Mrs. Lucile Buttles

Alma Dixon

Ruth Lee

Hazel ~~Freehrich~~ *Frohrieb*

Mrs Alice Hulbert

Mrs Alice Smith

## Piano

Esther Steinke Sect 13 yrs-on.

Eliza and Gertie Groat

Edna Barnes

Lois Albee Gemier

Judy Hruz - present

Our Sunday School was reorganized under the able leadership of Alice Smith who made it what it is today under the Supertendent Mrs. Nancy Watson

165 registered

13 classes

15 teachers

6 other departments

Homeddepartment - Thor

Cradle Roll - Lewein

Attendance - Dixon

SEct and Treasure - Edwards

Music - Alby

Library - Swain

Way back in the days, almost beyond recall (in 1850) there was a little red brick school house. Was built on the site where our present graded school ) which was used for town hall and church as it was the only public building having sufficient seating capacity for a large assemblage. There were few musical instrument used in churches then but every Sunday for morning services two men might be seen carrying between them Ellen Chapman's little four octave melodion and at the close of the services returning it. If another service was held in the afternoon the old fashioned tuning fork was brought out to get the current pitch for the singing.

This little red school house was used for church services until 1859 when the First Congregational was build where the present High School is located. The auditorium was as much to high and difficult to heat as the school room in the basement was to low and overheated. After years of struggle and discomfort the membership of the church became so reduced in number by death and removal that it was impossible to give a pastor adaguate support. Then the English and German Methodists were allowed to hold religious services there until each society built a church of its own. (M.E. 1874 remodled after fire in 1898) One Sunday as Ed Groat, who lived near the church started from home to ring the bell for Sunday School he said to his wife "Now Mary, I am going to try to ring the bell as well as that German Methodist " and he did and more for when he returned he returned he said, "Mary, I don't know what to do. The bell is caught in the belfry and I can't pull it down". In a few days a severe wind storm arose and the steeple was seen to sway and the bell together with the steeple came down on the village green. The new German Methodist church needed a bell and there will be found the last relic of the once imposing First Congregational Church of Waterford, Wisc.

The first records I have of a Minister was in 1881. Nis name was Rev. E. B. Lounsbury.

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## CHURCH LADIES

No history is complete without a special word of praise for the perpetual energies of the women of the church. Many churches would have had to close during the depression had it not been for the determined work of the members of the Ladies Aid. Support of the budget, needed repairs and improvements to church buildings and parsonages, enlisted their support. They worked at bake sales, bazaars, suppers and ice cream socials. They sold dish cloths, metal sponges and vanilla on the side. "Even though they fussed and fumed and said they couldn't and they wouldn't, they have pitched in and helped the Finance Committee out of their worst predicaments." In 1904 the General Conference recognized their importance and asked that their reports be a part of the Conference data.

According to our records the first meeting of the German Ladies Aid Society was held in the H. Brier home in 1901; while the first gathering of the English Ladies Aid was at the Albert Noll home in 1897.

Women's activities in the church were reorganized in 1940, with the union of Methodist Protestant Church, Methodist Episcopal Church and Methodist Episcopal South. The confusion was great as it was hard to give up the old and unite in new causes. Our organizational meeting was held Sept. 26, 1940, with 52 charter members.

Again in October 1968, the WSOS was united with the Wesleyan Service Guilds and another organizational meeting was held with 33 charter members. They are now designated as UMW.

Under the WSOS the church women were divided into Afternoon Circle and Evening Circle (known for a few years as the Friendly Circle).

Under the UMW the Afternoon Circle continues as such--meeting the first Thursday of each month. The general meetings are held quarterly and in the evening. A Morning Circle was started January 27, 1971, as a study group.

The women of the church have been divided into groups, or teams, in times past, under such titles as: Busy Bees, Go Getters, Friendship Forty, Helpful Hands, Marry Marthas, Rebeccas, Esthers, Faith, Hope and Charity. Naturally this created a strife between groups in the earning of funds. The sums represented the monetary rewards, but the number of hours worked, the friendships formed, and the general goodwill of the church could never be measured.



## OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL

by Ginny Gilhuber

1985

I (Ginny Gilhuber) Was Sunday School Superintendent from September, 1981, through December, 1985. Pastor Garcia had asked me to become superintendent after Faye Tichy moved to Union Grove. Before Faye, Bill Sherman had been superintendent until he felt led (along with Dan and Tom Clement families) to help form a more charismatic church in Burlington. Early in 1981 they formed the CORNERSTONE CHURCH in Burlington. I believe that Donna Etters had served as Sunday School Superintendent in the 1970's before they moved to Tennessee.

Through the years from 1981-1985 the size of the staff ranged from ten to thirteen. Dave Chapman was secretary when I began, and then Leora Horner who served from 1983 to the present. Those who willingly served as teachers were: (If I've omitted anyone, I apologize)

ADULT CLASSES: Pastor Garcia  
Steve Dirks  
Ann Dirks

TEENAGERS:	Dave Sandelius	Jim Tertin
	Bob Iverson	John Wulz
	Bob Goetsch	Ann Martinek
	Bev Schoedel	Rich Leipzig
	Debbie Tertin	

JR. HIGH:	Pat Staege	Mary Krogh
	Mark Antczak	Gayle Koscinski

GRADES 3-6:	Norman Keecker	Sue Bobo
	Carla Keecker	Freda Goetsch
	Linda Kramer	

GRADES K-2:	Mary Iverson	Sue Dirks
	Phyllis Bixler	Jill Ernst
	Shanette Kramer	Jackie Reidel
	Ginny Gilhuber	Debbie Bienemann
	Shawn Buck	Bernie Bobo
	Shirley Mendez	Marie Wolke
	Karen Dirks	

SUB. TCHERS:	Carol Antczak	Harold Robbins
	Dorothy Swanson	Connie Bullock
	Gordie Gilhuber	

Attendance fluctuated from 100 in 1980 to 70 in 1983, and sometimes in the 90's in 1986. About 1/3 of these were adults. GOSPEL LIGHT, SCRIPTURE PRESS, and STANDARD PUBLISHING were three companies from which materials were purchased.

The Sunday School Christmas Programs were directed by Ginny Gandt, Faye Tichy, Ginny Gilhuber, and Gayle Kozinski. In 1984 Jackie Reidel made 11 new nativity costumes - even ram, cow, and donkey outfits for the littlest children. They were a HIT! Teens performed a play "My Heart, Christ's Home" which was very dynamic. In 1985 the kids participated in a play which contrasted challenges of Christ's with those facing kids today. Jimmy Bonewall and Tina Cheever directed the Children's Choir and other music.

For one and one half years Children's Church was held from the end of 1981 through June of 1983. It was held on the last Sunday of the month for the first six months, then every other Sunday for the next six months and finally every Sunday. Ages 4 through 4th graders attended from sermon time to the end of the church service. Songs, stories, games of projects, and a treat were part of our children's churchtime. Pastor Garcia began and encouraged its growth as a ministry to the children. Pastor Cheever preferred the children in the family service. Mary Krogh, Mary Iverson, Connie Bullock, Mona Mendez, and Ginny Gilhuber worked with the children.

During these years, Vacation Bible School was usually planned for June, about a week after school was out. Faye Tichy, Pastor Garcia, Linda Kramer, Ginny Gandt, and Ginny Gilhuber headed various VBS times, emphasizing outreach and evangelization of the neighborhood children as well as our own Sunday School members. Themes have been. "Jesus, Your Word Lives In Me"; "Jesus, I Love You"; "Jesus, I Believe In You"; "Peter, From Fisherman to Follower".

FIVE-DAY CLUBS have been held for one week each summer usually in August. A teacher from Child Evangelism Fellowship usually leads the children in songs, Bible story, missionary story, and prayer. It is a week of enrichment and outreach to neighborhood children. Many ask Jesus into their hearts. About 4 to 8 homes hostess this each year providing a backyard or family room to hold the club and a treat for those attending.

The CAMP FUND has been built and encouraged through the Men's Club's yearly chili supper. Each year 7-15 kids receive money to help with a camp fee to summer camp at a Christian campground, a super experience that helps build and enrich faith outdoors.

Through the years several missionaries have spoken to the children. We've also had films of interest. Puppeteers have entertained us and challenged us. A Harvest Party was held as was a Christmas Party. Many Family Roller Skates and competitive Sunday School Picnics in late September have stimulated our fellowship.

In March of 1985, ten teachers attended the Sunday School Teachers Convention in Chicago.

At the end of 1985 I am giving the job of Sunday School Superintendent over to Bob Iverson.

\* \* \* \* \*

RECOLLECTIONS OF CHURCH  
AND CHOIR

by Dorothy Bryant 1984

Waterford and the Methodist Church have been a part of my life as long as I can remember. My mother, Nora Smith, born in the Tichigan area, was a cousin of Ruby Miller, Bessie Gulick, and Pearl Morse, all members of the church, and, consequently, our family often visited in Waterford. I remember staying a week with Ethel Gulick (Kopling) at their home north of Waterford Bank on Highway 36, and we walked the village and the stones across the dam.

When it was time to start high school, my parents decided on Waterford although we lived in Franklin in Milwaukee County. My father, I. Kotvis, would drive us (my sisters and I) to Waterford on Sunday afternoon to our boarding house on Main Street run by Mrs. Linda Trost, sister of Alma Glueck, and we would be here in time to attend the Youth meetings at the church conducted by Rev. Kurtz. We attended many Youth parties at Eleanor Trost's home which was always open to young people, and we enjoyed games and much music. I can still see the delicious dark chocolate layer cake with custard filling and white frosting dribbled with dark chocolate, which was usually a part of these parties. These were gay fun times. We returned home on weekends by riding the T.M.E.R.&L, electric train to St. Martins where Dad picked us up on Friday afternoon.

Music was always a great part of our family. My father was well-known for his singing in a male quartet in the Raymond Congregational Church, and it was there I sang my first solo at age four. Later, my sister Ruth and I sang duets accompanied by my other sister Mildred, and we were known as the "Kotvis Sisters" singing at many churches and church picnics throughout the county.

When Mrs. Trost died in the summer of 1927, my sisters and I boarded with the Dana Albee family, another Methodist family. Their large home accommodated many boarders, at that time Miss Clara Haines, a long-time English teacher at Waterford High School and Carl Schweerer, the phy-ed teacher. I remember eating meals around the large dining table, Mr. Albee appearing not too well, but Mrs. Albee very energetic and busy. Ruth was not living at home as she worked somewhere in the Chicago area, although she came some occasionally, and I remember her from that time. It was that year that Nell Albee (later Nell Mealy) traveled around the world bringing back many interesting items and stories.

My marriage to Lloyd Wallmann Bryant brought me into one of the foremost families of the Waterford Methodist Church. His grandfather, George Wallmann, was an early settler of Waterford, operating a furniture store and undertaking establishment, and his grandmother, Caroline Trost Wallmann, was a part of the Trosts who all took active parts in the Methodist Church. Their two daughters, Cora Wallmann Bryant and Esther Wallmann Steinke and their husbands Raymond Bryant and John Steinke, respectively, all worked to carry on in the church. Lloyd's mother Cora worked as Sunday School teacher and superintendent for 45 years.

At the time of our marriage in 1935, Lloyd's grandfather and father were not living, both having died in 1933. Raymond Bryant was a volunteer fireman in Waterford and died of a heart attack while answering a fire call. The Waterford Methodist church was filled with friends at his funeral as he was well-known as a former principal of the Graded School and a grocer and dry-goods store owner. His store was on Main Street at the location of now Audrey's Restaurant.

I transferred my membership from the Raymond Congregational Church to Waterford Methodist and began to sing in the choir. It was at the time that Alma Glueck, who sang at ~~weddings~~, often sang and played her violin at church services. I remember singing a solo with her accompaniment. Mrs. Eleanor Trost, Mildred and Sherman Trost, and Hilda Butke were all singing and Clarice Boldt (Bethke) also came about that time and sang many soprano solos. Our stay in the church was short as Lloyd's work took us away from Waterford for the next fifteen years.

When we returned to Waterford in the early '50s, it was natural that we once again returned to the Methodist Church, and I once again joined the choir. It was having its usual problem with lack of men's voices. However, the choir had gained a powerful soprano voice in Lillian Alby, and her voice dominated the group. It was always a thrill for me to hear her sing as her voice with no amplification could literally "raise the roof", and with a very high range also. I always thought she could have made a career of her singing. When Cyril Barnes became principal of the graded school, his wife became the director of the choir. She had a very low alto voice and could read any vocal part, and seemed a natural that she, Lillian, and I should form a trio, with my part being second soprano. I can also read music vocally, so we could sing trios with a minimum of practice, and we seemed to have a natural blend. We sang many times in our own church as well as being invited to other places. Our special number was "HE", and I recall the morning in church when Joyce Sheard who was then a young high school girl and the church piano accompanist, and who was an excellent pianist but played often "by ear", started our song on the wrong key. By the second phrase we couldn't reach the low level she was taking us, and we had to start the number over from the beginning in a higher key. Embarrassing! Lillian Alby and the Barnes family both left Waterford so that ended the trio.

When Dr. Buchal came to Waterford as the veterinary assistant to Dr. Dirks and he and his family joined the Methodist Church, music really received a boost. Dr. Buchal's singing voice thrilled everyone - such a beautiful true baritone - and his rendition of "The Lord's Prayer" will never be forgotten. He joined the choir and his voice carried the entire choir men's section. He agreed to do some directing also, although busy with his work as a veterinarian. His wife was also interested in music and took over the direction of the Youth Choir when Hilda Butke resigned. She admired the way in which Hilda was able to develop harmony with these young people and wanted to carry on. The Buchal children were all talented musically, and

for nine years Ann Buchal worked with the Youth Choir, developing part singing and an enthusiastic group of singers. Students from the high school brought their instruments and accompanied the singers with instrumental music. The demand from area churches for their performance was proof of the success. The Buchal home was open to the young people, so the Choir became a means of youth fellowship for these teens. Ann was honored when she retired, and none was able to carry on her work as it requires special ability to interest and hold High School age young people. We were all sorry it had to end. Dr. Buchal continues to sing at funerals, weddings, and special affairs, but working now as an independent veterinarian does not have time for more.

When the Louis Towne family came to Waterford in the 1970's, once again the church benefitted musically. The choir gained a beautiful soprano voice and solos were enjoyed regularly until the family decided to move to Australia to live. They have since returned but found a home in Burlington. Occasionally Lois comes back as a guest soloist.

Choir directors seldom receive the attention and appreciation they deserve. Every week they must find music that is suitable, meet with the choir for rehearsals, and be present on Sunday morning to direct. Alma Glueck, Eilda Butke, Hallie Krueger, Gerturde Barnes, Lorie Hofius, Dr. Buchal, Ann Buchal, and presently, Virginia Gandt all have given of their time willingly. Accompanists must also be present at each rehearsal and morning service. Those I remember are Eleanor Trost, Ruth Schubel, Alice Hulbert, Joyce Sheard, Jane Deak, and, recently, Kathy Stelzner and Laverne Edwards, who has been our organist since about 1960 and can always be depended upon now in 1984. One wonders who will carry on when Virginia and Laverne decide to quit.

Presently Beverly Schoedel and her beautiful soprano voice and knowledge of vocal music is the mainstay of the adult choir. She is a conscientious and dedicated member of the choir, seldom missing a rehearsal or morning service. Duets by her and Mary Porn, who should have been listed above as a pianist, have added much to the music on Sundays when the choir is absent. I have been singing with the choir occasionally and still enjoy it. Let's hope there will always be those willing to devote their time and talents to the music of the church.

1984

METHODISM IN WATERFORD by

CLARICE BETHKE (1984)  
Sept. 9

METHODISM by

CLARICE BETHKE (1984)  
Mar. 18



Carolyn can also be seen at work at the Waterford Library and the Burlington Hospital. She is very proud of this town and its heritage and quite knowledgeable of its history. Though her two other brothers no longer reside in Waterford, Emery's son, David, and his wife, Ronette, are residents and also members of the Methodist Church.

Cora and Raymond Bryant had a son, Lloyd Bryant, who married Dorothy Kotvis, who is also still a member of the church and is very active in preserving its history.

The longest-standing member of the Community United Methodist Church in Waterford is Carolyn Hruz. Her recollection holds stories about her family life as part of the church congregation, as well as their part in the formation and growth of Waterford.

In 1954, Fred C. Wallman, a cabinet maker, who was Hruz's great-grandfather, came to Waterford, from Germany. One day, as a man named F.C. Wallman was at the



Carolyn Hruz holds an altar rail that was turned years ago by George Wallman, who helped found the Waterford Methodist Church.

(Toni Schneider photo)

## Many names remain familiar throughout church's history

George Wallman married Caroline Trost, and they were parents of Esther Wallman, who married John Steinke, and Cora Williams, who married Raymond Bryant. Cora taught Sunday school in the Methodist church for over 45 years and both sisters served as financial secretary and treasurer for many years with no salaries. John Steinke served as usher of the church, also for many years.

Esther and John's children were Carolyn Steinke, who married Harry Hruz, Earl Steinke, who married Virginia Ridout, Carlyle and Emery, both who no longer live in Waterford.

Earl, who took over his father's plumbing and heating business, was baptized by the Rev. W.C. Kurtz at the Methodist Church and is still an active member.

Carolyn Steinke Hruz was baptized in 1914 by the Rev. S.L. Sizer and became a member of the church at the age of 13 and has been a very dedicated and hard-working member ever since.

Burlington Depot waiting for a load of goods, he was approached by a stranger, who asked if there was a German Methodist church near.

When he was told there was none in Waterford, he introduced himself as a minister and offered to preach if Wallman could find a hall or suitable building. An old brick school was secured and this was the place of the first German Methodist service held in Waterford.

George Wallman, his son, was born in Waterford in 1860, and was a member of the Waterford Methodist Church until his death in 1933.

In 1868, the German Society planned to build a church, and the site at Main and Racine streets was chosen. The pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned by George Wallman, then a boy of 14, working in his father's cabinet shop.

He was also the first licensed embalmer in Racine County, directing many funerals and using a horse-drawn hearse that his father built. The old Wallman home and undertaking business was later sold to Harry Mealv.



## Methodism

Sunday morning service at Waterford on March 18, 1984, by Clarice J. Bethke.

There will be no regular service this morning, just a history of Methodism Bicentennial. There will be no history class and no final test. With that I shall endeavor to give you a brief history of how Methodism came to be.

What is Methodism? Ask six people and you may get six different answers. I shall try in the following minutes to explain what Methodism is.

The original Methodist, John Wesley, had no doubt. He said that a Methodist is a person whose faith and life are what the Bible says faith and life ought to be.

The Bible says a lot about people searching to find God. Abel was seeking the Lord when he sacrificed in ancient times. Abram, the Hebrew Patriarch, was seeking God when he left his home in the City of Ur.

Another seeker was John the Baptist, last of the old Testament prophets. He kept looking for Christ. God came to walk and talk among ordinary people. The list of God searchers is long. Paul, Augustine---Francis of Assise...Martin Luther...Calvin...Wesley...Asbury...Finney...Moody...E. Stanley Jones...George Washington Carver...and many, many others. The list goes on and on.

Here is where the life of John Wesley touches us. He was a man who searched desperately for God. Once he really met God, the 35 year-old Anglican Priest embarked on the believer's search to know and serve better the God who warmed his heart at Aldersgate and who touched him the same night with the Holy Spirit fire. Through Wesley's two-fold search God kindled one of the mightiest religious movements in history.

Methodism developed from a movement in the church of England in the 18th century, with the evangelistic works of John and Charles Wesley, and George Whitefield.

John Wesley was born June 28, 1703, the 15th child of the Rev. Samuel Wesley and his wife Susanna, only 10 of whom survived. Samuel was a priest of England's official denomination, the Anglican Church.

There was no public school for children in those days, so John's mother was teacher for the Wesley children. How to pray was one of the earliest lessons. Each child was taught the alphabet on his or her fifth birthday. Of course, the Bible was the Wesley's primary reader. John Wesley learned Hebrew and Greek, so he was able to read the Bible in the original languages. He studied theology at the University of Oxford, and then was ordained a deacon in 1725. He preached, he baptized infants by immersion. He said thousands of formal prayers and served Holy Communion.

Nobody grew more inside the church than John Wesley; but he did not really find God until his 35th year.

In October of 1735, John and Charles Wesley went to Georgia as Anglican missionaries, with Benjamin Ingham and Charles Dadaumontte. John was sent out by the Anglican Society for the propagation of the gospel, and hoped to labor as an Anglican Missionary among the Indians. On board the ship Simmonds, on the way to America, Wesley met some German Moravians whose simple piety impressed him. Their calm confidence amid the Atlantic storms convinced Wesley that he did not possess the faith which casts out fear. Wesley needed help for he was beset by difficulties. During his missionary work among the Indians he had many interesting conversations with them, but the mission was found to be impractical, and in 1738 he returned to England.

Like many others before and since, Wesley thought he was a Christian because he had Godly parents; because he belonged to the church and did what the church prescribed. These things were helpful in preparing Wesley to be converted. But his faith remained like a

a light not plugged in, until he realized that Christ's death upon the cross had been for him, until he realized that Jesus' atoning death on Calvary had cancelled out his sins and made him fully a child of God, (Gal. 3:26). John Wesley, after God touched him personally did have the faith he had searched for so intensely.

At Christ Church College, Oxford, England, John and Charles established what came to be known as "The Holy Club". Jeering college students scoffed at these Methodists who tried systematically to serve God every hour of the day.

On May 2, 1738 John Wesley was invited to attend a Bible Study group led by a layman. Wesley went unwillingly, according to his Journal. While the layman, reading Luther was describing the change which God works in the heart through faith in Christ, John Wesley's heart was strangely warmed as Luther's preface to the Romans was being read. This is the event observed in some Methodist churches as Aldersgate Sunday.

Wesley did not experience God until he trusted Jesus Christ alone for salvation. Christ became the center of his faith and redemption, fulfilling Jesus' own words "No man cometh unto the father but by me" (John 14:6).

Methodism was brought to the American Colonies before the Revolutionary War. Methodist societies sprang up in a triangle area between New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Our great Methodist movement has been evangelistic and missionary in spirit. The command of our Lord to go into all the world and preach the gospel has been taken in serious and prayerful obedience. Without apology the Methodist institution must seek to win its students to Christ. Our schools must be Christian without apology and Methodist with pride. The Wesleys sought to live the Christian life through methodical study and devotion, hence the name Methodist.

Wesley approved the new church and sent 25 articles of religion from England adopted from the 39 articles of the Church of England to serve as a doctrinal basis.

The first Annual Conference was held in Philadelphia in 1773.

At a Christmas Conference in Baltimore, Md. in 1784 the Methodist Episcopal Church was formally organized as separate from the English Methodist structure. The heads of the American structure were Francis Asbury and Thomas Coke.

After the historical Christmas Conference the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States had a steady and substantial growth and began writing a discipline setting forth a constitution and body of laws to govern the church.

Actually the development of the conference system of Methodism had its humble beginnings in London in June, 1744. John Wesley called together ten preachers, six of whom were clergymen of the Church of England, and four of whom were lay preachers, to consider with him certain questions which he presented. After discussion of these questions by the group, the answers were recorded for the most part in the terse, direct language of Mr. Wesley. From this lowly origin is the old Faneuil Church in London, there has grown up a simple and workable system of conferences.

As the church has grown in numbers, the one small conference which was held each year by John Wesley from 1744 until his death has developed into six conferences. To each conference certain duties or functions have been assigned by the Discipline of the church. They are:

1. The General Conference  
which meets once in four years.
2. The Jurisdictional Conference  
which meets once in four years.
3. The Quarterly Conference  
which meets once a year.
4. The Annual Conference  
which meets once a year.
5. The District Conference  
which meets once a year.
6. The Church Conference  
which meets once a year.

The one law-making body of the Methodist Church is THE GENERAL CONFERENCE, which has full power in matters of a general nature. Conditions, privileges, and duties of Church Ministerial duties are determined by it.

The JURISDICTIONAL CONFERENCE came into being in 1939 as a part of the Plan of Union. They elect their own Bishops, determine the boundaries of their Annual Conferences and promote the evangelistic, education, missionary and benevolent programs of the church,

The Annual Conference meets once a year, at which time Pastors, District Superintendents and other ministers are assigned to their work for the following year. The Appointments are read at the close of the Annual Conference.

The Quarterly Conference is the basic body of control within a pastoral charge. It transacts the business committed to it by the Discipline. It determines courses of action to recommend proper persons for license to preach or lay speakers.

Methodism spread westward with the new nation. The primary impetus to expansion was provided by the circuit rider and the revival meeting.

Methodism believes there is no substitute for the New Birth. This experience is but a requirement. One may choose to either accept or reject it, but there is no alternative to life eternal apart from a spiritual birth. Jesus made this quite clear when He said to Nicodemus, "Ye must be born again". John 3:7.

As in England, so in America, John Wesley laid the foundation for the Methodist Church. The first meeting house in America was in New York and dedicated October 30, 1708. As the work in America grew the second call for help was sent to Wesley in England. Richard Writhe and Francis Asbury were sent, reaching Philadelphia on October 27, 1771. Asbury soon became the leading force in American Methodism, and was appointed by Wesley as assistant superintendent for America. On December 24, 1784, the first Methodist Episcopal church was formally organized. The Articles of Religion and the Sunday service prepared for Methodists was adopted. By the time of Asbury's death in 1816 there were 200,000 Methodists and more than 700 ordained preachers.

The Methodist Church South was organized in 1830 in Baltimore. The major bodies of Methodism so modified their rules as to give laymen, including women, the desired recognition. This helped to open the way for union.

On May 17, 1845 a resolution was adopted by which the Annual Conference in the slave-holding states were constituted a separate ecclesiastical connection under the Plan of Separation. Thus the Methodist Episcopal Church South was organized.

In May of 1939, the Methodist Episcopal Church, The Methodist Episcopal Church South, and the Methodist Protestant Church formulated a plan of union which each of the three churches adopted. Thus three major American Methodist Communions became the Methodist Church.

In 1968 The Methodist Church merged with the Evangelical United Brethren Church to form the United Methodist Church, which is the name by which we are presently known.

John Wesley never renounced his ties with the church of England. He always believed that those who truly repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ are born again. It's as simple as that. The Spirit bears witness to those who are born again, that they are children of God and joint heirs with Jesus Christ, the Son. The witness of the Spirit may be said to be the distinguishing doctrine of Methodism.

Now after all this we haven't laid John Wesley to rest. He was born in Epworth, England, in June of 1703. After a colorful career in serving the Lord he died in London, March 2, 1791 at the age of 88 years.

I would like to close with a paragraph taken from the Methodist Primer which pretty well sums up what Methodism is all about: And I quote - "Methodism has always believed in and emphasized the necessity of the New Birth. Our church's passion for evangelism grows out of the firm conviction that man must be born again. One who has not been born again is living according to the customs of this world, the desires of this world, alienated from God. In order to be saved one must be born again". If you have not been born again I earnestly urge you to give the matter immediate, serious consideration. There may never be a tomorrow.

## Methodism in Waterford by

Given by Mrs. Clarice Bethke, on Sunday morning, September 9, 1984

Who can say just where and when a church originates. So many beliefs and principles are based on those of our forebears and passed down from generation to generation. It is of these early days--days of beginnings of our church that we would dwell on today.

When we speak of the origin and history of our various churches we must ask why they were established. Why we shared with so many other denominations; and what of their history throughout the years. The sharing of places of worship, until each denomination could fend for itself, seems to be the common background.

I would call to your attention, as we go along, the relationship the churches had with the school, and then think of all the controversy between the church and the schools we are having today, under the guise of church and state.

From the diaries, records, and memories of older members we have gleaned the following bits of information. Many of these dear people have gone on to be with the Lord.

Perhaps a bit of history of Waterford itself will set the background for the religious leanings of its early settlers. Waterford is located in a portion of the territory ceded to the United States Government by the treaty of 1833, with the Petawatomi and other Indian tribes. By the terms of the treaty the Indians were to remain in possession of this land until 1836. It was in the fall of that year that two white men, Levi Barnes and his son-in-law Samuel Chapman, came on horseback from the east and made claim to the greater part of what is now Waterford.

They were pleased with what they saw and they decided to make this their future home. The story goes that they dismounted, wrapped their blankets about them and laid down to sleep. So soundly did they sleep that when morning came, they found that the stealthy Indians had stolen from their heads the red handkerchiefs which they had tied over them the night before.

They staked their claims and returned to their eastern homes. Soon after they came back bringing their families with them.

Waterford which had been a part of the Town of Rochester was separated from Rochester in 1847, and was incorporated in 1906, with William Shenkenberg as its first mayor. The place was called Waterford from the fact that the river could be forded conveniently at this place.

Mr. Barnes was the first preacher or exhorter as they were called in those days. Grandmother Barnes told the following story: "One time he was reprimanding his followers about fishing on the Sabbath. He told them that if they did not repent of their evil ways, they would surely be lost and go down to the bottomless pit, heck-line and sinker."

Methodism had its beginning in Waterford when a few immigrants of German descent withdrew from the German Lutheran Church and organized the Methodist church. Mr. F. C. Wallman, the grandfather of Esther Steinke and Cora Bryant was one of this group.

Back in 1850 there was a little red brick schoolhouse which was built in 1847 on the present site of the graded school, which was used for town hall and church, as it was the only public building having sufficient seating capacity. There were few musical instruments used in churches then, but every Sunday for morning service, two men might be seen carrying between them Ellen Chapman's little four octave melodeon, and at the close of the service returning it. If another service was held in the afternoon, the

old-fashioned tuning fork was brought out to get the correct pitch for singing.

In this little red brick school house two protestant church societies held service. The Congregational and the Methodists. One used the school in the forenoon and the other in the afternoon. On occasions whenever a meeting was held in the evening, lights were furnished by the neighbors whose best lamps were carried over, all freshly cleaned, to the school house.

In 1859 the Congregational Society erected a beautiful and commodious stone church on the sight of the present high school. It had a tower and belfry. The basement was fitted for school rooms, and the more advanced pupils transferred to them from the ever-crowded school house. Because of its faulty construction, with its one large auditorium and very, very high ceilings it was impossible to heat to a comfortable degree. The people became discouraged and abandoned its use.

The light in the Methodist Society in the red brick school had flickered and gone out. So for four years no religious services were held. Then God sent a Christian young man to teach the public school, James B. McChesney. He reorganized the Methodist Sunday School, holding meetings in his school rooms. He invited his friend, W. W. Painter, pastor of the Congregational Church at East Troy, to come and preach occasionally.

In the fall of 1869 Rev. Painter was appointed to the Methodist Waterford-Caldwell circuit and came to Waterford to live as our minister. His room was the parlor in the Edward Great home. In this room he held his first prayer meeting. There were four present. So you see great things do come from small beginnings.

As the good work progressed the room became crowded and they moved to the graded school building. Still the interest grew and they were forced to go to the basement of the Congregational Church, and later to the church itself.

There was the "Great Revival" the greatest religious awakening the town and community had ever known--the outpouring of God's Spirit in the winter of 1869-70. The influence of that revival changed the lives of many.

Again, at an early date, came German settlers to Waterford. Among them were the four Nell Brothers; Louis, Charles, Fred and William, and their brother-in-law, Philip Mitsch, from southern Germany in 1852. Being Lutheran, they attended the Lutheran church in this village until the erection of a German Methodist church.

In 1854, the F. C. Wallman and Henry Brier families arrived; the Nehls in 1865; Joseph and Christopher Tepp, Fred Koch, Fred Miller and Jacob Shenkenberg about 1868.

One day as F. C. Wallman was at the Burlington depot for a load of goods, he was approached by a stranger who asked him where he lived and if there was a German Methodist Church in the place. When he was told there was none in Waterford, he introduced himself as a minister and offered to preach if Mr. Wallman could find a hall or a suitable place. Again the old red brick schoolhouse was secured. These were the first German Methodist services held in Waterford and the fourth group to use the brick schoolhouse.

In the fall of 1870, Rev. Jacob Schaefer was sent to the German Settlement church from the Northwest German M. E. Conference of Illinois. Their services of Sunday School and preaching were held in the basement of the Congregational Church in the afternoon, while the English M. E. Society had their meetings in the same place in the morning, under the leadership of Rev. Painter. The two Societies grew, side by side.

In 1868 the German Society planned to build a church during the pastorate of Rev. Conrad Eberhard. Philip Mitsch gave the site at the junction of Main and Racine Streets. Charles and William Nell were the carpenters. The pews, altar rail and pulpit were sawed and turned by George Wallman, then a boy of fourteen working in his father's cabinet shop.

When the church was completed they did not forget their friends and neighbors of the English Society, but called the Rev. Sabin Halsey to preach in English at their church

dedication. They also invited the English Society which had formed October 9, 1870, to worship in their new church until they could build for themselves.

The English Society did not accept their gracious invitation, but continued to worship in the basement of the Congregational church while they planned and worked for their new church. A lot was purchased from Charles Mee on Main Street. The mason work was done by Daniel Feat. When the walls were finished the church folks, in their enthusiasm, held a supper with just the blue sky overhead. They set their tables and stood up to eat just like the Israelites at the Passover. They rejoiced in thinking they had a foundation laid for a Methodist church.

The carpenter work was done by Joseph Tepp and Charles Johnson. The farmers of the congregation held a "bee" and drew the lumber from Burlington. The women furnished dinner as the loads came in. The dinner was served on Mrs. Lockwood's lawn, where Archie Muchi later lived.

Invitations for the dedication of the New Methodist Episcopal Church were finally sent out. They were printed in gold on a sheet of ruled paper by Ole Heg Job Press, Waterford. The dedication sermon was preached by Rev. W. R. Stone, presiding Elder, on December 28, 1873. The Rev. J. W. Carhart preached in the evening. Rev. Griswold was the resident pastor. After the sermon they raised the money to pay the debt. Three men; Daniel Feat, Edward Great, and William Spreat were appointed to take up subscriptions; Rev. Stone saying, "Here you, Feat, Great and Spreat, get busy down these aisles.

The building consisted of what is now the Central part of our present church, with the entrance to the south and the restroom across the entire north end of the building. The basement was used for Sunday School for smaller children, Epworth League and Jr. League, also Prayer Meetings. The Ladies Aid held their bazaars and numerous dinners here. To say the least the ladies worked under difficulties as there was no kitchen as we have it today. The remaining part of the basement was used to store the firewood. It was in this part of the building that a section was cleared and a couple of old wood stoves set up with a few tables set up on which to prepare the food. Nevertheless some delicious chicken pie dinners were served.

The sanctuary was heated by two pipeless furnaces and lighted with kerosene lamps. Six large, brass hanging lamps lighted the church proper, with bracket lamps on the platform.

It was a problem to secure a janitor. So when Mrs. Steinke was 14 and 15 years of age, she and a schoolmate decided they would like to earn a little money by keeping the church clean, and cleaning and filling all the oil lamps, for which each received \$1.00 a week. During the winter they received 50¢ extra for building the fires.

The two churches were very active and happy in their new homes. They held their weekly cottage prayer meetings and an occasional camp meeting. We could see God's leadership through our pastor leaders who came one after the other to guide, strengthen and help in any way to carry on the work to which they were called.

The English church was placed either with Caldwell (Prairie), Vernon or English Settlement. Some of you will remember when we were a three-point charge, not too many years ago.

After the pastorate of Rev. Reege, the German Church decided to have English Services, but the Waterford Church desired to continue German Services and was transferred to the Burlington Circuit, remaining with them until the union with the English Methodist Church.

Rev. Kurtz came to this area from Illinois in 1922. Under the leadership of Rev. Wm. Kurtz the two churches went forward in every way as a United Church. Incorporation was affected as the "Community Methodist Episcopal Church of Waterford" in 1923.

The original German Church building was torn down and the material used to remodel the English Church, during the spring and summer of 1923. Again they went back to the high school during the remodeling.



An increase in attendance in both Sunday School and church brought about the realization that more space was necessary and in 1954 plans were made for an educational unit. This addition was made in 1958, when nine additional class rooms were added and extensive decorating was done throughout the church proper. A new furnace room was built. Also the kitchen and dining room were enlarged.

The downstairs was formally dedicated and named Fellowship Hall in about 1963.

In all of the earlier activities we see the leadership of the Master's hand. God directing the people through the pastor.

These pastor leaders came here one after another, filled with a fine enthusiasm, noble and high ideals, to guide, strengthen, to help in any way to carry on the work to which they were called.

The church had many pastors--and I will name a few of the later ones. Rev. Dempster L. Wandschneider from 1936 to 1941; Rev. Elmer Shepard 1941 to 1952; Rev. Richard Miller came in 1952 to finish out the unexpired term of Rev. Shepard who passed away while pastoring our church; Rev. Theburne Enge from 1953 to 1955; Rev. William Foster 1955 to 1960; Rev. John Bowden filled out the year of 1960; Rev. Kristaps Caune 1960 to 1965; Rev. Leslie Simen 1966-1967; Rev. Jerry Eckert the summer of 1967; Rev. Harvey Rakow 1967 to 1970; Rev. Peter Nelson Garcia 1970 to January 22, 1984. Our current Pastor Clarence Cheever came to us on Easter Sunday of 1984, and we hope and pray that his stay with us will be of long duration.

In 1968 the present parsonage was built and first occupied by Rev. Rakow.

The idea of making additional changes in our church had its beginning some years before 1980, but the thought of building a brand new structure at a different location had to be discarded due to the inflated cost of such a project.

A remodeling committee was formed in 1979 with Pastor Garcia as advisor. Plans drawn by architect Clayton June of Waukesha were examined. In 1979 the Stalbaum property was purchased with the approval of the congregation, and the architect's plans included a new entrance to the east; reversal of the church interior, and a stairway access to the downstairs restrooms.

Plans were also drawn to join the church to the Stalbaum house, forming an entrance between the buildings and steps leading into the house.

At the February meeting in 1980 of the remodeling committee, it was reported that the State had approved the plans, and a vote was passed to start construction.

Church services continued regularly in spite of the construction work and the project was completed in the summer of 1980.

With the work completed, the old dark hardwood pews were replaced with the lovely pews you see here today, likewise the pulpit and altar are now in the west instead of the east. New carpeting and other changes all resulted in the new look we have here today. The "New Look" is total. Only the stained glass windows remain the same. The pastor also has a very comfortable office in which to do his work. In the olden days the church work had to be conducted from the parsonage.

There are many other things that could be said regarding the changes that have taken place during the years, but time will not permit. I hope I have given you some of the highlights of the history of our church and Methodism in Waterford.

~~Thank you for coming and~~ God bless you.

Pastor Cheever will pronounce the benediction.



1995

STORY OF THE NEW CHURCH  
ON JEFFERSON STREET

1994

STEPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION  
BY MARVIN JORAY

## NEW CHURCH ON JEFFERSON ST.

On May 7, 1989 at an All ChARGE Conference the congregation voted to purchase 12.5 acres of land, part of the Beck property on Jefferson St at a cost of \$50,000 for the future site of a new church building. A fifteen year note was taken.

What led to this decision were several factors. Very little land was still available within the village limits and most members not wish to locate where village services would not be available. But most important was the very prohibitive cost of adding to the Main Street building. A second story over the Sunday School annex as suggested would not meet state building code requirements.

Clean-up of trees, branches, etc. from the new property was done with volunteer help from members contributing time and machinery. Mike brought in his tractor and a bulldozer was used to remove stumps so that grass could be cut and mowed. A sign was erected to mark the property with the slogan "COME AND GROW WITH US". Randy Stelzner surveyed the property. All plans of remodeling the present church were dropped and thoughts and efforts turned to the future new building.

Pastor Cheever informed the congregation that Church Discipline required land title be free of debt before building could begin. Also that 1/3 of the total cost of the building must be in savings as a down payment. However, it was not too soon to start planning.

In spring of 1991 a special Charge Conference was held to elect committees into office for the duration of the building program. Elected were:

BUILDING COMMITTEE: Chairman Marvin Joray, Jeff Leithauser, Robert Goetsch, Ronette Steinke, Carla Keeker, Peter Redel, Ron Tichy, Loren Englund  
Efficio Members: Jim Bonewald Norm Keeker, Pastor Cheever

FINANCE AND PROMOTIONAL COMMITTEE: Chairman Jim Bonewald, Ann Dirks, Virginia Gilhuber, John Wulz, Marie Wolke, Pastor Cheever

CONSTRUCTION: Chairman Norm Keeker, Tom Kramer, Donn Gauger, Paul Krogh, Barb Finney, Pastor Cheever

The building committee started working immediately - visiting neighboring churches getting ideas from others who had gone through building. They developed a detailed architectural program proposal describing all that would be required in a new building. Members were asked to contribute ideas and suggestions. A New Building Fund Drive was initiated in May of 1990 that resulted in total pledges of \$164,000 over a three year period.

The Administrative Board voted to use \$10,000 of funds in the building fund account to apply against the land mortgage reducing the time to 5 1/2 years. Subsequently the loan was paid in full in a shorter time than this.

A Special Charge Conference in August 1991 gave the Building Committee permission to select an architect at a cost not to exceed \$75,000. Five estimates were received and after consideration Carlson Engineering was chosen as the architect and Jack Wynn as the contractor. A computer model was constructed of the proposed building which aided in shifting rooms and spaces to meet needs. In June the first plans were reviewed and revised. Finally in December final plans were completed and submitted to the building contractor in February of 1993 for final cost estimate. The cost that he submitted was

The church building on Main Street was listed for sale at a price of \$325,000. In the succeeding months the first sale agreement fell through as a result of objections by the Village Board. This was a huge disappointment and a number months went by before a sale was made to Barry and Cindy Lindau at a greatly reduced figure of \$150,000. Their plan was to open an antiques and collectibles business.

The sale to Lindaus required vacancy by the end of 1994, so work had to continue preparing the property for building, conducting fund drives, and attending to many details before construction could begin. On April 19, 1994 a ground breaking ceremony was held at the new site after morning services. For the rest of 1994 the congregation watched the new church going up. Everyone volunteered in whatever area they had the skills and ability. Many ladies contributed food and refreshments for the workers.. The move to the new church was made in late December of 1994 and first services held in January of 1995.

Throughout the months of construction Marvin Joray kept notes and reported the progress to the congregation every Sunday morning.

The new church was far from completed and all knew that there was much work left to be done.

Dorothy Bryant  
History chairman  
January 1996

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
318 West Main Street  
Waterford, Wisconsin 53185  
SERVING SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN

An overcrowded sanctuary and Christian Education facilities, poorly located, undersized office space, no handicap facilities, a "hidden" nursery, and 32 parking spaces for an average attendance of 150 at Community United Methodist Church in Waterford led pastor Clarence Cheever to form a Church Growth Committee in 1987. We studied the work of Lyle Schaller, Herb Miller, and Bishop Wilkie for a sense of where we were, and why we were there. After a Parish Enrichment Conference led by Richard Rowland from the "Wisconsin Grow Program", we could easily see why our membership and attendance had hovered around 150 for many years!

The church building at 318 West Main Street was dedicated on Dec. 28, 1873. In 1923 the German Methodist membership, and building, was joined with the English Methodist church building. In 1959 we added an 1800 square foot educational unit. In 1980 we totally renovated and remodeled the sanctuary, adding an adjoining home to the church building for additional office space.

A thorough study of demographics, and all available options revealed two choices:

1. a two phase remodeling project of our current church building, with the purchase of several adjoining properties for parking area,
2. a relocation and construction of a new church on 12.5 acres of land included in the Village of Waterford.

On May 5, '89 the congregation decided it was time to stop remodeling, and start building a new facility on the "Promised Land". The plans call for a sanctuary with a seating capacity of over 400, upon completion.

Since we made that decision of faith, the average Sunday service attendance has climbed to over 200 in two services. The early, contemporary service on Sunday morning is packed out, and a new spirit of hope pervades the entire program of the church! Five adult Christian Education classes are squeezed into every nook and cranny, and any space left over is filled with children and Sunday School teachers. The Lord has blessed all along the way, once we stepped out in faith.

Seemingly endless planning meetings have become a way of life for Marv Joray, chairman of the Building Committee. Pastor Cheever, a second career pastor, has utilized his former work at John Deere as he skillfully manned Mike Uebele's bulldozer, clearing brush and grading the land. In November 1991, the bulldozer caught fire and burned. Undaunted, pastor and some church members totally rebuilt it during the winter, and by spring it was back in service, running better than before!

STEPS IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CHURCH ON JEFFERSON ST REET

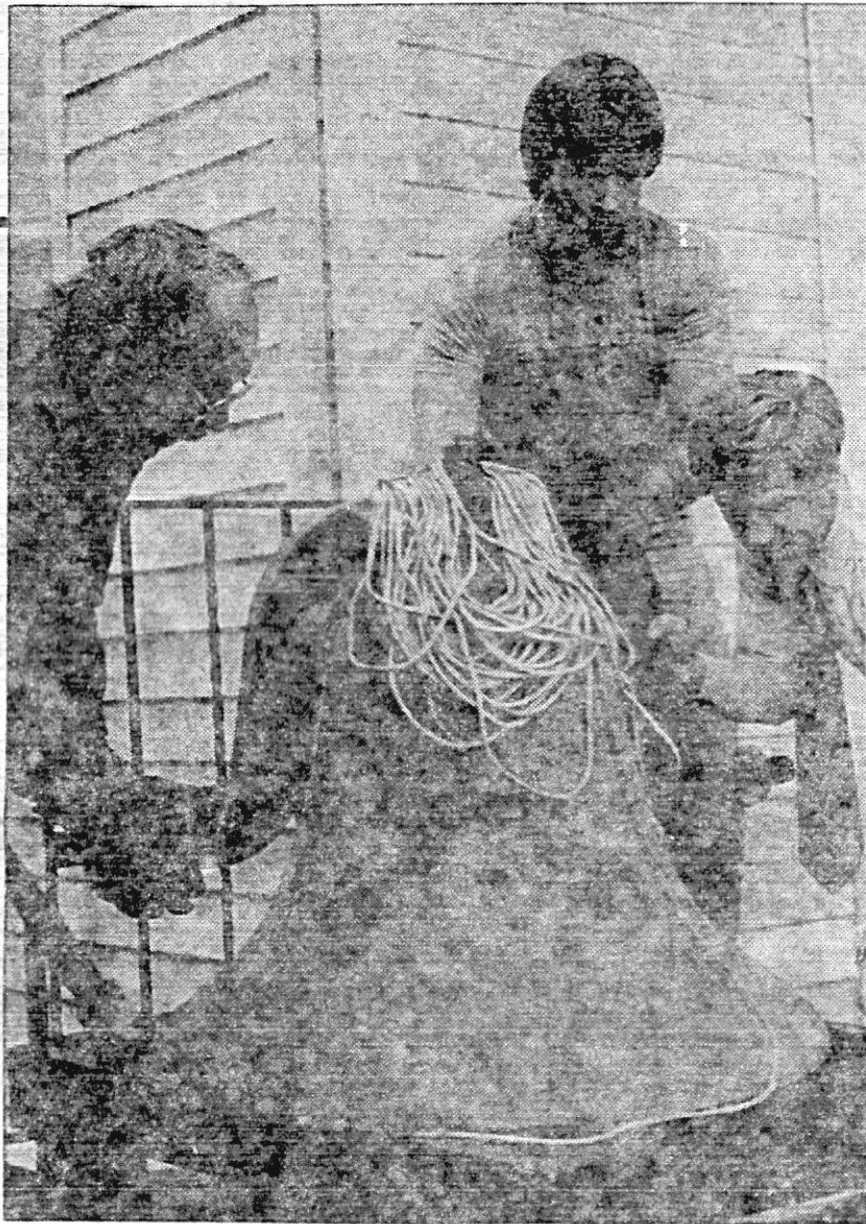
Notes were made by MARVIN JORAY, chairman of the Building Committee, and a report made to the congregation every Sunday.

- 7/17/94 Outer walls are up except for one section  
Plywood has been nailed on about 20% of outer walls  
Couple of inner walls are up  
3 of 4 stairways have been back formed for pouring of concrete steps
- 7/25 All exterior and supporting walls are up  
Sheeting 100% on Sanctuary - 70% of balance  
Parking lot and driveways surveyed  
Front parking being finished
- 7/31 Natural gas line hooked up  
Exterior plywood done  
Roof trusses installed on Sanctuary  
Sub roofing installed on trusses
- 8/7 Electric power connected to main switch box  
Electric conduit being installed in Sanctuary  
Heating ducts being installed in floor  
Trusses erected over Narthex and Fellowship Hall  
Sub roofing installed on Fellowship Hall  
Parking lot surveyed
- 8/14 Facia board installed on Sanctuary  
Trusses finished on Sanctuary  
Sub roofing complete on Sanctuary  
North gable complete  
Trusses anchored with metal clips in Fellowship Hall
- 8/21 Sanctuary was shingled this week  
Trusses were completed (tops installed) on Narthex and F.H.  
Sub roofing put on these two areas (sheeting done)  
Fire wall built in Sanctuary and fire/smoke retardants put in walls  
Round top frames for windows were made  
Electrical completed in Sanctuary - conduit and boxes
- 9/10 Main floor poured except office, narthex, and kitchen  
Basement floor poured  
Duct work for heating being installed  
Main trusses all installed  
Car port ready to roof  
Insulated floor in for cooler
- 9/17 Remainder of main floor poured  
Carport and balance of church being roofed

- 9/25 Interior offices, nursery, kitchen all framed  
Steps are poured  
Roof ready to shingle  
New roof  
Trees - 7 - Between the church and tavern
- 10/1 Upstairs windows installed  
Walls up between narthex and Sanctuary  
Closets built onto Fellowship Hall  
Old bell down  
Heat ducts being installed
- 10/8 Front entrance is built in  
Fire walls being completed  
Electrical consuit, boxes, and wires being done  
Furnace ducts being installed
- 10/14 Siding started on South and West sides  
Walls of Sanctuary are insulated  
Drywall being installed above offices  
Doors to church hung  
Culvert in and elevation of parking lot set  
Plumber active drilling holes through floor for rest room drains  
Prepared to pour concrete under car port
- 10/22 Driveway graded  
Brick on front - Planter just about complete  
Ceiling in over offices  
Plumbing and heating duct installation proceeding well  
Storage AREAS BRING FINISHED OFF \_ Firewalls going up
- 11/5 Drywsll is being installed  
Offices are insulated and sound board installed  
Furnaces are being installed  
Plumbing and electrical work is going on
- 11/12 Drywalling proceeding well  
Start spackling in Narthex and Fellowship Hall this coming week  
Two or three furnaces hooked up  
Doing some land leveling
- 11/19 Taping and spackling in Fellowship Hall  
Drywall nearly all hung - Kitchen done - work on offices  
INSulation blown into ceilings in Sanctuary
- 11/22 Fellowship Hall nearly all spackled  
Parking lot leveled - stones all picked up - trash picked up

- 12/3 Basement areas nearly all drywalled  
Cleaning done  
Staining and painting starting this week  
Planning to stone parking lot this coming week
- 1/7/95 Installing kitchen equipment  
Hanging doors  
MONDAY NIGHT MOVE - 6:30  
TUESDAY NIGHT - Clean Fellowship Hall and nursery  
WEDNESDAY - Seal floors in Fellowship Hall  
SET UP ON SATURDAY FOR WORSHIP AND SUNDAY SCHOOL IN  
FELLOWSHIP HALL
- 1/15 Continuing to hang doors  
Stained and varnished doors  
Sealed remaining floors upstairs  
Set up Sanctuary in Fellowship Hall  
Nursery set up  
Kitchen and rest rooms continue to be completed  
Coat racks installed
- 1/28 Doors, windows, and molding being stained and sealed  
Molding being installed on windows and doors  
Cleaning continues - kitchen - basement  
Kitchen has been used twice  
Painting Fellowship Hall
- 2/4 Glass installed in doors, nursery, and offices  
Hardware added to doors  
Mirrors in rest rooms
- 2/11 Continuing to do finishing touches  
Doors hung in basement and nursery  
Trap doors and trim installed  
Building was inspected - Continued with temporary occupancy  
until we can make corrections
- 3/4 Basement doors were hung last week  
Closures installed on Sanctuary doors and Fellowship doors  
Windows trimmed between Narthex and Sanctuary
- 3/11 Stairway hand rails installed  
Trim around air locks  
Pews moved to basement  
Sanctuary cleaned  
Railing behind kitchen anchored  
Drywall and insulation installed in basement  
Start painting in Sanctuary





Finesse will get you only so far in the bell-moving business. Getting ready to muscle a 1,000-pound bell out of the Community United Methodist Church are (from left) the Rev. Clarence Cheever, Ross Runzheimer and Bill Czaja. (Toni Schneider photo)

## Hefty church bell makes its move

By Toni Schneider

A cast-iron bell weighing 1,000 pounds, along with its 200-pound frame, were coaxed out of the tower at Community United Methodist Church last week, and transported to a storage area until the church's new facility on Jefferson Street is complete.

It was a grueling task, organized by Ross Runzheimer and carried out with the help of John Fitzgerald, Earl Paynter, the Rev. Clarence Cheever and Bill Czaja.

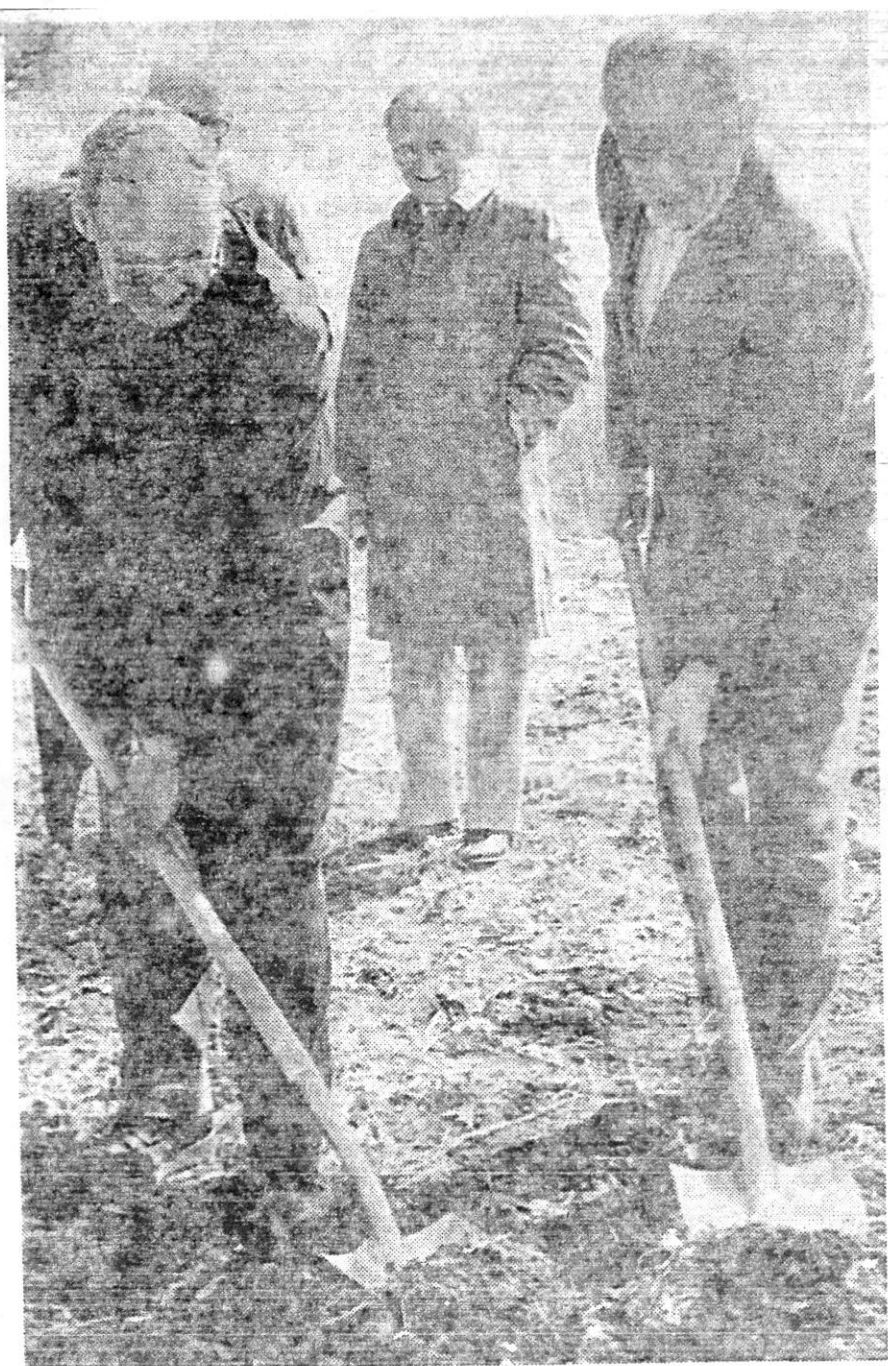
To get things moving, a new beam, 6 feet long by 12 inches wide, was made and raised up into the church loft on West Main Street. Chains were then wrapped around the beam and a pulley system made to ease the effort needed to lift the bell out.

With considerable effort and some luck, the bell was swung out of an opening in the loft. Two workers then lowered and guided it down some 30 feet, all the while hoping that it wouldn't bash a wall or drop through a ceiling.

At ground level, a dolly built by Runzheimer wheeled the bell to the church doors and onto a small front-end loader, which placed it into a waiting truck and transported it to storage.

"This is an adventure, not a job!" Runzheimer commented, when asked why he had agreed to head up the task.

"Besides," he added, "the 'Big Guy' wanted it done!"



Pitching in at the ground-breaking ceremony held for the new site of Community United Methodist Church is (left) Rev. Clarence Cheever, pastor, and Art Henning (right), Waterford village board president, with church members (center) enjoying the ceremony.

(Toni Schneider photo)

## for Waterford church

By Toni Schneider

Community United Methodist Church, 318 W. Main St., Waterford, marked another milestone in its long tradition of local history, with an April 10 ground-breaking ceremony at the church's future site on South Jefferson Street, Waterford. 1994

The land, formerly known as the Beck farm, was vacant for quite some time before being purchased by the church in April 1989. Actual excavation is scheduled to take place this week. Dennis Carlson, Tomah, Wis., is architect. Jack Wynn, Pardeeville, Wis., is general contractor.

If all goes as planned, the doors to the new church will open to receive its members and prospective members during the first week of November.

A long-range planning committee under the director of the late pastor, Rev. Peter Nelson Garcia, was formed in 1978. Its goal was to have a new church built within 15 years.

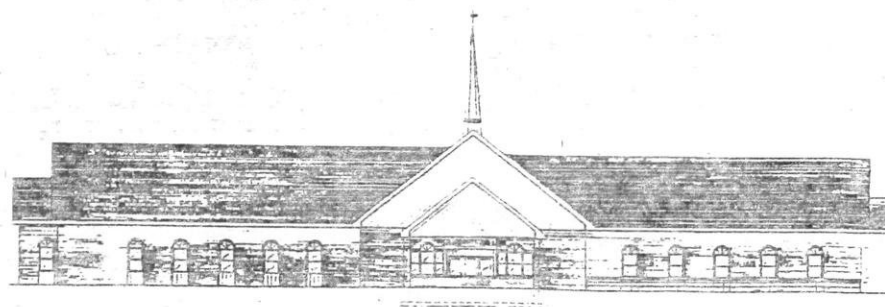
The present pastor, Rev. Clarence Cheever, and the congregation of the church, have worked hard to bring that goal to fruition.

Sunday's ceremony was especially joyous and emotional for the church's long-standing members, who have witnessed, through the years, the many wonderful and solemn events that have taken place in the original church.

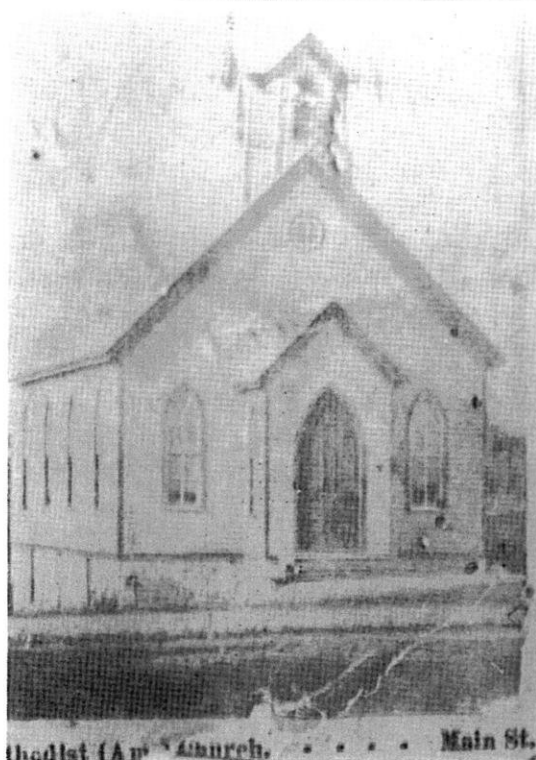
Next week's issue of the Waterford Post will feature some history-sharing with one of the church's longest-standing members.

This is looking at the church from Highway W

FRONT OF CHURCH







Methodist Episcopal Church, . . . . Main St.



Congregational Church, . . Foot of Main St.

The basements of these churches were used as classrooms at some time in the early history of W.H.S. Our high school stands on the same site as that of the old Congregational Church.



High School, Watford, Wis.

The upper part of the brick addition to the graded school was divided into three rooms for the high school.