

CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY



First Presbyterian Church

ALBION, IOWA

1856

1956

2020.156.1856



REGISTER OF PASTORS

Rev. James Gordon	1856-1862
Rev. A. M. Geiger	1862-1863
Rev. J. C. Shafer	1864-1865
Dr. L. Sternberg	1865-1868
Rev. John Summers	1868-1873
Rev. Isaiah Reid	1874
No Minister	1875
Rev. William Smith	1876
Rev. David Chapman	1877-1880
Rev. Andrew Herron	1881-1887
Rev. W. T. Gibson	1888
Stated Supply	1889
No Minister	1890
Rev. Philander Read	1891-1892
No Minister	1893-1897
Rev. A. McMillan	1898-1902
Rev. Redearis	
Rev. Swank	1909
Rev. Jackson	1910
Rev. Bradford	1911
Rev. S. C. Wadding	1913-1914
Rev. Shirk	1919
Rev. Fisher	
Rev. Jordon	1922
Rev. C. E. Burdine	1925
Rev. Griffin	1928
Rev. Vincent	1929-1932
Rev. C. Driver	1933
Rev. Wayne Hoxsie	1934-1936
Sinclair Thompson, Student Pastor	1936-1937
Rev. Rosa Harding	1938-1941
Rev. Middleton	1941
Rev. Walton	1941-1942
Rev. Mrs. Orma Mason Mooris	1942-1943
Rev. Roy Thompson	1943-1945
Rev. L. T. Hibbs	1945-1946
Loal P. Blunt S. S. Layman	1946-1947
Rev. B. F. Martin S. S. Pastor	1947-1950
Rev. Mrs. Edyth Wilcoxon S. S.	1950-1954
Alvin J. Straatmeyer, Student Pastor	1954-

WORLD WAR I (1916-1918)

Fred Johnson

WORLD WAR II (1941-1945)

Royce Banghart
Chauncey Cavanaugh
Loren Conrad

Dale Jay
Walter Schachtlie, Jr.
Arthur L. Shore



Rev. Mrs. Rose Harding

1956 DIRECTORY OF CHURCH OFFICERS

Alvin J. Straatmeyer.....Student Pastor

SESSION

Loren Conrad — Clerk

Guy Crum
Walter Schachtlie, Jr.
Eldon Moffatt

M. P. Jurgensen
Earl Baldwin

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Thomas Dannen
John Wardman
John Whaley

Guy Crum
Lawrence Shore
Loren Conrad

Church TreasurerEldon Moffatt
PianistRose Marie Mitchell
Assistant PianistMrs. Eldon Moffatt

SUNDAY SCHOOL

SuperintendentEarl Baldwin
Assistant SuperintendentRoyce Banghart
SecretaryJohn Wardman
PianistMelissa Moffatt
Assistant PianistCarol Mitchell

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ALBION

The First Presbyterian Church of Albion was organized in 1856 by Rev. James Gordon with a membership of 9, which included the names of Jacob and Martha Crouse, Daniel and Eliza Collins, George Miller, the Tuckers, Moffatts, Swearingens, Humburgs, McKibbens, Gib Fox and probably other early settlers.

During the time Rev. Gordon served the church he added to the membership on confession of faith and by certificate making the total membership 26 by 1860. He also organized the First Presbyterian Church in Marshalltown in 1858 and served both churches until 1860.

In 1861 the Church was changed from Presbyterian to Lutheran with Rev. A. M. Geiger in charge, who was succeeded by Rev. J. C. Shafer. The Seminary was in the hands of the Lutherans, and Mrssrs. Geiger and Shafer were at the head of the institution during their respective pastorates. In 1865 Dr. L. Sternberg succeeded Rev. Shafer in his dual office. During this time the church met in the assembly room at the seminary.

In 1868 the Church was reorganized by H. H. Kellogg. At the time of the reorganization the church belonged to the new school of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. Cedar Valley was the first Presbytery. The church was without a minister and only 8 members by 1870. In 1871 Rev. John Summers supplied the Albion Church and remained until his death in 1873. Summers joined the Presbytery (Waterloo) when the New and Old school churches were re-united and the Presbytery was first organized in 1870.

At the regular meeting of the Waterloo Presbytery in April, 1871, the churches of Albion and Steamboat Rock were represented for the first time.

In 1874 Isaiah Reid came to fill in the vacancy left by the death of Rev. Summers. Rev. Reid served both Albion and Marietta. On August 8, 1874 the Church incorporated. The Trustees purchased lots 3 and 4, block 2, on September 23, 1874. This is where the present church and manse stand.

After eighteen months Rev. Reid left Albion. Rev. William R. Smith came to serve the church for one and one half years in 1876. He was instrumental in building a church edifice which cost \$3,000. The elders at this time were A. Allison, George Miller, M. Smith, Thomas Swearingen, and I. H. McKibben. On April 20, 1876 the regular meeting of the Waterloo Presbytery was held at Albion with Rev. W. W. Whipple as Moderator.

In 1877 Rev. David Chapman moved to Albion and added sixty-five members by a revival that winter. Rev. Chapman stayed until 1880.

Rev. Andrew Herron came to fill the vacancy in 1881 and stayed until 1887. He had an excellent record during his stay.



Session

M. P. Jurgensen
Earl Baldwin
Eldon Moffatt
Guy Grum
Loren Conrad, Clerk



Walter Schachtlie, Jr.



Board of Trustees

Loren Conrad
Thomas Dannen
John Whaley

Lawrence Shore
Guy Crum
John Wardman

Sunday School Board



Left to Right Seated:
 Mrs. John Wardman
 Mrs. A. L. Shore
 Mrs. Guy Crum
 Mrs. Delmar Mitchell
 Miss Ardys Dannen
 Mrs. Royce Banghart

Standing:
 Earl Baldwin
 Royce Banghart
 John Wardman



Mrs. Loren Conrad

Youth Budget Council

Rose Marie Mitchell
 Mrs. John Wardman
 Donna Crum
 Mrs. Guy Crum
 Margaret Thomas
 Guy Crum
 Mrs. Al Shore



Junior Choir

Rose Marie Mitchell,
 Director
 Tommy Givins
 Bobby Schachtlie
 Ronald Banghart

Joyce Banghart
 Patricia Schachtlie
 Gale Givins
 Linda Schachtlie



P.W.O. Officers

Mrs. M. P. Jurgensen
 Vice-President
 Mrs. Guy Crum
 President

Mrs. Albert Keeler
 Treasurer
 Mrs. Al Shore
 Secretary

MEMBERSHIP

Helen Louise Bailey
 Mrs. Charles Bucholz
 Mrs. Ida Heishman
 Clarence Keeler
 Mrs. Bertha Kirkendall
 Eldon Moffatt
 Burdette Moffatt
 John C. Wardman
 Mrs. Carrie Wiley
 Royce Banghart
 William Wardman
 Mrs. Genevieve Farland
 John Keoppel
 Kaye Louise Jay
 Joyce Hoing
 Sherry Thomas
 Mrs. Walter Schachtlie, Jr.
 Robert Dowd
 Mrs. Charlotte Turner
 Mrs. Virginia Conrad
 Mrs. Margaret Dannen
 Miss Shirley Dannen
 Mrs. Rozella Crum
 Miss Donna Crum
 Mrs. Etta Uhde
 John W. Bailey, Jr.
 LaVonne Buffington
 Chauncey Cavanaugh
 Marvin Thomas
 Robert Thomas
 Glenn Davis
 Alice Eurom
 David Fink
 Mrs. Delores Gunderson
 Ethel Halladay
 Mrs. Ruth Hoing
 Lester Keoppel
 Paulette Keoppel
 Mrs. Lloyd Kern
 Mrs. Erma Keeler
 Mrs. Lester Keeler
 Larry Landis
 Mrs. Willet Lepley
 Leal Littrel
 Merilyn Littrel
 Marsha Jay
 Mrs. May Elliott

M. P. Jurgensen
 Mrs. M. P. Jurgensen
 Mrs. Eva Keeler
 Mrs. Eldon Moffatt
 Mrs. Ann Wardman
 Mrs. Leonora Wardman
 Mrs. Marilyn Shore
 Mrs. Doris Banghart
 Gordon Keeler
 Mrs. Jessie Keoppel
 Melissa Moffatt
 Barbara Elliott
 Margaret Thomas
 Walter Schachtlie, Jr.
 Mrs. Earl Dowd
 Gilbert Turner
 Loren Conrad
 Thomas Dannen
 Miss Ardys Dannen
 Guy Crum
 Larry Crum
 Ronald Uhde
 Miss Patricia Elliott
 Earl Baldwin
 Florence Coleman
 Mrs. Mary Cavanaugh
 Richard Thomas
 Donald Davis
 Marie Davis
 Mrs. Ida Euron
 Arlan Gunderson
 Allan Halladay
 Francis Hoing
 Fred T. Johnson
 Paul Keoppel
 Donald Keeler
 Loyd Kern, Jr.
 Sandra Loffgren
 Raymond Keeler
 Terry Landis
 Willett Lepley
 Mrs. Winifred Littrel
 Carol Littrel
 Larry Littrel
 Mrs. Jeanette Mitchell
 Carol Ann Mitchell
 Arthur L. Shore

Bernard Uhde
 John H. Whaley
 John W. Whaley
 Harold Wilkening
 Shirley Wilkening
 James Wilkening
 Robert Wilkening
 Richard Elliott
 Dale Jay
 Lorna Uhde
 Delmar Mitchell
 Rose Marie Mitchell

Warren Mitchell
 Garry Settles
 Gordon Uhde
 Mrs. Margaret Whaley
 Richard P. Whaley
 Mrs. Arlene Wilkening
 Janet Wilkening
 Larry Wilkening
 Jerry Keeler
 Mrs. Gladys Gould
 Mrs. Marcine Straatmeyer
 Allan Hoing



Old Church

Alvin and Marcine



Rev. and Mrs. Straatmeyer

A PAGE BY THE PASTOR

"Still the Same"

One hundred years have come and gone in the life of the Albion Presbyterian Church. During that time our world has seen some of the most phenomenal changes ever witnessed by mankind. Such things as radio, television, automobiles, and jet airplanes which we already tend to take for granted were unknown to the founders of our church in 1856. Indeed, how differently we do things from the way they were done by our ancestors! However, in spite of the fact that so many things which have **never** changed and will **ALWAYS** remain the same. It is well for us to note briefly a few of these unchanging facts.

The first of these truths is the fact that our Savior Jesus Christ has remained the same throughout all the past. In Hebrews 13:8, we read: **JESUS CHRIST THE SAME YESTERDAY, AND TODAY, AND FOREVER.** Not only is this a thrilling truth, but also a blessed and comforting one. The Christ whom we worship today is the same one to whom the people of the Old Testament times looked forward, the same one whom the early disciples adored and followed, the same one in whose name this church was founded by our forerunners, and the one who will remain **forever unchanged.** What a wonderful Savior is He!

Secondly, we can be assured that the basic nature of humanity has remained unaltered. The Apostle Paul tells us that **ALL HAVE SINNED, AND COME SHORT OF THE GLORY OF GOD.** In spite of all the attempts in the last one hundred years to soften the word "sin," it still remains. Even though some have tried to ease past this truth by calling sin only an error or a mistake, we know that human nature is still basically bent in the direction of sin.

While it is true that human nature has not changed, neither has the way to be redeemed from our sinful selves and to live eternally in heaven become any different. The words of John 14:6 have never been revoked—**JESUS SAITH UNTO HIM, I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: NO MAN COMETH UNTO THE FATHER BUT BY ME.** Any other attempts to be cleansed from sin and to attain the glories of heaven are in vain. Today, as always, the way to eternal life is still **JESUS CHRIST.**

Closely related to the above truth is the fact that the invitation to share this eternity in heaven is extended to **all.** On the day of Pentecost, Peter said, **AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS THAT WHOSOEVER SHALL CALL ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.** As in time past, Christ still promises eternal life to **ALL** who accept Him as their personal Savior and Lord. We can realize no greater truth than this!

Lastly and in conclusion, we must surely include the unchanged commission and responsibility of the Universal Church of Christ, of any particular church, and of every believing Christian. Just before His Ascension into heaven, Jesus said to his disciples, **GO YE INTO ALL THE WORLD, AND PREACH THE GOSPEL TO EVERY CREATURE.** Even though this duty has been **avoided** by many Christians of every generation, it has never been **avoided** by the One who placed it before us. Herein lies our challenge for all the years to come. In the future, may we courageously face and earnestly seek to fulfill this our unchanged, courageously face and earnestly seek to fulfill this our unchanged commission. By the grace of God, **WE WILL TRY TO DO THAT VERY THING!**

—Alvin J. Straatmeyer

Ground Breaking Ceremony, May, 1955



The Manse

Dedicated May 6, 1956

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES ON MINISTERS UP TO 1900

JAMES GORDON — New School minister. Served Lafayette, 1856-1862. Died April 1, 1892, age 84, Tecumseh, Kansas.

JOHN SUMMERS — New School minister. Appointed at Benton 1853-1860 and 1866-1867. Marietta and State Center 1868-1873. Died October 8, 1873, age 65. Albion was on a circuit with Marietta and State Center after it was reconstituted in 1870.

ISAIAH RIED — Born Indiana, April 15, 1836. Yellow Spring College, 1861. Auburn Theological Seminary, 1864. Ordained Presbyterian Keokuk, June 14, 1864. Served Nevada 1864-1873, Albion and Marietta 1874, Nevada 1875-1877. Withdrew from Presbyterian Church in 1880.

WILLIAM R. SMITH — Served a circuit in 1875-1879 that included Eldora, Rock Creek, Deep River.

ANDREW HERRON — Born Harrison County, Ohio, August 30, 1849. Bachelor's degree, 1869; Master degree, 1872; Licentiate, 1871; Ordained, October, 1873. Served Albion 1879-1887. Died January 26, 1905.

W. T. GIBSON — Born County Down, Ireland, 1840. Belfast College. Ordained, 1872. Served in Ohio, Nebraska, the Dakotas. Albion, 1888.

A. McMILLAN — Born, Tiffin, Ohio. Western College, 1862. Licentiate, 1867; Ordained, 1869. Served the United Presbyterian church in Illinois and Iowa from 1869-1887. Joined Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. in Iowa, 1889. Served Albion 1898-1902. Died Lyons, January 2, 1905. Age 71.

COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY SESSION

ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET AND HISTORICAL SKETCH:

Ardys Dannen, Chairman; Marilyn Shore, Loren Conrad, Delores Gunderson, Elimora Schachtlie, Clarence Keeler, Dick Elliott.

DECORATIONS:

Erma Keeler, Chairman; Anna Wardman, Verna Keeler, Ida Eurom, Bertha Kirkendall, Evelyn Kern, Mae Elliott, Floy Dowd.

HISTORICAL EXHIBIT:

Margaret Whaley, Chairman; Leonora Wardman, Glenn Davis, Genevieve Farland, Carrie Wiley, M. P. Jurgensen.

HOUSE:

Eldon Moffatt, Chairman; Lester Koeppel, Chauncey Cavanaugh, Earl Baldwin, Willet Lepley.

WELCOME AND USHERING:

Dale Jay, Chairman; F. R. Hoing, Leal Littrel, Royce Banghart, Delmar Mitchell, Harold Wilkening, Ronald Uhde.

MUSIC:

The Choir with Helen Louise Bailey as the leader.

NOON MEAL:

The P.W.O. with Mrs. Guy Crum as the chairman.