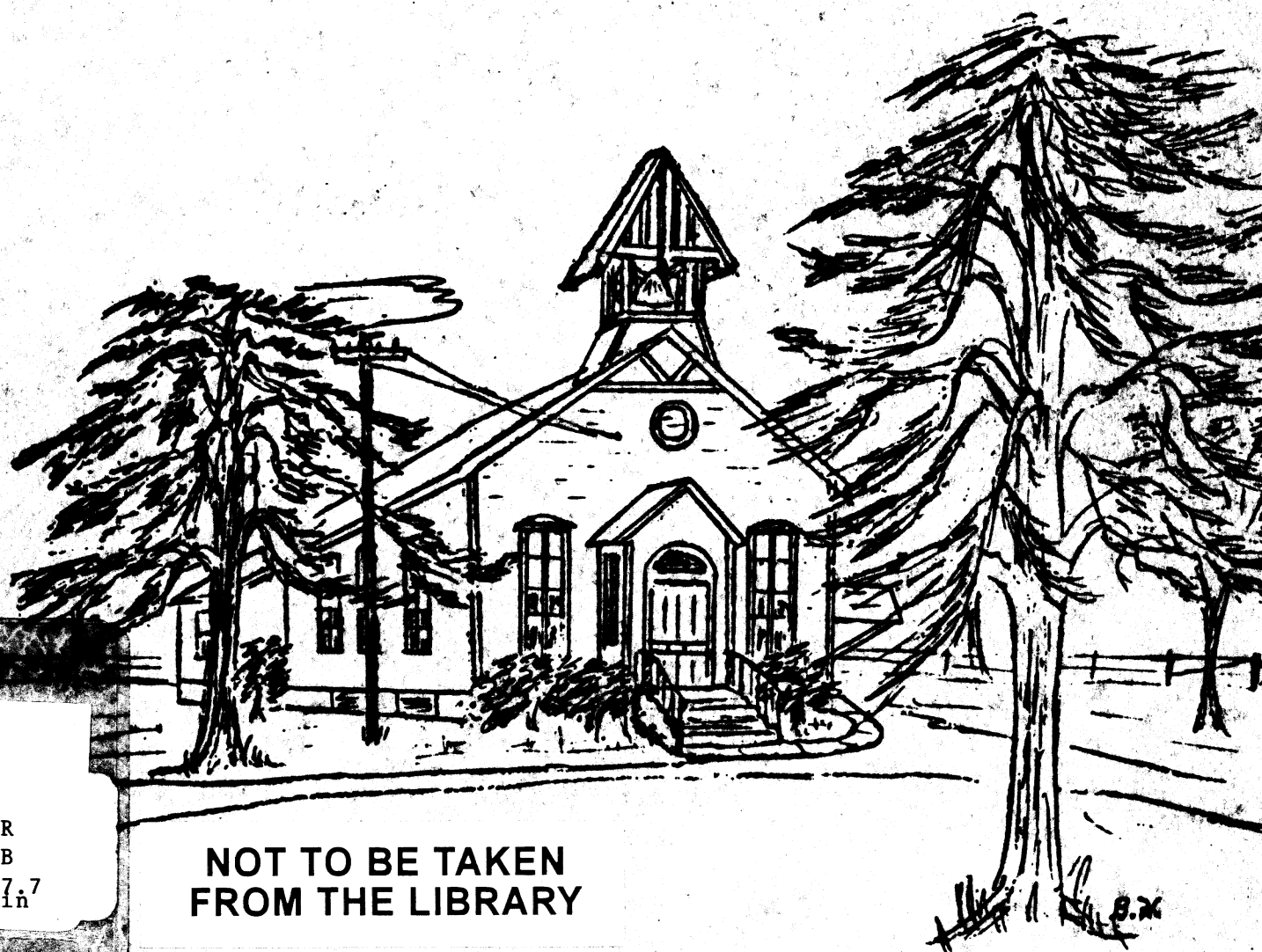


Minerva Wesley Chapel

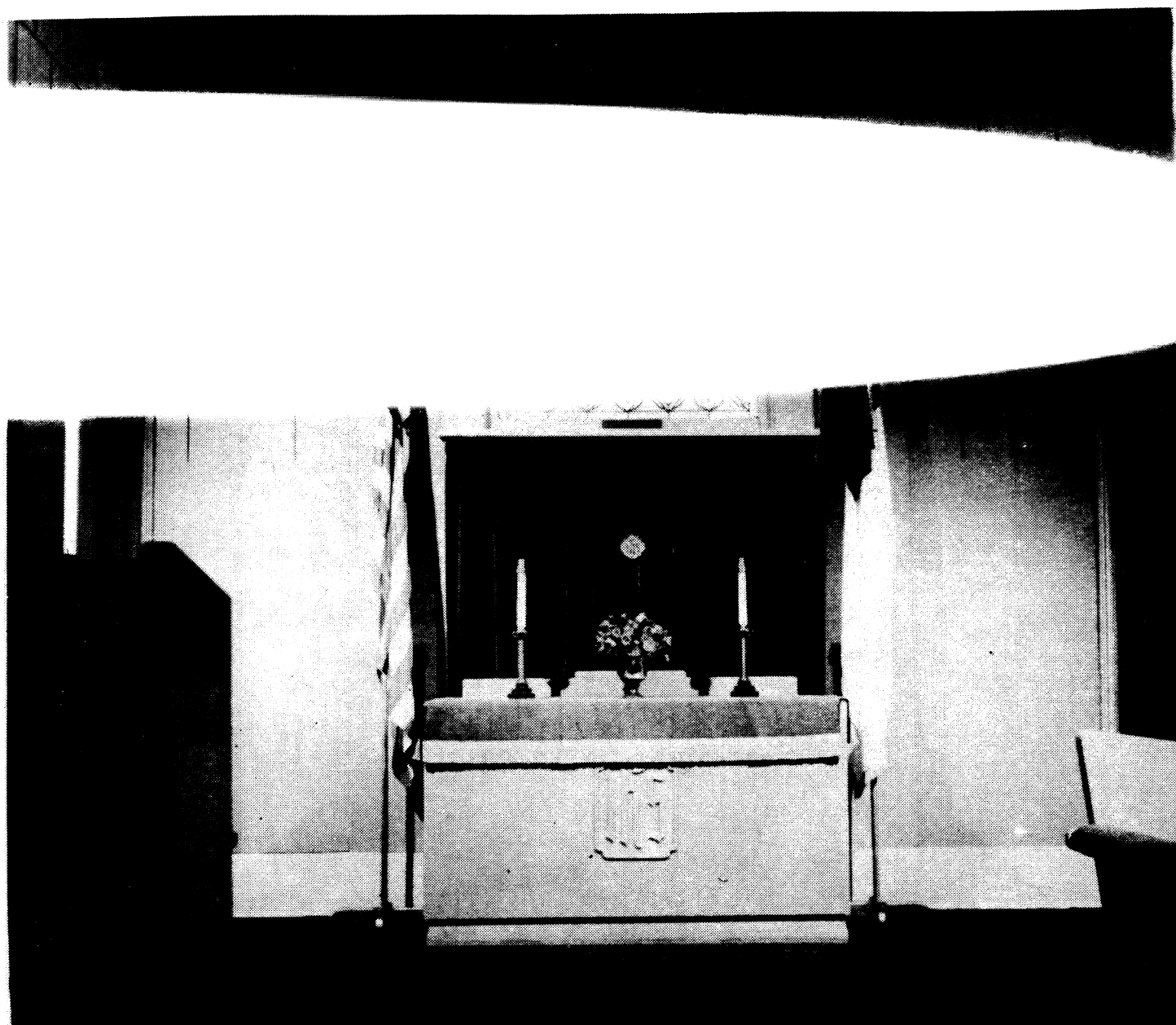
1880 ~ 1980



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FROM THE LIBRARY

Commemorative Booklet
In Remembrance
Of The Centennial Of
MINERVA WESLEY CHAPEL
1880 - 1980



Chancel of Minerva Wesley Chapel

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Pastor's Message:

Jesus said, "I am come that you might have life and have it more abundantly." Surely the community of Minerva has been blessed of God. The rolling, fertile hills, the trees and creek, provide a wonderful place of beauty to raise a family. Many fine and courageous folk have claimed this community for their home during the past century and God has blessed their lives.



PASTOR KERMIT GLADFELDER

... given

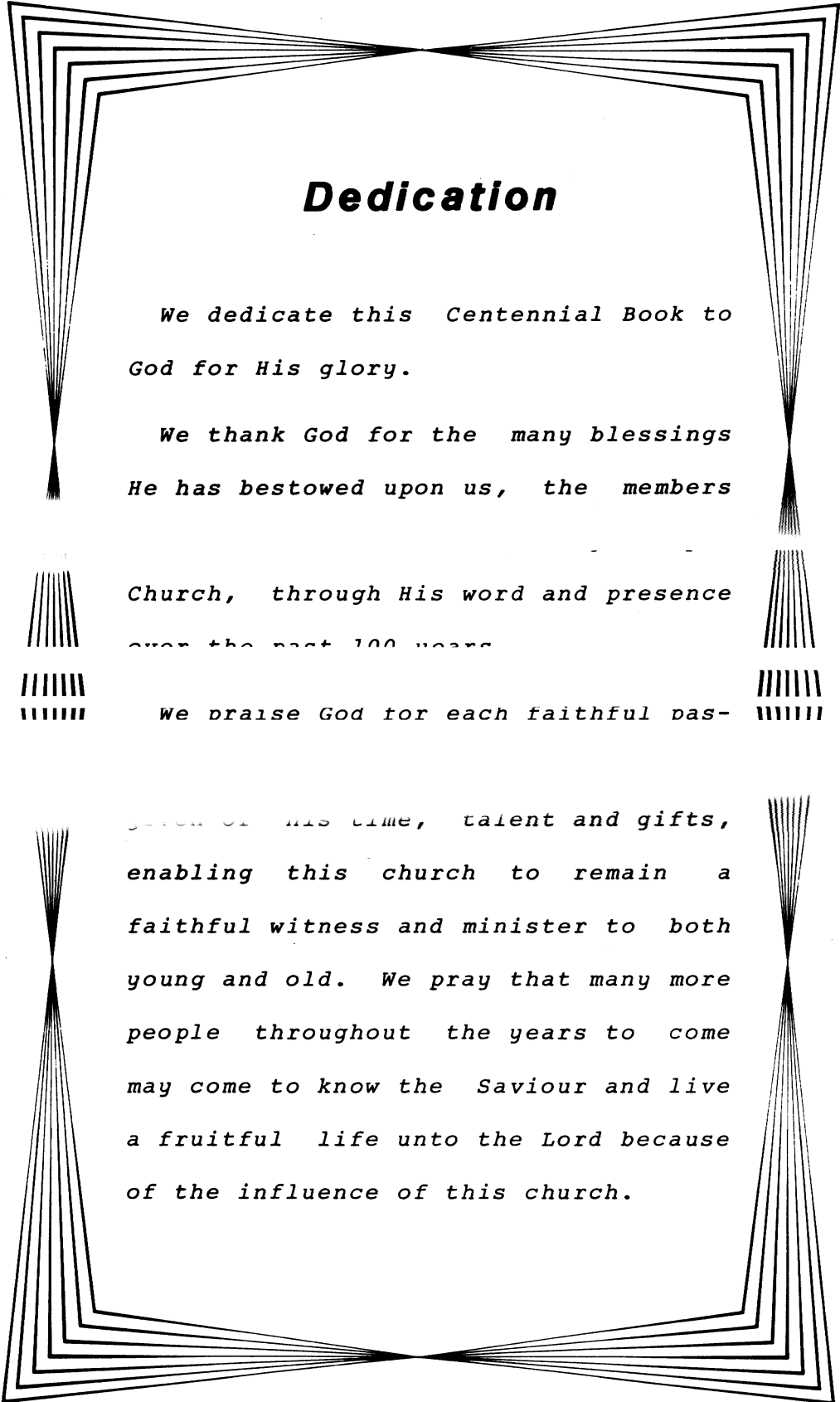
... you the opportunity to serve in the footsteps of others who have loved the Lord and have been willing to give of themselves in a sacrificial way that others might come to know our Lord.

I am also confident that those who now make up this church will also continue to love, live, and give of themselves, that God may continue to bless the lives of many in the days to come; until He sends forth His Son and catches up His own to meet those already in His presence, to sit at the table of the marriage feast of the Lamb; and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

In Christian Love,

Pastor Kermit Gladfelder

Pastor Kermit Gladfelder



Dedication

We dedicate this Centennial Book to
God for His glory.

We thank God for the many blessings
He has bestowed upon us, the members

Church, through His word and presence
over the past 100 years.

We praise God for each faithful pas-

servant of His time, talent and gifts,
enabling this church to remain a
faithful witness and minister to both
young and old. We pray that many more
people throughout the years to come
may come to know the Saviour and live
a fruitful life unto the Lord because
of the influence of this church.

INTRODUCTION

The official records for the first 18 years of the Minerva Wesley Chapel Church are missing. Our data was compiled from family histories, old letters, memoirs of folk now deceased, old publications, old Marshall County histories, Hawkeye Heritage, Marshall County Atlases, and Court House records. In sifting and sorting through all of the above, conflicting statements of fact were uncovered in some of the histories and atlases. To the best of our ability, we tried to separate fact from fiction and arrive at the truth. We eventually reached certain conclusions which will be presented in this narrative together with the known historical facts.

FIRST SERVICES

The first religious services in Marshall County were held in early winter of 1846, approximately one mile from the location of the Minerva Wesley Chapel. A group of Mormons on their way from Navoo, Illinois to Council Bluffs, Iowa, were overtaken by early snows and other bad weather. They spent the winter on high ground on what is now known as Morman Ridge. Being unprepared for a severe winter in the open, many of them died of pneumonia, exposure, and malnutrition and were buried there. The survivors eventually joined Brigham Young's group at Council Bluffs and continued on the journey to Utah.