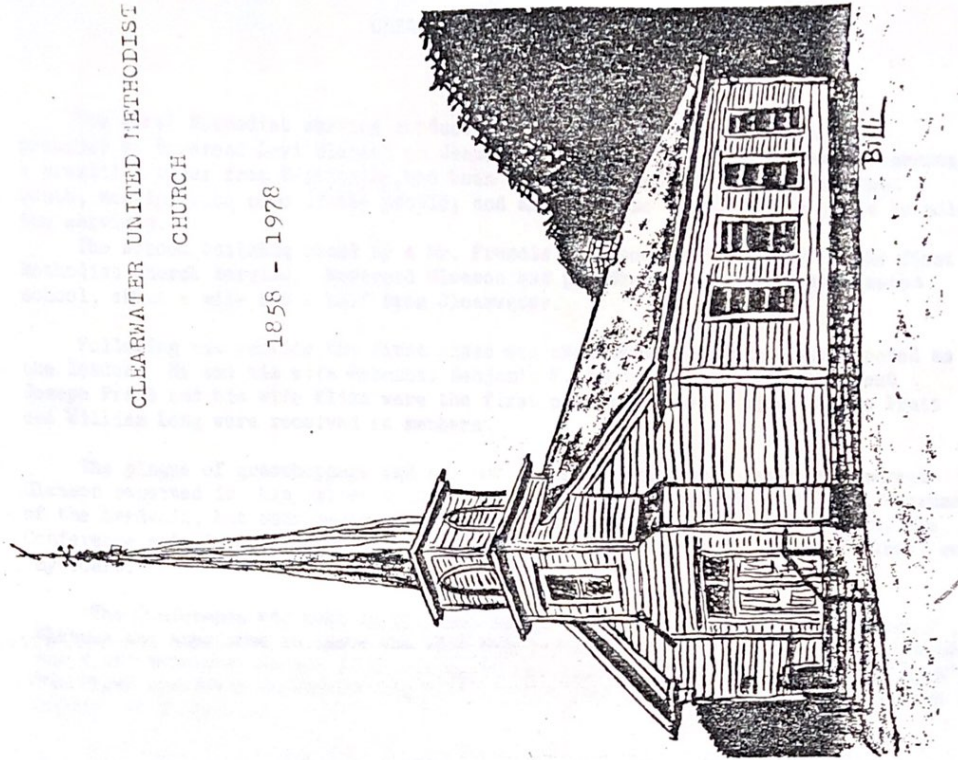


1858 - 1978



[1978] (1)

A SUMMARY OF HAPPENINGS IN METHODISM  
AT  
CLEARWATER, MINNESOTA

The first Methodist service conducted in the village of Clearwater was preached by Reverend Levi Gleason on January 23, 1858. He and a Reverend Sterritt, a presiding elder from Monticello, had been in the Clearwater area earlier that month, meeting with some of the people, and arranging, no doubt, for a place to hold the services.

The school building owned by a Mr. Francis Morrison, was the site of the first Methodist Church service. Reverend Gleason had preached that morning at Fremont school, about a mile and a half from Clearwater.

Following the service the first class was organized. James Lee was elected as the leader. He and his wife Rebecca, Benjamin T. Lyons and his wife Lydia and Joseph Pratt and his wife Eliza were the first ones mentioned. Later Martha Pratt and William Long were received as members.

The plague of grasshoppers had all but destroyed the crops, so that Reverend Gleason reported in his letter to Conference: "Many suffered but none died, because of the hardship, but many became destitute. For my labors in the field until the Conference met, I received a coat, pants and vest, worth perhaps fifteen dollars, and my board."

The Conference was held in St. Paul in April of 1858, at which time Reverend Gleason was appointed to serve the Sauk Rapids and Clearwater circuit. He preached the first Methodist sermon in St. Cloud on May 7, 1858, in a school in "Lower Town". The first quarterly conference was held at this same lower town, and included Sauk Rapids and Clearwater.

Reverend Gleason had been staying at the home of Eli B. King, who during the summer allowed the calling of a camp meeting at his place. "nearly a score" were converted according to the notes in the report of Reverend Gleason.

Indications are that plans were considered for the establishment of a circuit which would include Elk River, Orono, Fair Haven, Maine Prairie, St. Cloud and Winnebago Prairie (Brockway) as well as Clearwater.

A Reverend Creighton from Monticello, had conducted services at the home of John Dow in Clearwater, but he did not continue here.

Reverend Noah Lathrop (appointed to the circuit at a Conference held at Red Wing in 1875) laments the fact that record books have been so neglected, and adds that "I greatly regret this, as it occasions much embarrassment."

Reverend Leland Smith, (pastor 1880-83) says, "I have visited Garden Valley, near Kingston, where there is a class of 26 that need services," which gives an idea of how great an area the influence of the men covered and how great was the need. Reverend Smith also writes: "I was appointed Pastor of the Clearwater charge in 1880. There was no church building, and the society was embarrassed by debt, both on the parsonage and for hall rent. By diligent effort the debts were paid and a church erected at Clearwater, and dedicated by Bishop E.D. Foss, October 16, 1881."

The record dated September 19, 1883, continued: "At present writing the congregation is unencumbered by debt, and the charge is now in good financial condition". Considering that eggs sold or traded for five cents per dozen, butter at eight cents per pound, oats ten cents a bushel, wheat fifty cents per bushel, and fifty cents paid for a full day's labor, this was quite an accomplishment.

Reverend Doran, who preached here in 1890, also preached in the Lee school and the McLellan schoolhouse, where he found "peace and harmony prevailing."

Lack of records, as reported by Reverend Lathrop, hampers our reconstruction and reporting of the activities of the church here. Any history is based upon people, workers, helpers, hearers, and all. Among the pastors who served the congregation we hear of Reverend Valentine, Reverend Abbott, Reverend Bryan, Reverend Spicer, Reverend Lowe, and Reverend Sheffield, who served this church so well for ten years.

Miss Mable Lee went from this church to spend many years as a missionary in Japan.

Several licensed preachers have been members of this church, including Thadeus Woodworth, I.C. Humphries, Clyde Shattuck, Dr. Ernest Lowe,

A.B. Ferguson and just recently, Harold Agnew.

Mr. Humphries' daughter, Mrs. Ruth Evans, and Myrtle Trafton were pianists at this church for many years, and Reverend Shattuck was an able and dedicated member of the Conference at the time of his death. Reverend Lowe has served at some of the best churches in the Conference, and was District Superintendent for one term.

While Reverend Spicer was here he instituted a "Fall Church Fair" which was of interest to the whole community.

Mrs. John Lowe was instrumental in the organization of groups of ladies who had formerly been the "Ladies Aid". There had been no groups in the country, until her efforts to get them organized.

Later, when Reverend Sheffield was here, the country group scheduled their meetings in the evening so that whole families took part.

While Reverend Claude Spicer was pastor here, he held a Memorial Day service during which trees were planted to honor men from the church who had served in the armed services. These elms are dedicated to George P. Boutwell, James Lyons, Ralph Humphries, B.F. Lyons, and Mr. Russell.

In October of 1941 a celebration of the completion of the new church parlors was observed, along with the sixtieth anniversary of the original dedication of the church building. The new parlors were made possible by a fine gift from the Alice Ponsford estate, and by the generosity of many of the members who had worked with teams of horses and scrapers to dig the basement. While the work was being done, the building was moved into the street north of the present site, where services were conducted during construction.

Observance of the eightieth anniversary of the founding of the congregation was held on February 27, 1948, with Bishop Magee bringing the morning message, and Reverend Arthur Dinsdale, D.S. conducting the evening service. Funds for re-decorating of the church were raised by means of a "Joash Chest" placed in the church, into which members and friends could place their contributions for the project.

In May of that same year the celebration continued with special services at which Reverend John Walker and Dr. Lillico took part. Dr. Earl J. Baumhofer gave the Sunday morning sermon, and Reverend James Burns of Excelsior gave the evening sermon. Nine new members were accepted into the church, following morning service.

The Schefffield family had been here about ten years, and had served the Clear Lake church part of that time. However in 1942 the bridge across the Mississippi was destroyed by ice, and the three mile trip became one of about twenty six miles, by way of St. Cloud, so Waite Park was put on the Clearwater circuit.

Reverend Lorenzo Johnson followed the Scheffields, and they moved directly into the Waite Park parsonage, leaving the village without a protestant minister, the first time in about ninety years. Our parsonage was rented out, and later sold.

Reverend Johnson was with us for five years, during which time we accepted responsibility for taking part in the "Advance for Christ" with a pledge to raise a thousand dollars for Methodist church expansion. This project was not completed before Reverend Johnson was transferred, so Reverend George Haggans delivered the funds to the Conference.

V.E. Day came on May 8, 1945, and Victory over Japan came on August 15, 1945. The following evening an impromptu service was held offering thanks for the end of hostilities. Reverend Johnson was not able to attend, so Andrew Ferguson gave the sermon.

While Reverend Haggans was our pastor, Mr. and Mrs. William Stewart gave one hundred dollars toward a fund for a new carpet for the dais. The gift was in honor of their fiftieth wedding anniversary. The renovation of the interior of the church began as a result of this gift, and others which followed. Observance of the ninetieth and ninty first anniversaries of the organization of the church were well attended and well received while Reverend Haggans was pastor.

Reverend Swan Mattson came to this church in 1950. A new furnace was installed that fall. Plans for a "God's Acre" project were laid in the spring of 1951. Varied and diverse projects were taken on by the various members, and a nice sum was accumulated, a portion of which was allocated to the Parsonage Fund. (The parsonage was rented out for some years, while not being used by a pastor.) The following year fund raising efforts were concerned with the Conference allotment for the Minnesota Centennial fund. Clearwater Methodist Church has taken justifiable pride in its world service giving.

over many years.

Memorials include the Altar Bible, which was given in Memory of Donald Kirk, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel B. Kirk. The picture, Sallman's "Head of Christ" in memory of Mrs. Jens Hansen, mother of James, Clifford, and Mrs. Anna Stokes. The candle sticks are from the Baier family in memory of their father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Gus Baier. A number of the devotional hymnals were a memorial of W.H. Lee; Ira Oatman, Stella Miller, Mrs. Philo Rice, Mrs. Alice Cannon, Reverend and Mrs. John Lowe, Leslie Schacht, Arthur Lyons and many others.

In 1952, Reverend Mattson trained a class of eleven young people who were taken into membership. Among them were Karen, John and James Lee, great-grandchildren of the James and Rebecca Lee who were members of that first class in 1858. This event paralleled the Sabbath morning when James and John Collins and Robert Lyons, three great-grandsons of the Benjamin T. Lyons and his wife Lydia, also among the first class.

This church has maintained a Sunday School over the years, and the teachers and leaders have devoted countless hours to their tasks. Among the Superintendents with long service records are Mrs. Frank Hyatt, Mrs. James Hansen, Mrs. Carrie Schendel, Mrs. Harold Frank, and Mrs. Gordon Heinks. Devoted and dedicated teachers include Andrew Ferguson, Mrs. Lydia Collins, Mrs. Jane Ostrander, Mrs. Peter Adrian, Mrs. George Thiessen, Mrs. Amy Hansen and many others.

Lay workers who have devoted much time, talent, and effort to the continuing progress of the church include: M.D. Boddy, long time treasurer, followed by Alma Henning and Ruby Metcalf (Secretary and Treasurer), Ione Agnew and Jady Helgeson. B.T. Lyons, who helped to maintain the corporation when times were really tough. Much credit should also go to the organists. The present organists are Margaret Strommer and Kitty Helget. John Lee was a trustee of the church for many years, and a grandson of one of the founders.

Mrs. Walter (Jane ) Ostrander has been recording secretary of the Official Board for eleven years, associated with the Ladies Group since it began, she has represented the church at the Conference several times as Lay Delegate, and was recording secretary for the Central Minnesota Parish. She is the granddaughter of Benjamin T. and Lydia Lyons who were among the first members of this church, in 1858. Her sister Lydia Collins has also served long and well.

Our connection with the Central Minnesota Parish was fruitful and encouraged a broader participation in Christian activity. We also had opportunities to enjoy different preachers, periodically, and meet new people in our visitation among the other churches. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Frank, Mr. Harold Agnew, Kitty Helget, Mr. Walter Baier, and Mrs. Harold Agnew were delegates to these meetings, during the ten year period of our membership.

Miss Mary MacNicholl arrived here in July of 1962, and in her first Pastor's Report she states: "In 1881 the Clearwater Church was built. It is a frame structure, which was remodeled in the early 40's to include a basement. There is no running water at the present time. A pump with a drain supplies the water. An oil furnace was installed during the summer of 1961. New wiring is a crying need. The frame building is well kept. I do not know the original cost."

New wiring was installed in 1963 at a cost of about \$1,100.00. A water system was also added, with its accompanying problems.

In October of 1965 a new Conn organ was dedicated to the memory of Reverend and Mrs. John Lowe. Her daughter, Mrs. Margaret Strommer had worked diligently to raise the funds and get the instrument, which was bought from the Bach Conn Organ Studios, of Minneapolis.

Miss MacNicholl was transferred during the Conference of 1968, and Reverend Earl Almquist came to live in the Becker parsonage, serving Becker, Clear Lake and Clearwater.

At about this time the name of the organization was again changed. It was started in 1858 as "Methodist Episcopal Church", was changed in 1948 or 1950 to "Methodist Church" and now with the inclusion of new groups was named "United Methodist Church." Proper legal channels must be followed, to make these changes, so the cost for the latest change of recordings at the county offices was \$27.

There is a note that the steeple was leaking in the October, 1968, Official Board minutes. Replacing flashings was tried to correct this. This was not successful, as we are this year (1977) trying to get the steeple rebuilt, so as to make the entry was safe again. The estimated cost of this project is between four and six thousand dollars.

(4)  
Reverend Gerald Barnhardt followed Reverend Almquist, and he lived in the parsonage at Waite Park, serving that church, Clearwater, and Clear Lake. Upon his transfer to another church, we were fortunate to have Dr. Peter Fribley of St. Cloud State University assigned to our church and Clear Lake.

Our church has survived the times of stress and of jubilation. We hope that the changing social atmosphere will be helpful to our growth and service to the community. The fellowship afforded by the members and friends is a vital and moving force for good. The sincere dedication of the many people who take responsibility in the operation of the church indicates a healthful and positive attitude, which must be expanded and nurtured.

No matter what we think about our present conditions, we should remember that our predecessors had problems, some of which may have been quite extraordinary compared to ours, but they carried on with faith and sincere dedication, which we must emulate. We have so many, many more blessings, comforts, and conveniences that we should feel elated when asked to share in making improvements in plant or in expanding the out-reach of the influence of the church.

January 1978 will mark the one hundred and twentieth year since the first "Class" was organized here by Reverend Levi Gleason.

The ninetieth anniversary of the church was observed on September 6, 1948. Former pastors and members were contacted and urged to come. Reverend John Lowe, of Long Prairie, father of Mrs. Margaret Strommer, conducted the morning service; Dr. George Valentyne of Minneapolis who was pastor here fifty six years earlier, conducted the evening service. Reverend Frank Bryan, Reverend John Parish, Reverend Claude Spicer, and local preacher Andrew Ferguson each gave short talks.

The girl's choir helped out at the afternoon service, and Mr. Lyle Pearson sang a solo, as did Mrs. Clarence McLaird.

A "pot-luck" dinner was served at five thirty by the ladies of the church. Letters of regret were read from Reverend Lorenzo Johnson, Reverend Charles Sheffield, and Reverend Abbott, who was ill.

In 1958 the Centennial of this church was observed with great cleaning, painting, and planning by nearly everyone among the membership.

Blanche and Jesse Stewart, and George and Ruth Stokes, and Mildred and Bernard Nordell were "Downstairs" committee, while Margaret Strommer and Amy Hansen were in charge of the upstairs. New drapes were bought, made and hung in the sanctuary, with the help of Mrs. Harold Frank, Edith Lee, Ruth Stokes, Dolores Kniss, Vivian Baier, Kathleen Sheldon, Carrie Schendel, Louise Ferguson, and Mildred Nordell. Two sewing machines and steam ironing boards were set up in the basement to carry on the activities. When hung by Chris Hansen, Oscar Strommer, and Ellis Kniss, with the supervision of the ladies, they looked great, and added considerably to the appearance of the sanctuary.

Material for the window draperies was given by Jesse and Blanche Stewart, and the same group made and hung them.

August 24 was the date set for the observance, and a fine crowd came to the 10:30 a.m. service. (Later dinner was served to nearly 150 people).

Reverend Swan Mattson, our own pastor gave a fine and appropriate sermon. The Junior Choir, under the leadership of Mrs. Eleanor Katio, all dressed in white robes, stood on one side, while the Youth Choir (slightly older young people) were at the opposite side of the platform, near the organ. Mrs. Hazel McLaird also sang a solo, which everyone enjoyed.

The celebration resumed in the afternoon, and finally came to a close about four p.m. Everyone had a fine time visiting and hearing the sermons and talks.

The Youth Fellowship group came back to wash up the dishes, and Edith Lee and Mildred Nordell finally had all silver and other dishes sorted and replaced by eight o'clock.

The choirs list includes thirteen names of "Juniors" and nineteen for youth choir. Only Kitty Kothman (Helget), Bruce Baier, and Judy Hansen (Helgeson), Don Miller and Ralph Baier still come to church here. Of the Juniors, none are around here.

Mrs. Paul Henning contacted former members, Reverend Mattson contacted the former pastors, Mrs. J.E. Hansen was in charge of music, Mrs. B.R. Nordell planned the afternoon program and wrote the history, Dr. Ernest E. Lowe who was first licensed from this church, gave the afternoon sermon.

Personal involvement seems to be the key to getting this congregation doing things. When some project or program needs doing, if the members are

urged to do some of the planning, get involved in the execution of the work, and take part in the program, then good results will derive.

(5)

Searching the materials of Mrs. Walter Ostrander, which she graciously allowed me to delve into, I came across the following cut from a small bound note book.

"1898-99 Record of M.E.S.S.

#### Officers

Supt. Mr. S.J. Marvin	Asst. Supt; Mr. Will Lee
Treasurer: Mrs. Midwood	Secretary: Blanche Phillips
Asst. Sec. Laura Neese	Librarian: Nettie Brannon
Organist: Maude Bursell	Asst. Organist Stella Fish

Bible Class, Mr. I.G. Humphries, Teacher

Mrs. Midwood	Mrs. Cummings	Mrs. Ridley
Mrs. Neese	Mrs. Woolford	Mrs. Wm. Lyons
Mrs. Frank Lyons	Mrs. Marvin	Mrs. Jane Mitchell
Mrs. Leme	Mrs. Shirley	Wm. Lyons
F.F. Lyons		

Young People's Bible Class: Rev. Mower, Teacher

Mr. R.L. Whitney	John Mitchell	Peter Paulson
Alec Mitchell	Dan Whitney	Hugh Whitney
Robert Marvin	Leon Mower	Edwin Barrett
Lewis Bentley	Bert Ridley	Vernon Ridley
George Ridley	Elwin Fish	Leemon Fish
Will Lee	Miss Edwards	Mrs. Wm. Lee
Miss Benson	Miss Warner	* Nettie Sheldon
Nettie Brannon <sup>1</sup>	Stella Bentley	Eva Bentley
Irene Marvin	Laura Neese	Emma Keene
Etta Barrett	Lizzie Trafton	Carrie Barrett
Mollie Heaton <sup>2</sup>	Daisy Allison	

\*Mother of Ruby, and Hazel Metcalf and Mrs. Paul Henning.

<sup>1</sup>Mrs. Kniss

<sup>2</sup>Mollie Bentley

Young Ladies Int. Class  
Maude Bursell: Teacher

Mary Barrett	* Elsie Lyons	Agnes Humphries
Elsie Ridley	Kate Robertson	Nora Slattery
Florence Gillett		

\*Lucielle Lumley's mother

Boys Second Primary Class  
Stella Fish: Teacher

Lester Newell	Worth Shirley	Morris Wolford
Willis Barrett	Archie Kirk	George Robertson
Cyril Woodworth	Gilbert Spencer	Judd Bentley

Girls Second Primary Class  
Mrs. Lee: Teacher

Myrtle Trafton	Edna Barrett	Alice Gillett
Lydia Shattuck	Lydia Lyons	Jennie Lyons
Grace Barrett	Hattie Stokes	

Mrs. Mower's Class

Myrtle Shirley	Pearl Whitney	Ethel Allison
Harriet Phillips	Grace Woolford	Ward Whitney
Grace Ridley	Chester Cline	Lester Ridley
Roscoe Shattuck	Grace Slattery	Harry Barrett
Wilbur Barrett	Roy Allison	Jay Woodworth
Eddie Gillett		

First Primary Class  
Mrs. Fish: Teacher

Lola Newell	Vera Woodworth	Archie Barrett
Laura Bentley	Morris Bentley	Johnny Marvin
Ida Barrett	*David Stokes	<sup>1</sup> Ross Stokes

\*Husband of Anna,

<sup>1</sup>Father of George

Delving slightly deeper I came across a "Pastor's Report" signed by G.S. Valentine, dated Clearwater, May 17, /92.

S.S. on Charge..... 2 State.. Flourishing and Prosperous. No. of scholars 15 yrs--- Ave. Attendance----- --- to Children-- Not yet. Children's classes-- none; receptions.. none; Expulsions--none; Re'cd on Certificate--none; Deceased--Mrs. Eadle..one; Withdrawals--none; Pastoral work--Lees; Village, Lyons; Misc. Coll--\$14.50.

Also among the papers were the results of what we might call an "every member canvass" although, there is no knowing whether every one was contacted. These are sheets of paper upon which the following appears as a heading: "Clearwater, Minn. March 19, 1892. We the undersigned promise to pay amounts set opposite our respective names, on or before Octover 1st., 1892, for the support of Rev G.G. Valentine....." This is written by hand, and lines of dollars and cents are provided. On some of the sheets, the Pastor's name is omitted, but there is a space for the pledge, and for the date of payment.

Deeper in the box the following came to light: (Also written by hand). "To the 4th Q.C. held at Clearwater Sept. 4, 1890. I now present my 8th report on this charge..... Have made about 40 calls.... Our church is having steadt growth .....is in good condition spiritually.... Recd. into church 4, three on probation and one by letter....Meetings are well attended... Sunday School doing well... Our young people's meeting is doing well, we have great hopes for it in the future, if older people will encourage them by their presence and example...(mention of how many take Christian Herald and other publications) ...Have dropped quite a few names from the record, our books are in good shape, no debts on the church, taxes paid on parsonage...

Respectfully submitted:  
D.S. Wigstead."

The following is again handwritten, not dated nor signed. "Came to Clearwater the spring of 1875. Know church nor S.S.: Services in Cong. Church once in two weeks-----In the fall of 76, one year later we hired John Kirk's hall and went to keeping house by ourselves. Organized a S.S. of about 30---with T.P.W. as Supt. Our S.S. has always been successful."

Among the papers is a "Pierce's Memorandum and Account Book" labeled "Church" 1889...Among the pages is one devoted to "Help on furnace... John Mitchell, Digen...2; Elick...1; Frank Lyons Scrapen  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; Midwood...1; (some undecipherable marks) Woodworth $\frac{1}{2}$ ; H. Barrett.  $\frac{1}{2}$ ; laying brick, carpenter work." Another page gives the run-down of the expenses for the installation: "Fair...\$3.10, nails...50; lime...50; Flooring... 30; rivets.. 10; plank.. 50; (for headers--elm) 16 ft. pine plank... 35; poker....25; spike..25; 2 bb lime..2.50; Brick..3.80; Marvin Furn...50; Cost of Furnace & Fixtures...\$71.75; Total cost in place.. \$88.40." (The booklet is almost a work of art. Advertising "World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo N.Y. and London Eng.")

Also found is a "Furnace Agreement" between Conant & Hamilton of Minneapolis, and S.H. Marvin for the church at Clearwater, dated November 21, 1889. "We, Conant and Hamilton agree to place above furnace and extras on board cars for seventy one dollars and seventy five cents (\$71.75) .... Terms of payment: --- Thirty dollars cash at time of sale; (Nov. 21st. 1889) Balance sixty days from date. Signed: Conant & Hamilton, H.S. Marvin."

Record of a meeting held on July 10, 1889, at which the officers were elected for the coming year, and duties were assigned to some of them. "Moved by Pastor Wigstead, and seconded by H.C. Barrett that Mr. Marvin be the voice of the Board of Trustees as to who shall occupy the church and appertanances.....1 yr. Carried.. . Moved by H. Barrett and seconded by J. Mitchell that S.H. Marvin repair the parsonage barn and house taking as compensation therefore the part spool of wire at a fair price. Carried." They also agreed to sell tickets for a lecture which the pastor arranged.

This box also contains an envelope filled with tax receipts paid by the church on the parsonage during 1880 thru 1906.

A blueprint of the heating ducts for the furnace, dated 1913 is also part of the contents of the box.

The cost of the first furnace was amazinly different from later replacements, Oct 15, 1950 \$277.36, and June 1962, "new furnace and controls ....\$900.00!

1858-----PASTORS-----1978

Levi Gleason	-----1858	- 1859
Bartley Blain	-----1860	- 1861
S.T. Sterrett	-----1861	- 1862
T.N. Berlin	-----1862	- 1863
Levi Gleason	-----1863	- 1864
Moses S. Harriman	-----1864	- 1865
C.T. Berkuloo	-----1866	- 1867
W.W. Rork	-----1867	- 1869
Levi Gleason	-----1869	- 1871
A.H. Abbott	-----1871	- 1872
C.F. Garvin	-----1872	- 1875
Noah Lathrop	-----1875	- 1877
M.B. Smith	-----1877	- 1879
J.A. Henry	-----1879	- 1880
Leland P. Smith	-----1880	- 1883
W.M. Wright	-----1883	- 1884
O. Burnett	-----1884	- 1885
D.S. Smith	-----1885	- 1886
E.S. Gardiner	-----1886	- 1888
D.S. Wigstead	-----1888	- 1890
John Doren	-----1890	- 1891
G.G. Vellentyne	-----1891	- 1892
W.J. Heapes	-----1892	- 1892
James Thompson	-----1892	- 1893
W.H. Berkuloo	-----1893	- 1897
J.M. Mower	-----1897	- 1899
S. Fairbanks	-----1899	- 1901
F.W. Peterson	-----1901	- 1902
J.A. Lewis	-----1903	- 1903
Geo. E. Reeder	-----1903	- 1904
Jesse Underwood	-----1904	- 1905
Howard Robinson	-----1905	- 1907
J.L. Parish	-----1907	- 1909
W.C. Follinsbee	-----1909	- 1911
F.A. Turner	-----1911	- 1913
F.J. Bryen	-----1913	- 1916
Justus Parish	-----1916	- 1919
Alex J. Abbott	-----1919	- 1923
Claude Spicer	-----1923	- 1930
John Lowe	-----1930	- 1932
Charles Sheffield	-----1932	- 1942
George Haggans	-----1942	- 1949
Lorenzo Johnson	-----1949	- 1953
Swan Mattson	-----1953	- 1958
Gerald Damsoski	-----1958	- 1962
Miss Mary MacNicholl	-----1962	- 1969
Earl Almquist	-----1969	- 1972
Gerald Bernhart	-----1972	- 1974
Peter Fribley	-----1974	-

List supplied by Dr. Orval Dittus, of the  
Committee (Commission) on Archives and  
History, of the Minnesota Conference of the  
United Methodist Church.

Oscar Strommen.