

# 100 YEARS 1867 - 1967

WISCONSIN  
CONFERENCE CENTENNIAL

WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH OF AMERICA

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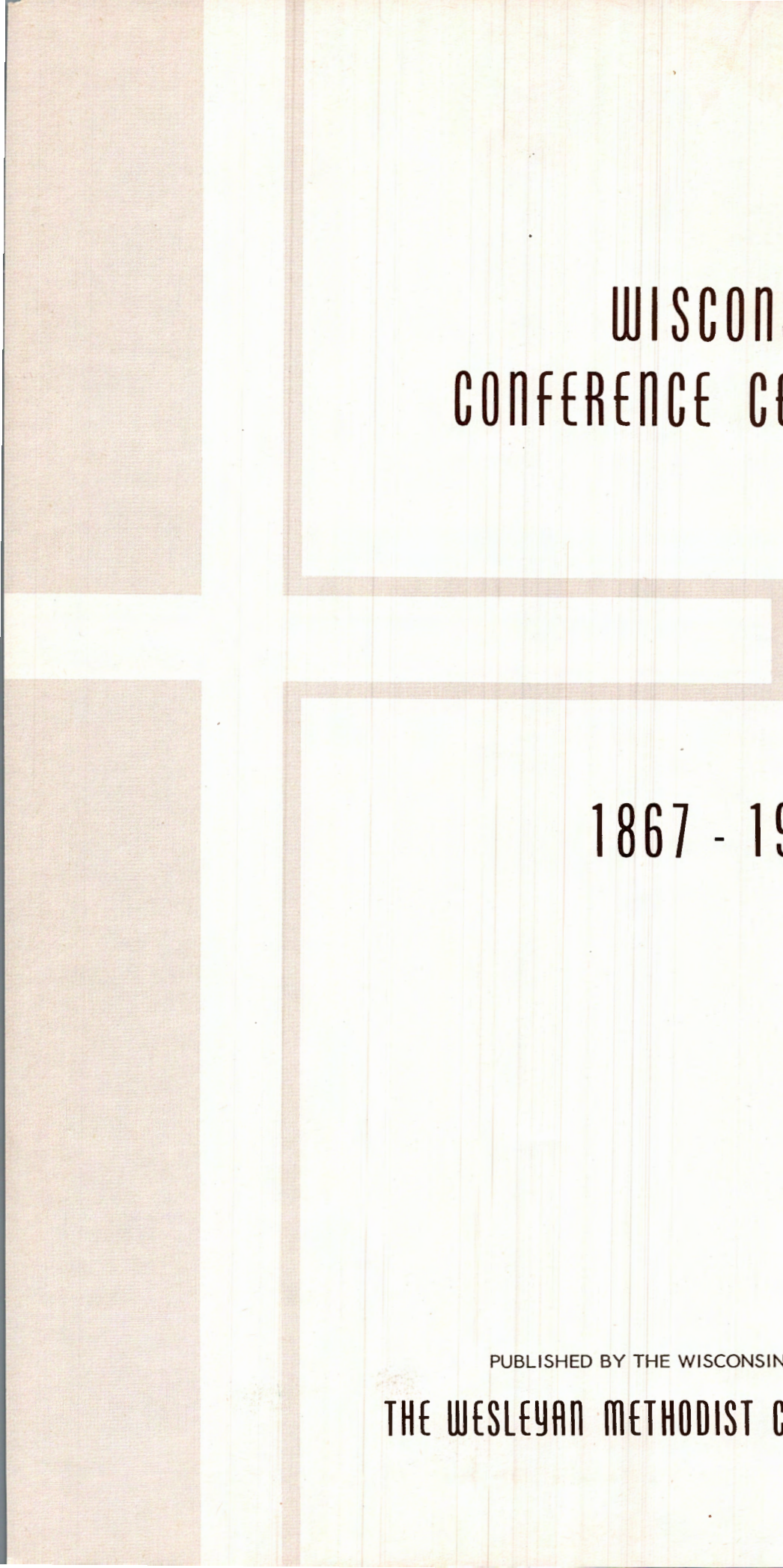


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# WISCONSIN CONFERENCE CENTENNIAL

1867 - 1967

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THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH OF AMERICA

Wesleyan Church  
ARCHIVES



# FORWARD . . . .

In the pages of this book is written the story of 100 years of the Wisconsin Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. We must confess that the historical sketch is far from complete. There may be some omissions, and there are probably some discrepancies, but we ask your indulgence. To collect material covering a century's work was no small task. To each who made the research and who contributed material to make this book possible, we offer thanks. It is our prayer that the review of the past will spur each reader to press forward and cause the future, or as much of it as God permits us to have, to be more rewarding and fulfilling than the glorious past recognized by the pages of this book.

In addition to the members of the centennial committee listed below, we acknowledge the services of the following:

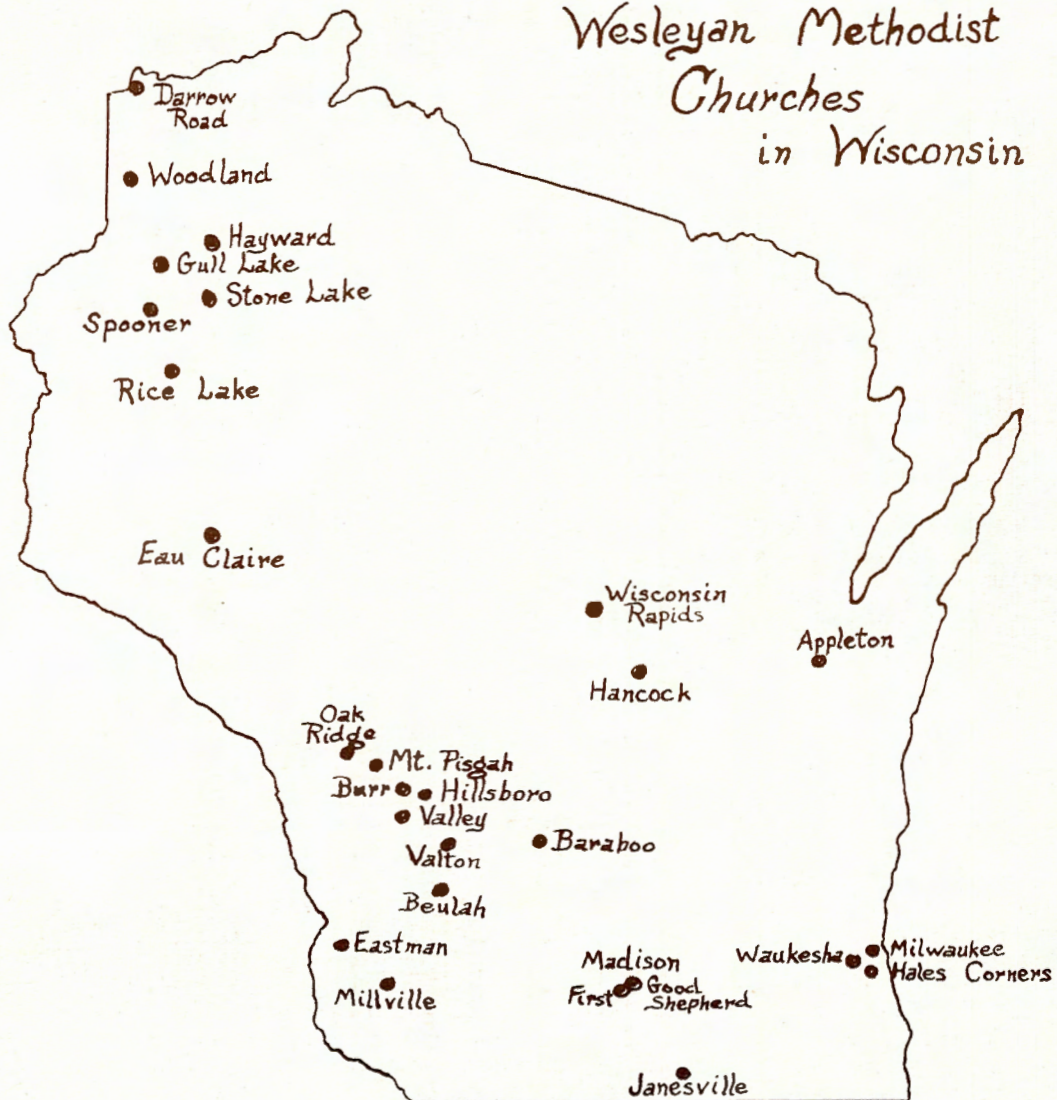
Miss Dorothy Peterson	. . . . .	Church Historian
Miss Marian Peterson	. . . . .	Wesleyan Youth Historian
Mrs. Donald Berry	. . . . .	WMS Historian
Rev. Fred B. Francis	. . . . .	Layout and Production
Rev. H. S. Bennett	. . . . .	Circulation
Mr. Mike Swensen	. . . . .	Photographer

We heartily commend this book to the many friends of the Wisconsin Conference, far and near, and join with all in thanksgiving to Almighty God for the precious memories contained in these pages.

## THE CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Rev. David D. Peterson  
 Rev. John H. Heavilin  
 Rev. Russell G. Buck  
 Rev. Isaiah J. Butcher  
 Mrs. Dwight Stuve  
 Mr. John Gilbert Mortimer

# The Location of present Wesleyan Methodist Churches in Wisconsin



*Note: Anchorage, Alaska included in  
Wisconsin Conference*

# A Brief History of WESLEYAN METHODISM IN WISCONSIN

By Gilbert Mortimer

As the Wisconsin Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America reaches a century of existence, it pauses to recall the words of Moses in Deuteronomy 32:7: "Remember the days of old, consider the years of many generations."

Wesleyan Methodists were identified as such more than twenty years before the present Conference was organized. Before 1845 they were joined with the Iowa Conference, but this union was abandoned when the Wisconsin delegates failed to assemble at the Conference in Iowa. Later that same year, October 1845, they met in Prairieville and formed the Wisconsin Conference. Records show that by 1848 there were 8 elders, 10 licentiates and a lay membership of 268. Further growth brought a division into two Conferences in 1860. The dividing line from north to south went through Wisconsin Rapids and the Western Conference was called the West Wisconsin Annual Conference.

A fairly accurate picture of this West Wisconsin Conference is had because the records of each Annual Conference till 1867 are preserved. The first Annual Conference met at Jacksonville, near Tomah, in October 1860. Rev. A. C. Hand was chosen president. The pastors on the roll were A. C. Hand, A. C. Delap, G. Browne, S. D. Barnette, E. R. Harris, B. F. Morse, L. Hendle, D. Waller, S. P. Delap, and W. W. Saterlee. Pastors were assigned to these circuits: Badax, Little Baraboo, Lemonweir Station, Lindina, N. Badax, Eau Claire, Kickapoo, and Jacksonville.

In 1861, when Ontario entertained the Conference, these additional churches were on the roll: Ironton, Ontario, and Buffalo. The first evening of Conference required a sermon followed by the Lord's Supper. At the third Annual Conference a Missionary Society was organized. The next year the mission budget was set at \$205. The largest congregation was asked to pay \$45 of this amount. One year the Conference evangelist was voted \$40.

While the West Wisconsin Conference was in action during those seven years, their total membership reached 155. There were ten Sunday Schools with 168 scholars. Other churches appeared in the minutes as time passed; they were Lemonweir, Tomah, Mt. Tabor, DeSoto, Garden Valley, Pole Grove, Kildare, and Oaks (Sauk Co.). A mission was also created at Lincoln.

## THE YEAR OF UNION -- 1867

Rev. George Peglar, who had emigrated from New York state to Wisconsin, traveled extensively and was well acquainted with the work. In his autobiography he wrote, "In 1864. . . our churches were considerably weakened by some of our members going down to the front as volunteers; and about this time the so-called union movement commenced, and most of the preachers and many of the members of the Wisconsin Conference left us to find homes more congenial to their views."

The General Conference of 1867 authorized the uniting of the two Conferences. This was done in the ensuing year. The West Wisconsin Conference voted to meet on September 5, 1867 in Lindina, located four miles south of Mauston; Rev. Peglar was its president. Rev. William Webster of the Wisconsin Conference was given an honorary seat. There is no record of any definite action to unite the two Conferences, but we can assume that much discussion and planning must have been done.

When the two bodies met October 15-17, 1868 at Lindina, they finalized the union. The following minutes were recorded at that time:

"The West Wisconsin and Wisconsin Annual Conferences of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America met according to appointment at Lindina in the Stewart Settlement, October 15, 1868. The Wisconsin Conference met first with D.-C. Vaughn, President, and drew up a preamble and resolution relating to a union with the West Wisconsin Conference, and then met with the West Wisconsin Conference President, Rev. George Peglar. Said Conferences were then called to order and opened by reading the Scripture and prayer by D. C. Vaughn."

At the afternoon session the Conference adopted the preamble and resolution of union, which read in part:

"Whereas union is strength and whereas the Wisconsin Annual Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist has been weakened by so-called union movement with the Protestant Methodists . . . and whereas the General Conference . . . has authorized the . . . Conference to do so . . . therefore resolved that the Wisconsin Conference accept the invitation of the West Wisconsin Conference. Resolved that the President and Secretary of the Wisconsin Conference be a committee to present the above preamble and resolution to the West Wisconsin Conference, asking them to accept us of the above named Wisconsin Conference, praying God that He will bless said union and assist by His Spirit and grace that we may become one in very deed."

They chose Rev. George Peglar as President. The churches or circuits at the time of union were Byron and Fox River; Lindina and Lemonweir, Jacksonville; Hillsboro; Pigeon Creek; Lafayette Mission; Pine Grove; Westford; and Eau Claire Mission. The total membership rose to 226. There were 9 Sunday Schools with 21 teachers and 205 scholars.

## TWENTY YEARS OF GROWTH AND CHANGE -- 1868-1888

Six pastors served as Conference President during these years. There was no regular meeting place for Annual Conference; they voted each year on the next meeting place. These charges entertained the Conference one or more times: Lindina, Oaks, Woodland (Sauk Co.), Menomonie (Dunn Co.), Trempeleau, Jacksonville, Oakfield (Fond du Lac Co.), Lyons (Sauk Co.), Waupun, Oshkosh, and Pleasant Ridge.

The statistics recorded in 1879 showed gains being made. There were 28 church organizations and 147 members were received during the year. There had been 68 baptisms. Sixteen Sunday schools had a total membership of 555 scholars. There were 94 families taking "The American Wesleyan."

As it sometimes happens, things did not always go according to plans. At more than one opening of Conference, the President had not yet arrived so the business was carried on with the Vice-President in the chair. One opening session was dismissed because a quorum had not arrived. In one Conference an objection was raised to the President's action in ordaining a pastor without endorsement of the Conference; however, when officers were chosen, this man received all but one vote cast for President. The ministers were very sincere in keeping the Conference pure, thus they were severe with each other. Several pastors were tried on the Conference floor or by a judge and two or three as a jury.

Much time was consumed at Conference in working on committees of reform, which prepared theses to be read before Conference adjourned. Reforms dealt with secret societies, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, dancing, card playing, Sabbath desecration, and divorce. Delegates of the W.C.T.U. appeared at one Conference and gave a report. Rev. Peglar mentioned in his autobiography that the people of Wisconsin whom he served at Lindina, Lemonweir, and Jacksonville were "warmly attached to our peculiar views and reformatory actions."

Reform committees did not take up all the Conference time, however. There were committees for Missions, Sabbath Schools, Books & Periodicals, and Education. Money was raised at each Conference for three seminaries, each of which usually sent representatives to the Conference. These seminaries were Wasioja in Minnesota, Wheaton in Illinois, and Houghton in New York. In 1885 Willard Houghton came to speak about the school that bears his name.

The so-called 'union movement' continued to affect the church. Rev. George Peglar writes that on various occasions he, himself, was also approached by certain leaders of this movement and urged to return. They argued that since several prominent men had left the Wesleys, he should, also. His reply was that he didn't join Wesleys because of any man but from principle and duty and would probably remain while the church had a visible existence, noting that the government of the M. E. church had not changed nor its basic attitude toward certain reforms.

## COMPLETING THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS - 1888-1917

During most of these years the Conference Presidents were expected to keep up a charge as well as travel the Conference. However, in 1896 the Conference voted that the President, Rev. O. S. Warner, spend all his time visiting the churches. This plan was followed until 1903 when he was assigned to the Ironton Circuit. Then in 1913 and 1914 he once again enjoyed full time as President. In his next report he told that he had traveled 2000 miles and had witnessed a revival on every circuit.

During Rev. O. S. Warner's term in office, which extended over 20 years, a number of changes came about. A group of Christians at Spring Branch in Adams County chose to join the Conference in 1900. Waupun was crossed out from the records the same year. This had previously happened to Eau Claire and Byron. In 1903 the Rev. E. W. Bruce was appointed a superintendent of the Northwest District.

In 1911 the Conference voted to require the pastors to visit among their charges two days a week. Since some pastors were responsible to two or three churches on their circuit and since travel by horse and buggy or on horseback was slow, they must have spent a great amount of time on the road from church to church. Some farmed to help keep themselves and their families. That this was necessary is seen by the 1902 statistical report stating that seven pastors received a total of \$843; this was an average salary of \$120 per year per pastor.

Typical of the life of a pastor in these years was that of Rev. Albert Shore, a farmer-preacher. He traveled as far as 30 miles from his farm at Valton to preach in the churches on his circuit every weekend. When he pastored Peck's Corners near Baraboo, he would start Saturday from his home, driving his horse and buggy to his preaching point. When he preached in the Burr Ridge area, he served four churches: Burr, Valley, Oak Ridge and Billings Creek. He also pioneered the work at Trippville. His salary any one year was hardly more than \$100.

The center of the Wesleyan work during the years Rev. O. S. Warner was president was at Bethel near Ironton. A big camp meeting was held there a number of years. Bethel also entertained the Annual Conference five times. During those years a thriving Wesleyan church having as many as 85 members, was located next to the campgrounds. The Wickershams, who lived a short distance from the church, had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married John Ayres, and went as a missionary to Africa in 1905. After her return home later that year due to ill health, she continued to serve the Conference as an officer. Her son, John, was a professor at Miltonvale College for a few years.

Other members of this church were elders of the Conference. This church was visited by many outstanding men of the Connection such as Rev. S. Adam Crooks, J. A. Richards, C. F. Hawley, W. J. Houghton, and D. S. Kinney. Rev. Crooks preached the dedicatory sermon in their second meeting house. Its yearly meeting minutes recorded that this church has given up members on two different occasions when they helped start new churches.

O. S. Warner and Wife, Alice.



Albert Shore



Between 1888 and 1917 some decisions and events took place at Annual Conference that are worthy of note. In 1890 it was decided to have a theological institute and to put out a Conference yearbook. It was also voted to hold a Conference Camp Meeting at the next annual session. In 1903 the Camp Meeting Committee was authorized to purchase land near the Bethel church; money for this project was taken from the Church Extension Fund.

An interesting action took place in 1905 when \$25 was set aside to buy land at Trippville for hitching purposes. In 1909 the Conference voted to have a 30 minute sermon every afternoon at 3 o'clock during the Conference. Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Clawson were appointed pastors at the newly organized church at Stone Lake in 1911; it had been organized by Rev. O. S. Warner.

When the Conference met at Valley in 1915, a ruling asked that Conference be held after the camp meeting on the 'old' campgrounds at Bethel. Rev. Clawson reported to Conference in 1916 that a class of 17 members had been organized at Stanberry; it was added to the Stone Lake circuit. It was decided that same year to have two holiness districts, north and south.

## ENTERING THE LAST HALF CENTURY - 1917-1945

The election of Rev. J. B. Clawson to the presidency in 1917 ushered in the second half of the first 100 years of service by the Conference. The retiring President, Rev. E. R. Dodd, reported that he had organized two churches: Webb Lake and Gull Lake.

In 1919 and 1920 the Conference discussed buying a permanent campgrounds. Permission was given to sell the Jacksonville church property. Rev. Clawson reported in 1922 that he had organized the Chittamo church and a probationary church at Dunnville in Dunn County. The latter church was formed as a result of a very successful tent meeting.

When the 1923 Conference met at Valley, it was reported that the purchase of a permanent campground at Burr Ridge had been completed. Action was taken at the 1924 Conference and \$1500 was raised for the new tabernacle which was built and ready for use when the 1925 Conference met. Two new churches were organized just before this: Beulah and Eau Claire; soon after, Mill Creek and Hayward were added. The same year the Waupaca church was sold.

A glimpse at statistics for 1927 show that there were 27 pastors, 13 of whom were serving full time. The total raised for pastors' salaries was about \$7500. There were 21 preaching points and 20 churches. Fourteen church buildings had a total evaluation of \$32,000; seven parsonages were valued at \$12,000. The number of members had increased 54 that year bringing the total for the Conference to 515.

Special emphasis on youth began in 1930 with the presentation of a petition to hold a "boys and girls" convention. The following year \$50 was voted for this purpose; it was held on Burr Campgrounds. This resulted in the official organization of the Conference youth work. (See WY history.)

Between 1928 and 1934 these churches were organized: Ridgeland, Rice Lake, Spooner, Hillsboro, and Rockbridge. The Oshkosh mission was started in 1936. Rev. Eldred Perkins began the work at Seldon near Superior in 1937; this grew into the Darrow Road church. A church in Minneapolis, Minnesota, started by Rev. E. G. Gearhart in 1930, was organized by Rev. J. B. Clawson, in 1936. Three years later it was transferred to the Iowa Conference by action of the General Conference. Appleton was organized sometime before the 1939 Annual Conference.

In 1942 the Wisconsin Conference was incorporated; the Bethel church was sold; and eight pastors ordained. The 1943 Conference was a long session that lasted from Tuesday of one week until Thursday afternoon of the following week; there was, however, a recess declared over Sunday. In 1943 Rev. and Mrs. Charles Butcher began evangelistic work which brought them at last to central Wisconsin. They purchased a 10-room house in Stevens Point in which they had living quarters and a chapel. Another new work about this time was the Tillinghast mission near New Auburn.

Thus from 1917 through 1945 during the 27 years of Rev. Joe Clawson's presidency, almost a score of churches were purchased or built. Some still serve the Conference; others, due to changing populations and other conditions, have been disbanded including Chittamo, Superior, Carr Valley, Trippville, Tillinghast, Mill Creek, and Stevens Point which was the last church to be closed by the Conference in 1961.



Wesley and Mae Markee and family.



Sidney S. and Laura Hotchkiss.

George and Audra (Warner) Nofsinger and family.



Preachers at Burr Camp in 1927 (l. to r.) standing: I. J. Butcher, Mr. Jacobs, D. C. Elmer, Roy Zschiegner, Raymond Warren, S. S. Hotchkiss, Dr. F. R. Eddy, Jess Whitecotton, Ray Lewis, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. Mae Markee, and Mrs. Jennie Clawson. Front row: Wesley Markee, Keith Peckham, Charles Butcher, Mr. Riley, Harry and Roy Johnson.





Burr Camp about 1930: Back row (l.to r.): McTavish, Preston Kennedy, George Nofsinger ? , S. S. Hotchkiss, ? , Roy Zschiegner, Ladies: Mrs. Jennie Clawson, Mrs. Estelle Lienard, Mrs. Mae Markee; Front: Ray Lewis, J. B. Clawson, I. J. Butcher, Wesley Markee, ? , Charles Butcher, Harry Johnson.



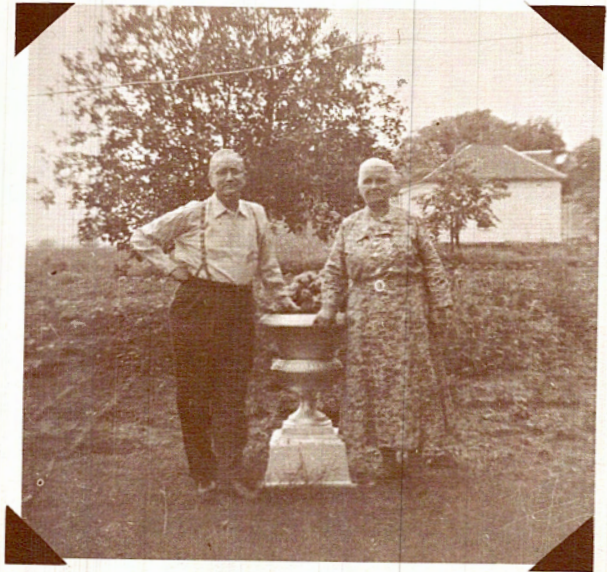
Mrs. Estelle Lienard, pioneer pastor at Rice Lake and Spooner.



At Devil's Lake near Baraboo—Rev. J. B. Clawson (kneeling), Elton Roth (song evangelist), Andrew B. Clawson, Sr. (father of J. B.) and 'Uncle' John Gillem.



Burr Camp about 1933: (l. to r.): Harry Johnson, Willy Armstrong, Charles Butcher, S. S. Hotchkiss, Coral Butcher, I. J. Butcher, J. B. Clawson, Mrs. Jennie Clawson, Katrina Ruse, Roy Johnson, Keith Peckham, M. F. Lienard, Mrs. Estelle Lienard.



Rev. & Mrs. D. C. Elmer.



Dr. Kirby and Rev. W. D. Correll,  
Camp evangelists.

## COMPLETING A CENTURY OF SERVICE - 1945-1967

The Conference has been directed by three presidents since 1945. Rev. Guy M. Hahn served until 1950. Although he promoted the idea of having a Conference parsonage and office, one was not a reality during his term of office. The next two Presidents, Rev. Loring H. Peterson, who served from 1950 to 1960, and Rev. David D. Peterson, elected in 1960, have enjoyed the convenience of this home.

Many changes have taken place in the roll of churches during these years. Compensating for the loss of churches that has taken place during the last half-century of service has been the new thrust into metropolitan areas of the state. In the southern areas these churches have been established: Milwaukee, Janesville, two in Madison, Waukesha, Hales Corners, as well as rural churches at Eastman and Millville. In central Wisconsin congregations have been organized in Hancock and Wisconsin Rapids. A unique addition to the Conference roll from a distance standpoint is Anchorage, Alaska. (For a further look into these years read the Memoirs of the last five Conference Presidents that follow.)

During the century of service a number of pastors, missionaries and Christian laymen, born and raised in Wisconsin, and converted at Wesleyan altars, have gone out to serve the church. Records are not available, nor would space permit, so a complete listing of these is not attempted. However, as the Wisconsin Conference ends its first 100 years of service and begins its second, its members may give praise to God that there are people in many places throughout the world who have been led to Christ through the efforts of this host of workers who got their start among us.

## CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS

(Dates indicate year of election)

### **West Wisconsin Conference**

A. C. Hand, 1860-1862

G. Peglar, 1863-1864,  
1866

S. P. Delap, 1865

### **Wisconsin Conference**

G. Peglar, 1867-1869,  
1871

D. C. Vaughn, 1870

W. C. Mullenix, 1872,  
1875-1878

(No Record), 1873

Wm. Warner, 1874, 1881,  
1886-1887

R. E. Johnson, 1879-1880

S. A. Gilley, 1882-1885

R. Powell, 1888-1890

A. A. Martin, 1891-1893

J. W. Delap, 1884

O. S. Warner, 1895-1896,  
1898-1915

F. Decker, 1897

E. R. Dodd, 1916

J. B. Clawson, 1917-1944

G. M. Hahn, 1945-1949

L. H. Peterson, 1950-1959

D. D. Peterson, 1960-

# THE CONFERENCE W. M. S. HISTORY

By Mrs. Beatrice Berry

It was just a small group that day, when the ladies first met to organize the WOMAN'S HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY, but their efforts will live through eternity. Rev. J. B. Clawson was Conference President at that time, and it seemed only fitting and proper that his wife, Jennie Reid Clawson, should be the first President of these missionary-minded ladies. This important action by the Conference took place in 1919—very likely while the ministers and lay delegates were working on Conference committees. The "Missionary Building", that is at present located between the tabernacle and dining hall, was the meeting place. Many hours were spent in prayer in the main room. The first six years of the society will remain just "precious memories", for records of those years are not available.

When Mrs. Clawson gave her report as President, she made the work seem so vital. The following part of her report in 1925 shows her keen interest in the work of missions and other associations she made with it:

"Does each member take the Magazine? Oh, if you don't, please do. It's so fine and inspirational. We must know about our Missions and Missionaries, else we can not pray vitally for them. I got such a glimpse of this truth recently. I was so interested in the transcontinental flight of the giant airship, Shenendoah, and the use of helium instead of the dangerous hydrogen gas, that I read everything I could find pertaining to it. The "Geographic Magazine" gave such a graphic account of the flight and the men who conducted it, especially of the Commander, Landsowne, that when a few weeks ago the great ship was destroyed, and the commander killed, it seemed like a personal loss. So it should be with our Mission work. Let us know so much about the different stations and who mans them, that we become personally, vitally acquainted with them, then we can pray fervently, work intelligently and become co-workers to gether with them and with Him."

The ladies were grateful then for the five societies that reported a total of sixty-six active members. Mrs. J. B. Clawson, Mrs. Charles Butcher, and Mrs. J. W. Markee were appointed to the committee to plan the work for the new year. The number of societies grew each year. There were the hard years when finances did not gain in accordance with societies and membership, but each year definite gains were made. From the original group Stone Lake and Baraboo have stood the tests and even yet have active societies.

Apparently hard times had an effect on the work of the societies. The Plan of Work stated, "That each society observe Harvest Home Day and send either cash, dried corn or apples, or both to Miltonvale."

Conventions were highlights to the ladies. Charles City, Iowa was host to a convention in 1930, and Mrs. S. S. Hotchkess was elected a delegate. Rev. E. F. McCarty met with the ladies at that convention and urged them to interest the men and told how one society did this by letting the men give a program themselves.

Mrs. J. W. Markee was the first Y.M.W.B. Superintendent, and during those years an Efficiency Standard was adopted to rate the local bands. Fourteen items were used and a band needed to comply with ten of the points in order to be placed on the Honor Roll.

Years passed by quickly. Improvements were made in the dining hall with the local societies responsible for table settings, dish towels, and window curtains. Many societies raised and canned foodstuffs to be brought to Camp Meeting. For the dorm rooms bed linens, bed spreads, quilts and curtains were provided. Local societies have been responsible for the cleaning of the rooms for several years.

Because of special needs on the field, a "Jeep for Japan" was on the mind of Mrs. Harry Johnson. Money was raised in a special effort during Conference and at the Missionary Rally, and a jeep was supplied in 1953. The following year Rev. and Mrs. Harold Johnson and little Lorelei left the work at Baraboo and went to minister in Japan. The Conference W. M. S. then supported Edna Johnson with only field support. Pledges have been made each year and the desire is to soon pay full support. Lorelei was supported by the Y. M. W. B.; and, when baby Nathaniel came along, the Y. M. W. B. added his support, being under-written by the W. M. S. Each year the children have raised more than the needed support.

The campground became very crowded during Conference and facilities were not adequate. A committee worked faithfully to help finance a building that would house four families with

two rooms in each unit. A contractor and an active crew of ministers built this building and later it was named "Clawson Memorial."

When the new dining hall was completed in 1959 the ladies were able to use the old dining hall for their meeting place. Jane Titus submitted the name "Harmony Hall" for the building. The meeting room was called "Rose Room" in memory of Antie Rose, a pioneer, who pastored many of the churches around the campgrounds. Her portrait is hung in this room and many times her life has been mentioned and reviewed to the younger generations of the Conference.

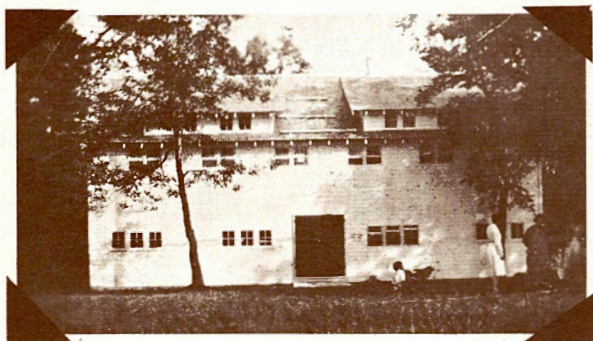
New societies have been added year after year; Anchorage, Millville, Eastman, Madison East and Milwaukee are the most recent. The present membership is 336 active members in 25 organized societies. The aim of the W. M. S. is to have an active group in every church, supporting Missions with prayers and finances.

#### PRESIDENTS AND THE DATES THEY HAVE SERVED:

Mrs. Jennie Reid Clawson .....	1919-1945
Mrs. Marie Hahn .....	1945-1951
Mrs. Florence Johnson .....	1951-1958
Mrs. Ferol Budde .....	1958-1962
Mrs. Beatrice Berry .....	1962-.....

#### Y.M.W.B. SUPERINTENDENTS and DATES:

Mrs. Mae Markee (1st recorded date)	1925-1931
Mrs. Coral Butcher .....	1931-1952
Mrs. Pearl Thrasher .....	1952-1955
Mrs. Lois Peterson .....	1955-1956
Mrs. Pearl Thrasher .....	1956-1961
Mrs. Beatrice Berry .....	1961-1962
Mrs. Lois Drown .....	1962-.....



The 'new' Burr Camp Dining Hall—1926.



At Burr Camp (l to r.) Kenneth Hintz, Josephine King, L. W. King, (bending), J. B. Clawson, Guy M. Hahn.



At Hayward Camp. (l to r.) The Henry Clarks, Bob Thrasher, Josephine King, the I. J. Butchers, the J. B. Clawsons.



Rev. & Mrs. John Gillem, pastors during early 1900's.



The tent on the William Nofsinger Grove about 1910-15.

# A HISTORY OF THE WESLEYAN YOUTH

Marian Peterson

## PRESIDENTS

J. B. Clawson .....	1930-31
Charles Butcher .....	1931-32
J. K. Peckham .....	1932-33
J. B. Clawson .....	1933-34
Violet Woolever .....	1934-35
Floyd Titus .....	1935-37
Josephine King .....	1937-40
Orval Butcher .....	1940-44
Carl Olander .....	1944-45
Lloyd King .....	1945-48
David Peterson .....	1948-49
Robert Mattke .....	1949-53
John K. Heavilin .....	1953-56
Russell Buck .....	1956-61
Donald Berry .....	1961-64
Jerry Rott .....	1964-66
Donald Berry .....	1966-....

## CHARTER MEMBERS

Marion Armstrong  
Ray Armstrong  
Charles Butcher  
Coral Butcher  
Anna Collins  
Ivy Dawn  
Ida Fry  
Florence Hazelton  
Esther Johnson  
Mrs. Roy Johnson  
Roy Johnson  
Ada Katchinski  
Lois Porter  
Esther Schwin  
Amy Warren  
Ivan Warren  
Raymond Warren  
Violet Woolever

The Wesleyan Young People's Society of Wisconsin was organized July 26, 1930 at the Burr Camp with nineteen charter members and nineteen associate members. The first slate of officers included J. B. Clawson, president; Lois Porter, vice president; and Violet Woolever, secretary-treasurer. All business sessions were held during the annual camp until 1954 at which time they were changed and held during Youth Camp.

The state was divided into the northern and southern districts in 1936. In 1953 the state was reorganized into northern, southeastern, and southwestern districts, each under the leadership of a chairman. An attempt was made to have an annual convention in each district. In more recent years the youth have held weekend retreats.

The membership fee was set at ten cents per member in 1933. In 1934 membership dues were changed to \$1.00 per society. Local assessment increased until it reached \$3.25 per member in 1966. The name of the organization was changed to Wesleyan Youth by the General Conference in 1955.

Under the direction of J. B. Clawson a youth tabernacle was built and dedicated in 1938. It was remodeled in 1959 for use as a class room and a boys dormitory which is now known as Brannon Inn.

The youth edited a quarterly paper known as "The Outlook" from 1943-1950 with Eleanor Salisbury as the first editor. In 1950 the paper was replaced by a youth column in the "Wisconsin Wesleyan."

In 1946 the first Wisconsin Youth Camp was held at the Hayward Camp under the direction of the president, Lloyd King. The enrollment of 124 exceeded expectations and the facilities proved to be inadequate. Various homes of the Hayward church people were opened and several stayed off the grounds and drove in for the activities. A number of the boys slept in the bus, which had come from Richland Center with about 50 youth from the southern part of the state. The following year barracks were moved in making room for all. It was in 1947 during the class on missions when Mrs. Rufus Riedsorph was speaking that the Holy Spirit came in melting and convicting power. The altar was filled three times during the morning. There were no barren altar services during the camp. Youth Camp was held at Hayward from 1946 until 1954 when it was moved to Burr Camp.

There may have been many local projects, but the minutes do not reveal any Conference projects before 1951. Since then the projects have been many and varied. \$600 for the Milwaukee church, 1951; \$350 on equipment for Rev. and Mrs. Harold Johnson in Japan, Burr Camp improvements, 1954; public address system, 1955; Coldspot refrigerator, 1956; funds for additional land for the Burr Camp, 1956 and 1957; funds for cafeteria dining service, 1958; \$500 for the Eastman church, 1959; pews for the Hales Corners church, 1962; dishwasher and chairs for dining hall, 1964. Snack shop funds have been used for camp improvements.



Esther Johnson  
and some Spooner children.

Carl and Ann Jackson with Gregory.



The 1944 Annual Conference at Hayward Camp. (l. to r.):  
Rev. & Mrs. Henry Clark, G. M. Hahn, L. W. King, Marie Hahn,  
I. J. Butcher, Josephine King, Robert Thrasher, Oscar & Mrs.  
Hovland, Clarence Mason (in back), Jennie and J. B. Clawson,  
J. R. Swauger, Ernest & Mary Friebe, David Peterson (in  
back), Charles & Coral Butcher, Hazel Butcher, Daren Durey,  
Carl & Mrs. Olander (in back), Elvina & Eldred Perkins, Gwen  
(with baby) & Orval Butcher, the George Failings.



Rev. & Mrs. Ronald Heavilin at Wisconsin Rapids,  
with Ethyle Ramm, David and Merlin Hellman  
and William (Goodman) Butcher (at left).



Conference Board of Trustees at the Good Shepherd building  
site in Madiosn.  
Back row (l. to r.): David Peterson, Russell Buck, Ernest  
Friebe, David Perkins, Eldred Perkins.  
Front: Arlan Ensign, John Clarke, H. S. Bennett, James  
Crooks.



Ministers in Hayward at 1953 Institute: (l. to r.) Back row:  
John Clark, Royal & Genevieve Bailie, Ioring & Flossie Peter-  
son, Ernest & Mary Friebe (in front), Clarence & Jane Titus,  
Joe Reid, John & Beulah Heavilin, Dave & Lois Peterson, Made-  
line & Layland Smith.  
Middle Row: Micheal & Esther Schell, Robert & Jeanette  
Mattke, Robert & Pearl Thrasher, Harold & Clara Keller, O. S.  
Warner.  
Seated: Carl & Mrs. Holder, J. B. Clawson, I. J. & Hazel  
Butcher, Harry & Florence Johnson.

# BURR WESLEYAN METHODIST CAMP MEETING

By Rev. I. J. Butcher

The first Wesleyan Methodist Camp Meeting was held in all probability in the early 1890's on the "old" campground known as the Bethel Camp, located near Ironton, Wisconsin. The annual camp was held there until the early 1900's. Tent meetings were then held around the state for a number of years.

Perhaps the beginning of the Burr Wesleyan Methodist Camp Meeting, as it is now known, was the tent meeting held in the John Wong grove, two miles west of the present campgrounds, in the summer of 1908. The Rev. H. H. Williams was evangelist; Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Williams, his son, were in charge of the music. It seems that more than one tent meeting was held in this same grove.

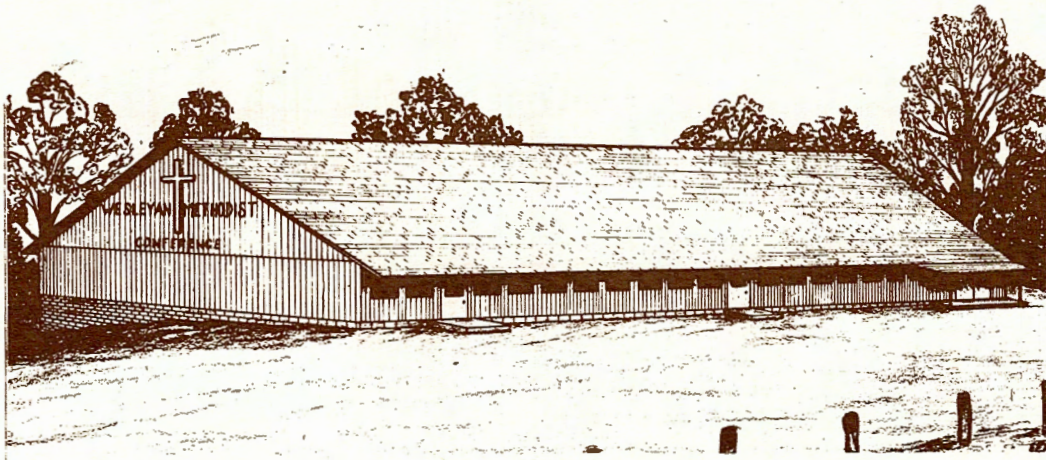
During two different summers tent meetings were held in the William Nofsinger grove, a mile or more further west. For a number of years the meetings were held on the present site, then the Joe Alderson grove. The Camp Meeting Association purchased the grounds from him in 1923.

The dining hall on the Bethel Camp was razed in 1924 and the material was transported to Burr by Ivan Eastman in his old Model T Ford. This lumber was used to build a small dining hall and a two-room workers' cottage. These buildings are still in use; the dining hall was enlarged and is known as the Missionary Building dorm, the cottage is privately owned by Rev. John K. Heavilin.

In the years 1925 and 1926 the tabernacle and dining hall were built. The Rev. J. B. Clawson was master builder. The dining hall, a two story, frame building with sleeping rooms overhead, still stands and is called Harmony Hall. Now it is used by the W. M. S. during its annual sessions as well as a dormitory. The snack shop has been added to it.

Burr Camp Meeting taken in 1928





PROPOSED TABERNACLE, BURR RIDGE—HILLSBORO, WISCONSIN

About the time these buildings were built, a shallow well was drilled. Its depth of about 50 feet is shallow for the wells on Burr Ridge. For a number of years this was used and was a great improvement over hauling all the water to the camp from a spring, located about one-and-a-half miles north of the camp in a valley. As the camp grew, however, this well did not supply enough water to meet the camp needs and late in the 1950's a new well was drilled to the depth of over 200 feet.

Between the years of 1925 and 1945 several camp buildings were added: the present 4-room workers' cottage, the sixteen-room dorm, the three-room and two-room cottages, and a youth tabernacle. In 1959 this building was remodeled into a boys' dorm and a class room and re-named Brannon Inn.

Several private cottages have been built on the grounds. The Clawson Cottage is now the camp office and bookstore; it was built soon after the tabernacle. The Jacob Cottage, now owned by Rev. H. S. Bennett, was built the same year as the 4-room workers' cottage. Miss Louise Gardner owned the cottage now called the Baraboo Cottage. Rev. Robert Mattke built his cabin by remodeling Miss Gardner's garage. Rev. Loyd Poe's cottage was purchased by the Conference for the Conference Presidents; this was later sold to Mrs. Mary Gear. Rev. David Peterson has built a cabin in this area of the grounds. The Eckleberry cabin was moved from behind the tabernacle when the sixteen-room dorm was built; before this it had the unique distinction of being the birthplace of the writer's daughters. It is now owned by Mrs. Clara Richardson Stienbring.

In the mid 1950's and early 1960's other changes occurred. A cement block sanitary building, having showers and laundry areas, was erected. A new dining hall was built of cement blocks; later a frame upper story, having 13 dorm rooms, was added. These are owned privately. The Clawson Memorial Cottage, containing eight rooms for housing four families, was built from funds made available by the Clawson family and the Conference W. M. S.

The Burr Wesleyan Methodist Camp Meeting has been blessed by the ministry of some of the leading evangelists of this denomination and others. Included on this list have been the following: H. S. Williams, J. L. Benton, F. R. Eddy, David Scott, E. R. Dodd, Preston Kennedy, John Clement, Jesse Whitecotton, C. I. Armstrong, W. D. Correll, James Hames, James Blain, William Hotchkiss, Rev. Kirby, Peter Wiseman, H. Robb French, W. C. Roberts, E. W. Tolley, Charles Carter, R. D. Reisdorph, Gerald Carry, J. R. Swauger, Warren McIntyre, George Hilson, O. G. Wilson, Charles Wilson, J. Paul Hill, Clinton Jones, Delbert Rose, Royal S. Woodhead, David A. Rees, Claude Reis, Roy Nicholson, B. H. Phaup, H. K. Sheets, Leonard Ravenhill, Edward Angell, James Chrispell, and Paul L. Kindschi.

The Wisconsin Conference is grateful for the accomplishments of the past. Many today are thanking God for the Camp Meeting and for personal victories won there. All are looking forward to great things in the future.

# EARLY CAMP MEETINGS

## NORTHERN WESLEYAN METHODIST CAMP MEETING

Hayward, Wisconsin

by John K. Heavilin

The "Hayward" Camp Meeting was really the "child" of Rev. S. S. Hotchkiss and was formed to provide a camp for the people of the north because most of them had no way or means to get down to the Conference Campgrounds at Burr .

The records at the Sawyer County Court House show that the original land purchase for the campgrounds was 8 acres located on the north edge of the city of Hayward with a front on highway 27. The purchase was made of Mr. E. L. Harmon for \$500 on December 19, 1927.

The camp itself was officially begun in tents on this site in the summer of 1926; doubtless the continuation of the "annual tent meetings" held in Hayward which had given rise to the Wesleyan Methodist Church there.

Rev. S. S. Hotchkiss, the 'father' of the 'Hayward' Camp Meeting, with Mr. Earl Smart and Edwin Olson, Jr.

With the purchase of land, the tabernacle was built. Men who worked on it were Rev. J. B. Clawson, Rev. S. S. Hotchkiss, Rev. O. S. Warner, Ned Clawson, John Gundry, John Sipe, James Gregory and others in the Hayward and Stone Lake areas. A well was driven on the grounds about this time.

Other buildings were added with the passing years. The first workers' cabin later became the home of 'Uncle John' Clark when he served as caretaker. The Stanberry church was moved onto the grounds in the early 1930's and converted into a dining hall and dormitory. Rev. Walter H. Titus built two slab cottages some time in the mid 1930's.

In the winter of 1935 the heavy snow caused the tabernacle to collapse. It was rebuilt, but not as large as it had been originally. On July 12, 1935 an additional 2 acres was purchased from Mr. Harmon for \$100. In 1941 a new workers' cabin was built; Rev. C. I. Armstrong, camp evangelist that year, assisted in its construction. In the summer of 1944 the Wisconsin Conference Annual Conference was held on the grounds.

In 1946 the Conference Wesleyan Young People's Society held its first Youth Camp and used the Hayward Campgrounds; Rev. Lloyd King directed it. The Youth Camp continued to be held in Hayward through 1953. To provide more room for the youth campers, the Conference W. Y. P. S. purchased an army barracks which was moved onto the grounds in the late 1940's.



The Clawsons at Hayward Camp.



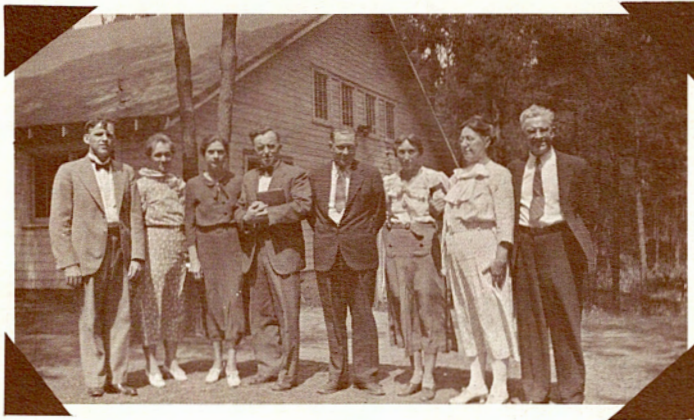
The 1935 heavy snow collapsed the tabernacle.

Wesleyan Church  
ARCHIVES

Beginning in 1950 the Youth Camp was held concurrently with the Northern Camp Meeting. This arrangement worked well and provided workers and campers for both groups. However, when the Youth Camp outgrew the facilities of the Northern Camp in 1954, it was moved to the Burr Campgrounds. This move, brought about the cancellation of the Northern Camp Meeting that year and the camp never reopened.

The grounds, buildings and their contents were sold in 1957 to Mr. John Sipe, owner of the Hayward Boat Company. The newer workers' cabin was removed from the grounds by the new owner and the tabernacle used for storage facilities.

During its nearly 30 year history it had served a vital place in the spiritual life of the Conference. Many will recall the 'frosty' morning when ice froze on the water. All will recall those wonderful heart-warming times about its altars and over its grounds when a keen sense of the presence of the Holy Spirit was felt. Only eternity will reveal the total impact it had upon the lives of those who came under its ministry.



The 1936 workers, left to right: Rev. and Mrs. Charles Butcher, singers; Rev. and Mrs. O. G. Wilson, evangelist; Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Titus, host pastors; and Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Clawson, Conference President:



Rev. & Mrs. Preston Kennedy in front of tent at Hayward Camp.

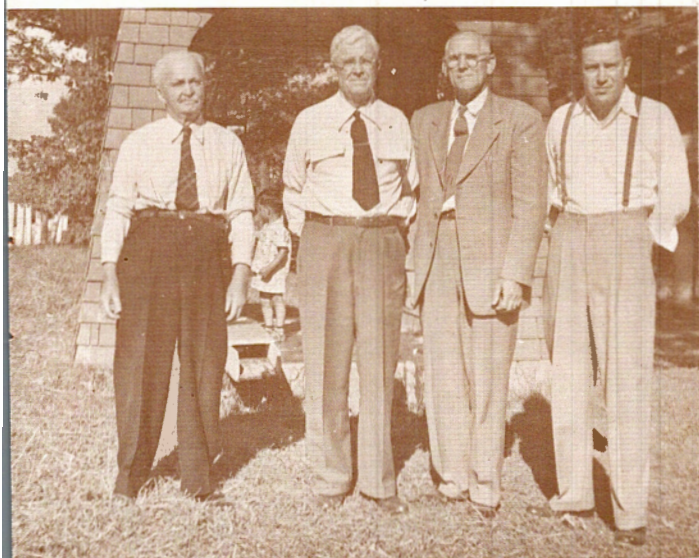


The Charles Butchers 'after' Hayward Camp was over.



The 1946 Annual Conference of the Wisconsin Conference gathered outside the dining hall. Workers included Rev. J. R. Swauger, Rev. George Failing and family in the front row at the right.

# CONFERENCE PRESIDENT'S MEMOIRS



## FOUR CONFERENCE PRESIDENTS

The four Conference Presidents in this photograph served the Wisconsin Conference for a combined total of 62 years. They are from left to right: Rev. O. S. Warner, 19 years President closing out the first fifty years of the Conference's service; Rev. J. B. Clawson, President Emeritus, having served 27 years at the beginning of the second fifty years of the Conference's existence; Rev. G. M. Hahn, giving five years of leadership; and Rev. Loring H. Peterson, president for 10 years and still an active pastor in the Conference.

## O. S. WARNER

**"PIONEERING FOR GOD" By Mrs. Pearl Thrasher,**

Following O. S. Warner's years as Wisconsin Conference President, he built a home in northern Wisconsin in the Stone Lake community. When his three youngest children—Audra, Margie, and Hazel were ready for high school around 1922, he and his family moved to Marion, Indiana.

Here he and his wife, Alice, worked in the Marion College kitchen. While at the college his three daughters married. He and his wife then moved back to their northern Wisconsin home.

During this time they followed N. K. Long in pioneering the Spooner church—several times walking the distance from Stone Lake to Spooner. At the same time they pioneered for several years the Chittamo Church in its early beginnings, driving from their Stone Lake home.

He passed away to his heavenly home in June, 1957, at the age of 91.

For a record of the twenty years that Rev. O. S. Warner served as President of the Wisconsin Conference see the Conference History, section entitled, "Completing the First Fifty Years, 1888-1917".

## J. B. CLAWSON

**"SERVING GOD AND THE CHURCH"**

All I have ever amounted to I give credit to my God and my godly parents. I was saved at the age of nineteen in my home church at Dixonville, Pennsylvania. Up to that time my life had been one of sin and dissipation. But God had mercy and changed my vile nature. Another miracle took place. No more did I stutter and stammer, and for the first time I was able to go alone to buy my own clothes.

I had quit school expecting to be a carpenter or a miner, but after my conversion I returned to grade school. Well do I remember my good boyhood friend and teacher, Dr. I. F. McLiester, who encouraged me to keep at it. Later at Houghton College I took all the English courses then offered and married the English professor, Miss Jennie Reid.

It was while we were at Central Holiness University, Oskaloosa, Iowa, that we and three other families became enthusiastic about buying land in northern Wisconsin at Stone Lake. We agreed to start a Wesleyan Methodist Church there.

The first Sunday we, the Clawsons, spent at Stone Lake, we had a "bush meeting" in the pine grove of our place. Our first convert was a woman who had kept saloon for years. I believe she made it through to the pearly gates.

We began to branch out and at one time were preaching in seven different places—school-houses mostly. My wife taught school in Stone Lake and also preached. This helped to supplement my first year's salary of five dollars and a bushel of rutabagas!

Transportation was different in those days. I walked to many of these different schools where I held services and at times would take short cuts through the woods. It was on one of these short cuts I had the "pleasure" of shooting a bear, only to find out it was a large porcupine.

In 1916 we attended our first Conference Camp which was held at Valton. In 1917 the Annual Conference elected me to be its President. During my twenty-seven years of Presidency the following churches were organized: Appleton, Baraboo, Beulah, Chittamo, Eau Claire, Hayward Hillsboro, Mill Creek, Minneapolis (Now Waite Park), Oshkosh Mission, Rice Lake, Ridgeland, Spooner, Stanberry, Tillinghast Road, Darrow Road and Superior. My wife pastored eight churches and cared for our two children, Andrew and Norma, while I did conference and evangelistic work.

Many are the memories of how God answered prayer and led in the purchase and building of the Burr Campgrounds. The land was purchased in 1923, and in 1925 the tabernacle, our first new building, was ready for use at Conference time. Later, the dining hall (now Harmony Hall), dormitories and cabins were built—all a part of my job! Many things we take so for granted now were different in the early days of our Conference and Camp. There was the lighting! The light plant was down under what is now Harmony Hall. When, during an evening service, the lights began to grow dim, one or more of would have to hurry to get the light plant operating again. "Lights out" was no problem then!

Preparing the rooms before Conference and Camp was a big job but fun for many. Lines were strung about the grounds for airing bedding, wood was to be split for the old kitchen ranges, water pumped into the large storage tank above the old kitchen, rooms were scrubbed, and the ticks had to be filled with straw before the beds were made up. Work was done with great expectancy for God's presence to meet with us. Praise His dear name for these times of spiritual refreshing.

Well do I recall the time Brother Harry Johnson asked me to sing a solo at Superior. An old Baptist song leader said to me after the service, "Say, you're some singer!" He did not say what he meant, and I do not know yet!

I went to Dunnville, south of Eau Claire, to hold a meeting. The only place where we could preach was in an old church, owned by an old lady and her two brothers. Hesitatingly they turned over the keys, and services were announced. The first night there was a fair sized crowd. The second night we took up services because there was to be a big school supper. The girls baked a lot of pies. The boys got drunk and ate the pies. The girls got none. The next night we had a large crowd and the Spirit of God began to work. Many were converted. This was really the beginning of the Eau Claire Church.

In 1953 while pastoring at Spooner my wife went to be with the Lord.

Just before retiring as pastor I married Mrs. Jack Float. After years of retirement the Conference placed us as supply pastor at Rice Lake. Again I retired, moving to Buffalo, New York in 1959.

At present I am looking to Him who has been with me down through the years. There have been many temptations and trials but God has helped me through them all. The cry of my heart is "More Love to Thee, O Lord."

## G. M. HAHN

"LOOKING UNTO THE HILLS . . ."

By Marie Hahn, widow of G. M. Hahn

"I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills." These are words of the Psalmist, however, they expressed our feelings as we motored into Wisconsin in July 1939.

Through the recommendations of the late Dr. O. G. Wilson and the late Rev. L. W. King and Mrs. King, we were appointed to the Valton charge by the Wisconsin Wesleyan Methodist Conference.

The hills and winding roads of southern Wisconsin thrilled us with their beauty. It seemed we drove and drove; evening was beginning to cast its shadows and we were not finding Valton. We decided rather than continue our journey, we'd stop for the night at the next opportunity. We circled around one more hill and there, suddenly, was our destination.

Through the years I have learned that life is like that. We venture; we do not know what's up ahead on the road of life, yet through it all, we find God proves Himself faithful, and life is wonderful. As I look back today, I wouldn't want to have missed one bend in the road nor one lesson God has taught.

It was a joy to work under the faithful and understanding leadership of the Rev. J. B. Clawson, who was our Conference President when we came to Wisconsin. For a few years we worked under the efficient leadership of Rev. Loring Peterson.

We served the Valton, Spooner, Stone Lake and Rice Lake churches in Wisconsin. The late Rev. G. M. Hahn served as Conference President for five years, 1945-50. Naturally our years in Wisconsin brought much of joy as also years of trial. I have always felt Mr. Hahn gave the best years of his life to the Wisconsin Conference.

In 1953 we accepted an appointment in the Nebraska Methodist Conference. In October 1960 the final summons came to G. M. I have continued to retain my membership in the Wisconsin Wesleyan Methodist Conference as an unstationed elder and have been happy in serving churches in Nebraska. We trust that during our stay in Wisconsin some good may have been accomplished as a result of our work.

We love God's people and may His blessing rest upon the Wisconsin Conference.

## LORING H. PETERSON

### "FROM MILWAUKEE TO ANCHORAGE . . ."

It took the planning and stability of the past leaders to permit an advance such as the Lord gave the Wisconsin Conference during the years 1950, beginning with Milwaukee, through 1960, ending at Anchorage, Alaska.

We are sorry to say that Milwaukee was the first city pioneer project launched by the Wisconsin Conference in a decade or more. Four lots were secured and a frame church was purchased and moved onto them. This project was spearheaded by Rev. and Mrs. Royal Bailie, who though untried in pioneering, spent over five years in Milwaukee and saw great things come from the hand of the Lord. As soon as an organization took place, the local trustees asked for permission to mortgage the church so they could erect a parsonage. This was done and since an additional \$25,000 project has been added to this original \$30,000 investment.

A devoted pastor and his wife, the Clarence Masons, felt a strong leading to Janesville. Turning down calls to other churches, they asked to strike a mark without promise of salary or aid from the Conference. This caused concern, but, with a field open and with God's direction, about all that could be done was to consent with prayer. The Masons moved, rented a home, and opened it for worship. As the attendance increased, a lay member on the Conference Mission Board felt led to give \$5,000 for the purchase of acreage in the vital new area. With Conference backing, a loan was made to build the needed church, valued at \$25,000. A parsonage was added in 1959, valued at an additional \$25,000.

While these two projects were keeping the Conference more than busy finding needed finances, the Titus brothers, Floyd and Clarence, expressed their desire to pioneer in Madison. When they made no request for keep or care, no board could refrain from giving anything but a green light. After working for a contractor to earn a living and to gain needed building knowledge, Floyd supervised the building of the first unit of the church; this project had an evaluation of \$40,000.

The Charles Butchers left central Wisconsin to labor in California; thus we needed three pioneers and funds to buy properties in Hancock, Stevens Point and Wisconsin Rapids. Rev. Isaiah Butcher, brother of Charles, being an excellent carpenter, was the man for Hancock and directed the building of a church as well as purchase of property. Total evaluation \$24,200.

A beautiful chapel with living quarters attached was purchased from Rev. and Mrs. Ronald Heavilin, and Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Bennett were appointed to supply the work in Wisconsin Rapids. In 1958 approval was given for building a new church unit on property donated to the Conference. Construction was on a 'pay-as-you-go' basis.

For a short time Rev. and Mrs. Nunzio Cotrone supplied the work at Stevens Point, locating a church building. Rev. and Mrs. Donald Berry were stationed there when the Cotrones left for school. Under their leadership the parsonage was purchased and the work strengthened.

Appleton was an older established church that had worshiped in a homelike place of worship since its organization. Rev. David D. Peterson led the people in the sale of the old property and the building of a new church and parsonage, valued at \$60,000, that are a credit to any organization.

Darrow Road began in a rural school house that was later purchased and remodeled. Rev. and Mrs. Harold Keller have seen the church and parsonage added; the church continues to experience a steady growth. The Woodland people held services in the town hall. Then the parsonage and a church basement were built during Rev. Tilman Hick's ministry. The superstructure was completed under the leadership of Rev. and Mrs. Russell Buck.

The central headquarters for the Conference and dwelling for the President were needed; this project was started quite a number of years ago when a small sum was raised for this purpose. The Conference Trustees, upon proper authorization, purchased a ranch-style, three-bedroom home in Eau Claire for \$18,100 in 1965.

A sanitation building and well, a dining hall, and a Clawson Memorial dormitory were constructed on the Conference Campgrounds. Each project had Conference-wide support.

With 1958 upon us, it looked like a year to catch up and liquidate some indebtedness. But not so, the call came from one of the lay trustees to help provide a work in Waukesha, an area that had had a 40% population increase in the previous seven years. The Conference authorized the building of a parsonage and an educational unit evaluated at \$55,000. Rev. and Mrs. Gerald Brannon came to the church in July 1958; their ministry was abruptly ended by his tragic death on August 20, 1959. Our family took up the work in September 1959.

Two projects were launched in 1959 and 1960. Rev. and Mrs. Harry Moeller returned to pioneer in Eastman, Harry's hometown. Two acres were purchased for \$3,000 and plans for a Colonial Wildwood church were obtained.

Wayne and Louise Cox went to Anchorage, Alaska with the intention of establishing a Wesleyan Methodist Church. After teaching for a year, they built a basement in which to worship. In late May 1960 a group of seven men traveled from Wisconsin to Anchorage and spent two weeks building the superstructure of the church.

To the pastors and lay people that labored and sacrificed from the first project in Milwaukee until the last at Anchorage, our thanks. Our ministers have proven loyal and true during testings. They are consecrated, spiritually minded and without taints of modernism or liberalism. Our laity, with few exceptions, are seeing the fields white until harvest and are concerned about the lost, both at home and abroad. May it be that we are meeting the prerequisites of a true spiritual revival.



## DAVID D. PETERSON

### "BUILDING FOR GOD"

Prior to becoming President, in May 1960, I traveled to Anchorage, Alaska and supervised the building of that church. In Janesville I had built a parsonage, and in Appleton a church and a parsonage. These helped to prepare me for the work ahead as Conference President.

The days after Conference and Camp in August 1960 were busy ones; we moved from Janesville to the Conference parsonage in Eau Claire. We found that the Conference surely provides well for its President with a lovely home in a nice section of the city. While the family was getting settled, I endeavored to carry on my work; much was in connection with the building projects of several churches.

Building programs constitute very busy and sometimes testing times for a church; my hope and prayer was that for our churches these endeavors would be not only periods of successful expansion of their physical facilities, but also periods of spiritual deepening and evangelism. Then came the reports. Two couples saved, three sanctified, several families will join the church: "Operation Outreach" was taking hold.

The Conference purchased two tracts of land in 1961: Hales Corners and Big Bend. Plans were laid for building at Hales Corners. Then came a time of illness. February 19, 1961 while in Hillsboro, I was stricken with a slight heart attack. I spent two days in the Hillsboro hospital and one week in one at Eau Claire, returning home on March 4.

Building projects were continuing in several places; no end was in sight, nor did we wish for any. Baraboo dedicated its new building, followed by Eastman and Wisconsin Rapids in the fall. Eau Claire dedicated a new parsonage; Rice Lake contemplated building new facilities. In 1960 eleven churches of the Conference were in building and improvement programs.

Time passed swiftly. In the midst of world tensions and turmoil, one asked himself, "How many working days left?" If time were short, what of our goals? Unless we strove for something, we reached nothing. New building opportunities included a gift of property on Madison's east side late in 1961.

Those continued to be busy days with three parsonages being built, a church parsonage just being completed, and a church to be built that fall. Five pastors were getting adjusted to new appointments. The Hales Corners church opened in October 1962.

The Lord gave us a good camp in 1963 and an increase in camp finances. The need of a new tabernacle had to be faced or the extensive repair of the existing one. Our sleeping accommodations were modest and sometimes not quite adequate; additional sleeping units were needed. The dining hall was improved following a camp meeting with the gift of a dishwasher by the WY.

The Lord's blessing was evident upon our churches during the last half of 1963. We appreciated the good spirit in our churches and felt God's help as we addressed various congregations. Projects in progress included building a new parsonage at Eastman, an addition to the Darrow Road church, and rebuilding following a serious fire at the Stone Lake church.

Plans were drawn for the new church on Madison's east side in 1964. During the months of April and May, the Conference churches were visited and \$172 per month in pledges received. An interesting report of Conference activities was presented including pictures of all Wisconsin churches and parsonages.

A new dormitory project on the campgrounds was begun. Thirteen rooms were constructed over the dining hall. These were sold to individual pastors and churches for their private use. These were put into service during the 1964 Conference.

Rev. Eldred Perkins returned to Wisconsin in September 1964 to assume the pastoring of the new congregation on Madison's eastside. Twenty years previous he had pastored Mt. Pisgah and Oak Ridge. The Rolling Meadows project was a Conference undertaking with the WY contributing 'bricks for Madison.'

A church congregation came to us in 1964-65. The faithful members of Millville Methodist Church asked Rev. Harry Moeller to conduct their services when their denomination closed their church. He agreed to do so; later this church building was purchased and deeded to the Wisconsin Conference.

Many changes came about at Conference in 1966; two were a part-time presidency and the raising of budget by assessing 10% of the local church's income. Needless to say we were very busy in Spooner. The people accepted the Conference-church setup very well. The pastorate afforded close fellowship with people and their problems, which we loved.

The churches at Milwaukee began a new growth upon a sure foundation after the crises of 1965-66. Rev. Harry Johnson in Milwaukee and Rev. John Grover at Janesville labored hard and well. We have locked arms and are advancing the cause of Christ.

In 1967 new responsibilities were thrust upon the Conference with a merger of our church with the Pilgrims. This necessitated additional church-wide meetings. Also, plans had to be laid for the Centennial observance of our own Conference in 1967. Plans for a new tabernacle seating approximately 600 have been drawn up. It is to have a full basement for housing a bookstore, committee room, office, athletic storage, snack shop, and indoor recreational facilities. More than 65 persons pledged \$100 each toward this project.

While not intending to cast reflections on our human side for advancing the gospel, it still remains imperative that, if we want genuine advancement, we must get a view of Christ and tell it out. The fields, households, work at the plant, office, and studies must be laid aside in this mission. A real view of Christ will bring spontaneous action in sharing. If the message is to be great joy to all people, Wesleyan Methodists in Wisconsin will have to launch out. This will cost much. The time may be running out, but we still have it; let's step up our work of soul winning actively, sincerely, and prayerfully.



CHURCH INTERIOR

# ANCHORAGE

## PASTORS:

Floyd Titus (1964- )  
Wayne Cox (1957-64)

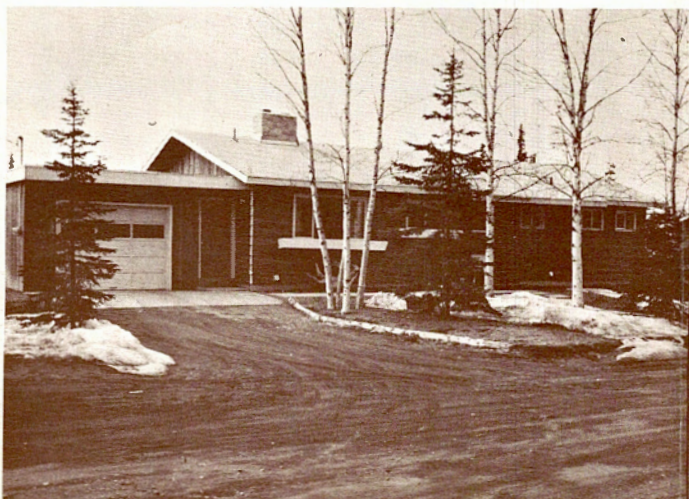
After teaching in Teller, Alaska for one year, Wayne and Louise Cox moved to Anchorage in the summer of 1957 and conducted the first worship service in their home in July. Services were later held in the American Legion hall and the Y.M.C.A. until on land at 32nd and Turnagain the basement of the present building, which was built by the men of the church, was ready for use in November, 1958. Rev. Kenneth Shelly assisted Rev. Cox during the early months of the pioneer work. After one year of both teaching and pastoring, Rev. Cox resigned his teaching position so that he could devote full time to the pioneer church, and his wife continued to teach to provide financial support.

In June of 1960 four ministers and three laymen of the Conference traveled the Alcan Highway and devoted two weeks of free labor to build the superstructure of the present church. Rev. David Peterson was construction overseer and he had the able assistance of ministers Harold Keller, Loring Peterson, and Floyd Titus, and laymen Fred Gilmore, Charles Anderson, and Elliot Peterson. Richard Titus, son of the present pastor and a University of Wisconsin student, helped Rev. Cox and the church men finish the building.

In March of 1962 the Coxes moved into the new parsonage at 3202 Arkansas Drive built by the labor of the pastor and congregation; the following year a Sunday school addition was constructed.

While this material structure was prepared, Rev. and Mrs. Cox labored faithfully ministering the Word and built up a fine Sunday school and a spiritual nucleus of believers in this first Wesleyan Methodist church in Alaska.

The church assumed the responsibility of supporting a pastor in July of 1964. In June of 1965 the group was officially organized with 37 charter members.



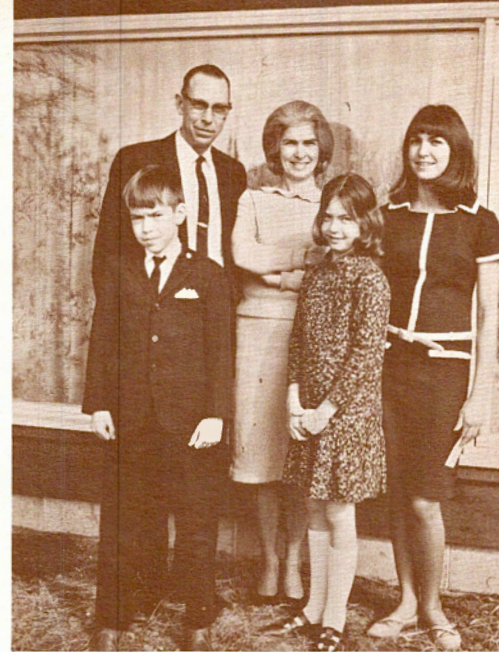
PARSONAGE

# ALASKA

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Linda Beller  
Ann Botkin  
Robert Botkin  
Alma Cameron  
Ben Cameron  
Cynthia Cameron  
June Caughran  
Kenneth Caughran  
John Colman  
Sharon Colman  
Louise Cox  
Wayne Cox  
Edwin Donlan  
Mary Ann Donlan  
Esther Eckert  
Rex Eckert  
Charles Green  
Shirley Green  
Nila Jackson

Robert Jackson  
Wesley Jackson  
Arthur Kutcher  
Frances Kutcher  
Sheila Kutcher  
Donald Leach  
Gloria Leach  
Linda Leach  
Erma Letchworth  
William Letchworth  
Colleen Patrick  
Marilyn Shesky  
Robert Sheskey  
Josey South  
Sousanne Verheaghe  
Floyd Titus  
Marlene Titus  
Olive Titus



REV. & MRS. FLOYD TITUS,  
MARLENE, DAVID, HAPPY



CHURCH INTERIOR



CHURCH EXTERIOR



# APPLETON

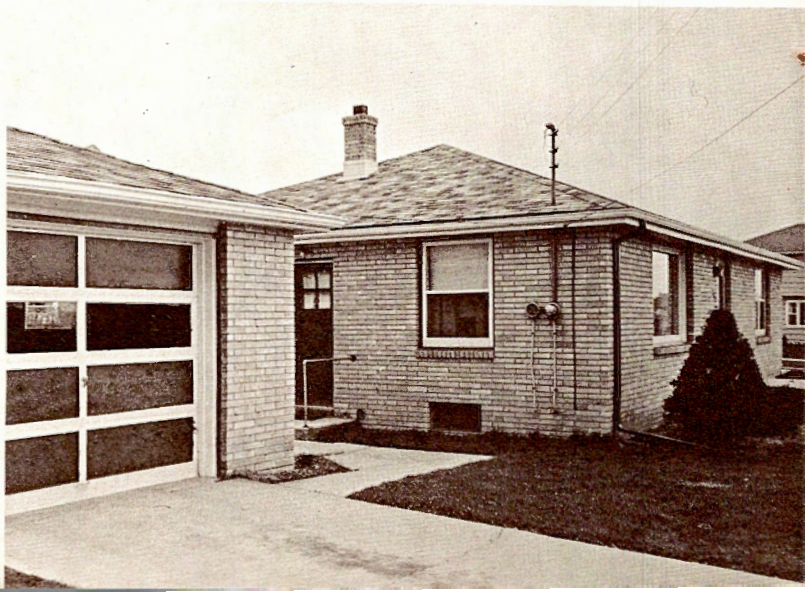
CHURCH EXTERIOR

Under the guidance of Rev. J. B. Clawson, Conference President, services were started at the home of Miss Ida Grienert and her brother Ed in the fall of 1938. Early the next spring, Rev. Heasley was engaged to serve the infant church. Seven charter members joined the church at its organization in 1939. In 1942 the congregation purchased a large house located on a corner lot. The main floor was remodeled for use as a sanctuary, and the upper floor was remodeled for use as a parsonage.

During Rev. David Peterson's ministry, the old property was sold, and corner lots at Lindberg and Drew Streets in a new development were purchased on which a brick church and matching parsonage were built. A contractor built the house, but the greater portion of the church was constructed by the pastor and people. From the beginning the aim was to complete the entire project; and this was done, even to landscaping, building of walks, installing of suitable furniture, and equipping at least some Sunday School classrooms. Well done and well planned financially, there stands a functional building in the midst of a challenging field. Rev. Loring Peterson, Conference President, delivered the address at the dedication ceremonies December 14, 1954.

Shortly after Rev. Manker arrived, the basement of the parsonage was remodeled to serve as a fellowship center. The debt has been steadily diminishing and is now within three or four years of complete retirement.

The Appleton church is represented on the mission field by Vernon Young, who is working in Colombia under the Oriental Missionary Society. One of the young men of the church is presently enrolled as a ministerial student at Miltonvale Wesleyan College.



PARSONAGE



CHURCH INTERIOR

**PASTORS:**

Donald Heasley (1939)  
 N. J. Remenga (1939-41)  
 Orval Butcher (1941-46)  
 E. W. Hall (1946-49)  
 Loring Peterson (1949-50)  
 David D. Peterson (1950-56)  
 Lester Buckman (1956-60)  
 Charles Maddox (1960-63)  
 Dayton A. Manker (1963- )

**CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Ernest Friebe, Sr.  
 Mrs. Mary Grienert  
 Miss Ida Grienert  
 E. J. Kimpel  
 John C. Lang  
 Mrs. Martha Lang  
 Mrs. Estella Nabbefeldt

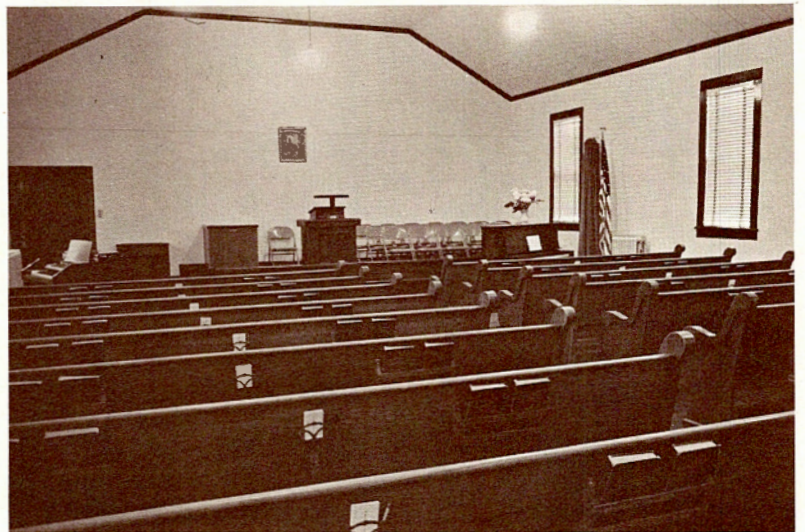
REV. & MRS. DAYTON A. MANKER



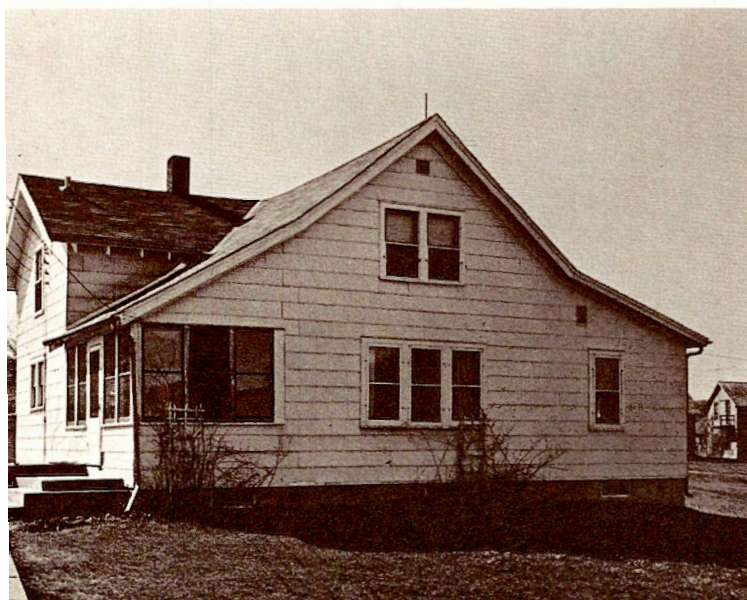
# BEULAH



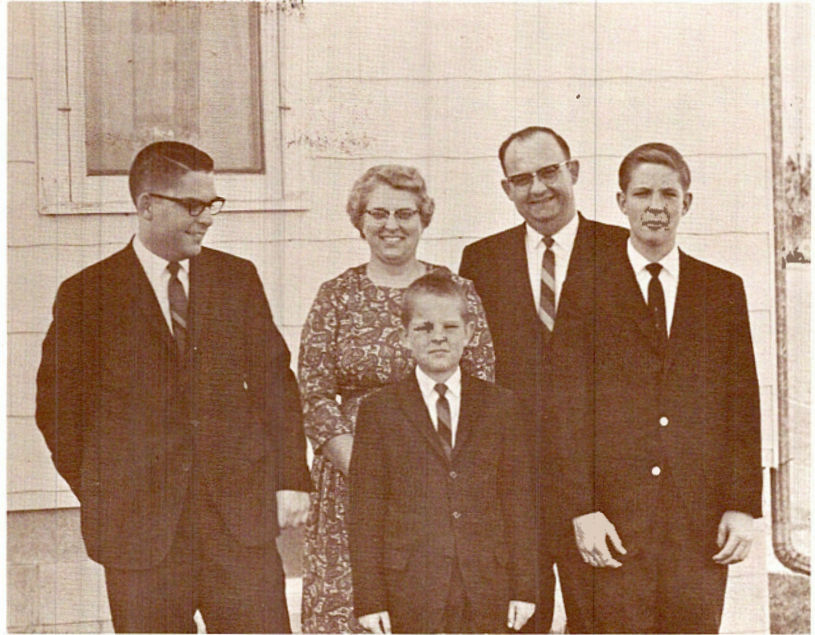
CHURCH EXTERIOR



CHURCH INTERIOR



PARSONAGE



REV. & MRS. DONALD OLMSTEAD AND FAMILY

#### CHARTER MEMBERS:

Ed Allbaugh  
Katie Allbaugh  
Lula Allbaugh  
Sadie Allbaugh  
Silas Allbaugh  
Winnie Allen  
Willis Allen  
Estey Armstrong  
William Armstrong  
Charles Klock  
Daisy Klock  
Newell Peckham  
Vera Peckham  
Conrad Schwinn  
Jennie Schwinn  
Leonary Schwinn  
Ada Shuckhart  
William Shuckhart  
Matie Stoops  
Wesley Stoops  
Eunice Turnipseed  
Nettie Turnipseed  
Lily Wilson  
Raymond Warren

#### PASTORS:

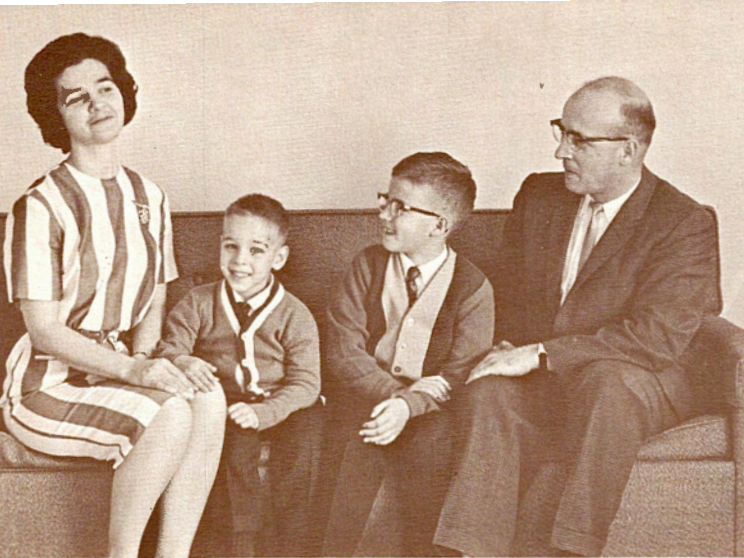
Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1924-26)  
Wesley and Mae Markee (1926-31)  
Miss Wood and Miss Ruse (1931-33)  
J. K. Peckham (1933-39)  
H. H. Turner (1939-43)  
Daren Durey (1943-45)  
Harry Johnson (1945-52)  
Carl Holder (1952-57)  
Benjamine Drown (1957-59)  
Thomas Bailey (1959-62)  
Clarence Titus (1962-66)  
Donald Olmsted (1966- )

The Beulah Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized August 26, 1924 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Silas Allbaugh by Rev. J. B. Clawson, then President of the Wisconsin Conference. The organization was the result of a camp meeting that was held across from Pleasant Ridge Methodist Church near Richland Center.

The congregation held services at the old Marshall School until the church building was completed in 1925. Numerous improvements have been added to the church over the years. The main part of the parsonage was purchased from Sylvester Spangler and moved onto the church property in 1944. Several rooms were added on in 1947, and later other improvements were made. A water system and bathroom facilities were installed and a basement was put in.

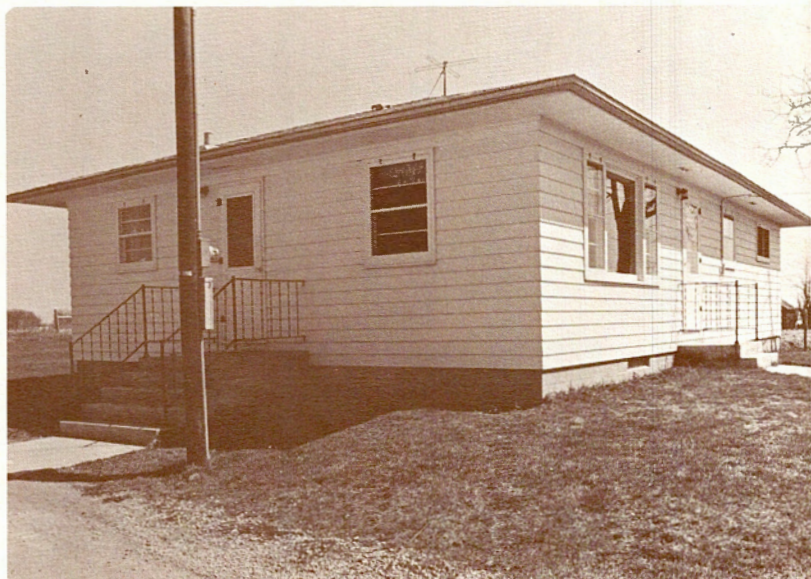
Of the 24 charter members six remain as active members of the church. They are Ed Allbaugh, Sadie Allbaugh, Lula Allbaugh, Vera Peckham, Eunice Turnipseed and Lily Wilson. At present the church includes a membership of 57, and the Sunday school reports an enrollment of 123. The total money raised for the Conference year 1965-66 amounted to \$8,750.

The church gives praise to God whose presence has blessed it from the very beginning and expresses her appreciation for those whose vision and trust in God enabled them to organize the church. She remembers those who have served the church as pastors and honors those whose lives have been a challenge for God in the community.



REV. & MRS. BENJAMIN S. DROWN, DOUGLAS,  
MICHAEL

## BURR - VALLEY



PARSONAGE

John Wesley Markee with his family came to Wisconsin from Ohio in 1855 and settled on Pleasant Ridge in Bad Axe County, present day Burr Ridge in Vernon County. It was at his home on January 15, 1856 that a Wesleyan Methodist church was organized by Rev. Frank Cooley, pastor of the Baraboo Circuit. Rev. Markee was granted a license to preach by the newly organized church and held services in the Burr community and several other communities, including Warner Creek or what became known as Valley. Markee labored among the people for several years and held services in various homes. Progress was very slow at first, but there were those who accepted the teachings of the church.

Markee was followed by R. Powell and Macy Bunker at what had become known as the Burr Circuit, which included Burr and Valley. After meeting in homes for over thirty years, the people erected a House of God in late 1887. Rev. W. W. Warner, Conference President, dedicated the new building at Burr on January 15, 1888.

About the year 1890 Mrs. J. A. Rose began to preach at the Burr Circuit. Oak Ridge and Billings Creek were added to it, with services held alternate Sundays at Burr and Valley and at Oak Ridge and Billings Creek. "Auntie Rose," as Mrs. Rose was called, drove a spirited pony team, Bird and Pet, on the circuit. The four congregations built a parsonage at Burr in 1895 or 1896.

The Annual Conference in 1919 divided the circuit, placing Oak Ridge and Billings Creek, which later became known as Mt. Pisgah, in the new circuit. In 1922 a church building was erected at Valley. The original Burr church, having been remodeled over the years — even being moved a short distance at one time — is still in use. However, the first Burr parsonage was replaced by a new house in 1962.

# HILLSBORO

## PASTORS:

John W. Markee  
 R. Powell  
 Macy Bunker (1888-90)  
 Mrs. J. A. Rose (1890-94)  
 O. S. Warner (1894-96)  
 Frank Decker (1896-99)  
 Mrs. J. A. Rose (1899-02)  
 John Gillem (1902-04)  
 Ambrose Delap (1904-05)  
 Miss Mae Lewis (1905-07)  
 Albert Shore (1907-08)  
 O. S. Warner (1908-14)  
 Wesley and Mae Markee (1914-17)  
 Maurice Babcock (1917-19)  
 Hands of Conference President  
 and Advisory Board (1919-20)

Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1920-24)  
 George Nofsinger (1924-27)  
 Charles Hill (1927-29)  
 D. C. Elmer (1929-33)  
 Charles Hill (1933-35)  
 Oscar Hoveland (1935-37)  
 C. W. Birch (1937-38)  
 George Nofsinger (1938-40)  
 Lloyd and Josephine King (1940-43)  
 Raymond Warren (1943-46)  
 Miss Sylvia Lee (1946-54)  
 Virgil Eldred (1954-58)  
 Isaiah J. Butcher (1958-62)  
 Charles Anderson (1962-66)  
 Benjamine Drown (1966- )

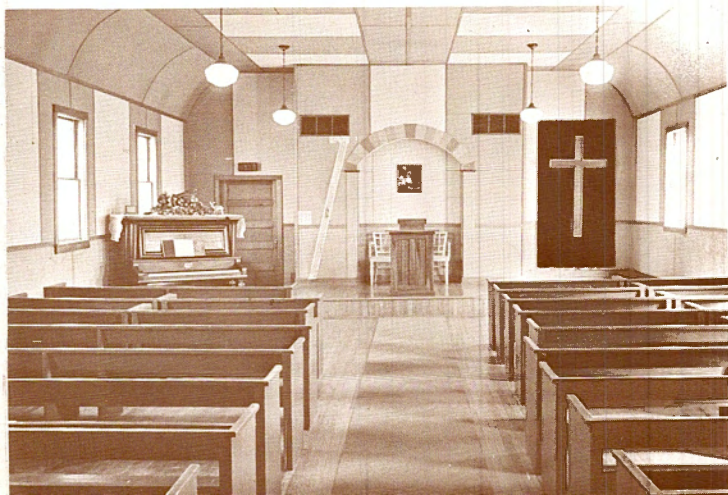
CHURCH EXTERIOR



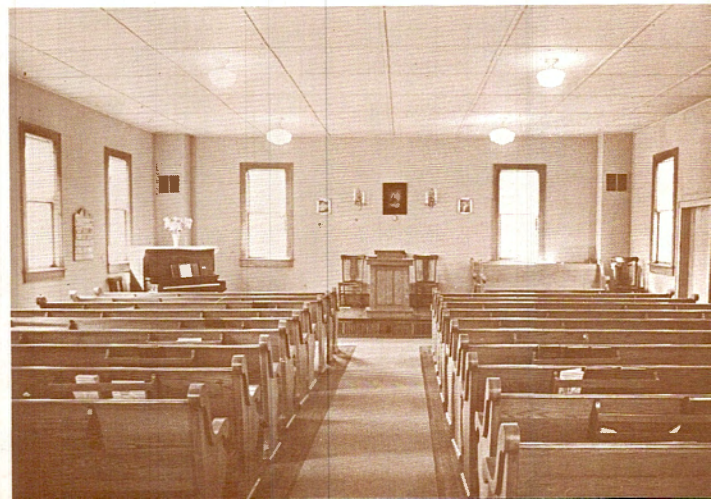
CHURCH EXTERIOR



CHURCH INTERIOR



CHURCH INTERIOR



# BURR - VALLEY - HILLSBORO Contd.

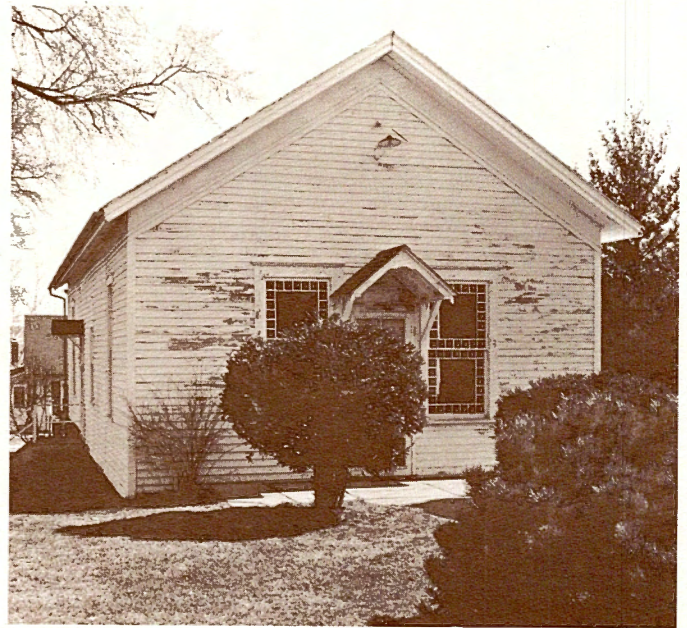
On a winter evening in the early 1920's Nellie Lee traveled by horse and bobsled to attend a revival meeting at DeBello where May Markee was the evangelist. Mrs. Lee yielded her life to God after hearing her first holiness sermon. After her conversion Mrs. Lee and her family and the Jess Kauffman family attended church on Sundays in Valton, Hillspairie, or Burr. For a number of years several women of Hillsboro prayed that a Wesleyan church would be started. Mrs. Kauffman called on many families; later the Kauffmans opened their home for services.

In September of 1933 a house was purchased and moved one block to its present location at Pine and Machanic Streets. At the time it was bought it looked very little like a place of worship. The early worshippers willingly painted the exterior and redecorated the interior. Partitions were removed from the front section which was converted to a chapel; the back portion was remodeled for living quarters. A few years later a hot water system, a bath, cupboards, and a furnace were installed in the parsonage. Rev. J. B. Clawson, Conference President, delivered the address for the dedication service in 1936.

The group became organized as the Hillsboro Wesleyan Methodist Church during the first year the congregation worshipped in the chapel. Two members of the church have gone into Christian work. Sylvia Lee pastored the Burr and Valley churches for seven years and Dennis Johnson is presently pastoring in Iowa.

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Elizabeth Dow  
Leota Greeley  
Rosetta Greeley  
Eunice Lee Johnson  
Cora Kauffman  
Grace Kauffman  
Jess Kauffman  
Chloe Kuhn  
Mary Francis Kuhn  
Nellie Lee  
Clara Richardson  
Fred Richardson  
Robert Rosebalm  
Myrtle Walker



CHURCH EXTERIOR

CHURCH INTERIOR



## PASTORS:

Grace Kauffman (1933-46)  
Kenneth Hintz (1947-48)  
Isaiah Butcher (1948-53)  
John Clark 1953-55)  
Dorothy Johnson (1955-63)  
John Grover (1963-66)  
Benjamin Drown (1966- )

# EASTMAN



CHURCH INTERIOR

## PASTORS:

Harry Moeller (1959- )

Rev. Harry Moeller and his family moved to Eastman from Chicago August 17, 1959, so they might lay the ground work for a Wesleyan Methodist church in this area. The very week they arrived, church services, Sunday school, and prayer meeting were held. This newly-formed group worshiped in the community building and the American Legion hall for the first sixteen months of its existence.

Two and one half acres of land located on state highway 27 were purchased, and in June 1960 ground was broken for a church. Pastors and laymen from the Wisconsin and Illinois Conferences donated many hours of labor in constructing the building that seats 300 and is valued at \$70,000. In December of the same year services were transferred to the new church.

In August, 1963 ground was broken for the five-bedroom home that was ready for occupancy in December. The vision and sacrifice of the Moeller family has made this dwelling possible.

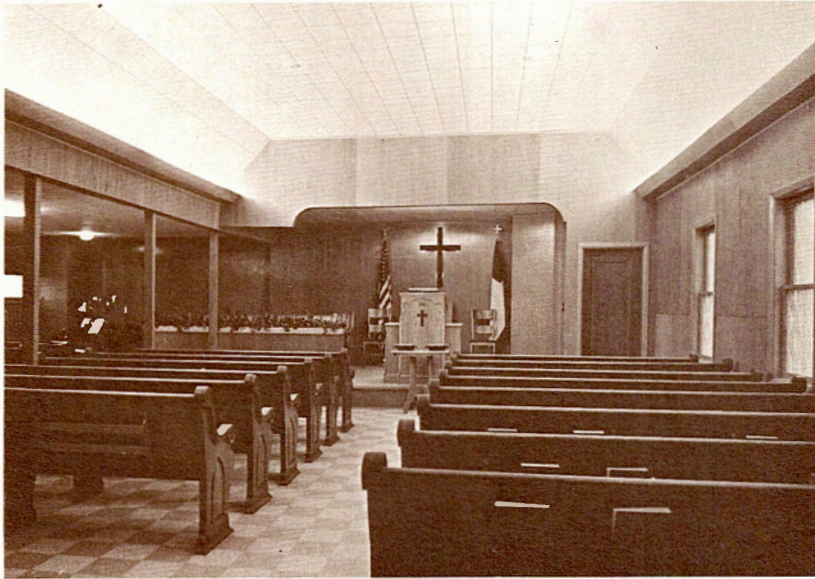
The church has maintained a radio ministry that is reaching into many homes in the surrounding area. This has been an avenue through which the message of the gospel has penetrated into homes and opened new doors of services, thus affording opportunities for witness.

The WMS has been active in promoting the interests of Wesleyan missions. The Sunday school has maintained a consistent ministry to the community each week from the start as well as a special emphasis through the summer Vacation Bible School.



REV. & MRS. HARRY MOELLER, LINDA, ESTHER, LOIS, MARTHA

# DARROW ROAD



CHURCH INTERIOR

## PASTORS:

Eldred Perkins (1937-43)  
Clarence Mason (1943-47)  
Robert Thrasher (1947- 4months)  
Harold Keller (1948- )

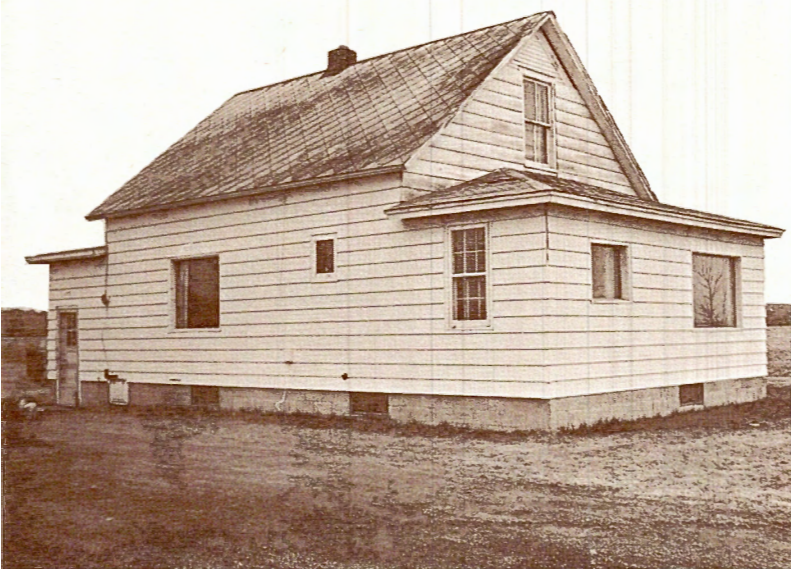
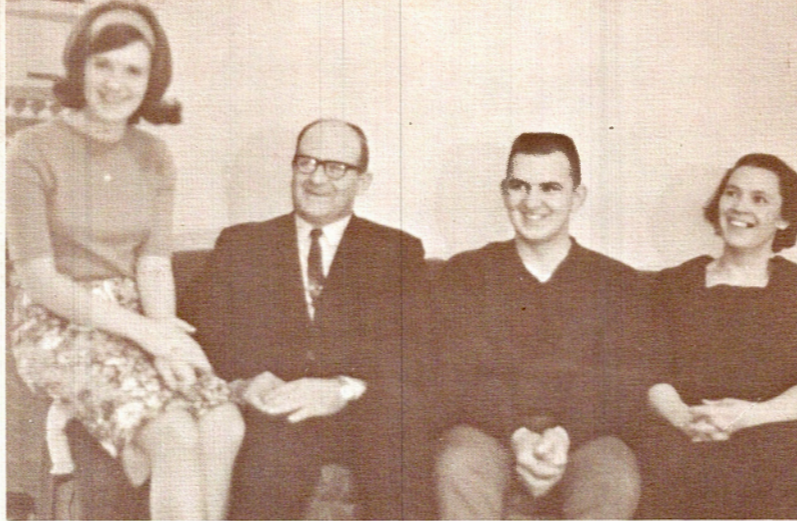
## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Johnson  
Rev. and Mrs. Harold Keller  
Mr. and Mrs. Christian Kronberg  
Mr. and Mrs. Roy Pearson  
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Tennier  
Barbara Vanderport  
Mrs. Roy Vanderport

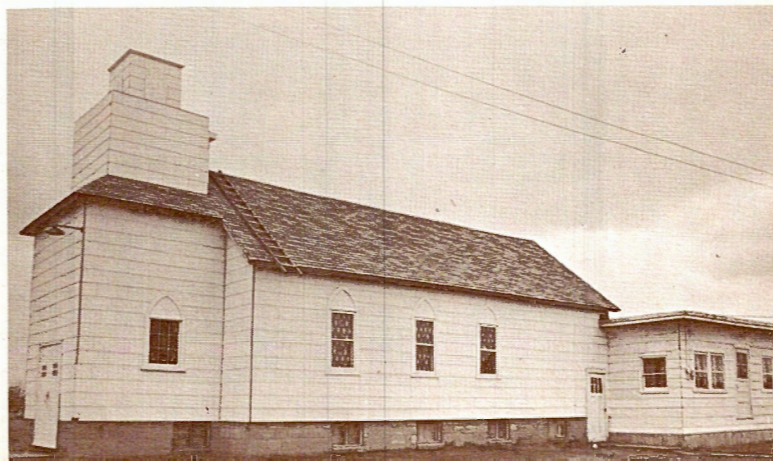
The Darrow Road Church had its beginnings in 1937 as a Sunday school under the leadership of the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Superior and its pastor, Eldred Perkins. Roy and Harry Johnson and their families were active in this Sunday school, which met in an abandoned school house known as the Selden School. The work thrived and the building took on an improved appearance. When the continued use of the building was denied, the little group of loyal people moved to a new location on the Darrow Road, and, henceforth, the work was known as the Darrow Road Sunday School. During the early years of the work the visits of J. B. Clawson, the Conference President, were times of blessing to the struggling group.

Under the leadership of Clarence Mason, who had shortly before become pastor of the Superior church, the present church property was purchased on the "Road." Though the ministry of Robert Thrasher was brief, it was a full one; for, in addition to the main work at Superior, he also held services at Woodland. The ministry of the first three pastors laid the ground work for that of Harold Keller, who came to Superior and -30° weather on January 15, 1948. Rev. Keller continued the previous arrangement of holding regular services at Superior and the afternoon Sunday school at Darrow Road. During the year 1948 the attendance at Darrow Road hovered at an average of 17. However, the interest and the activity soon increased. The attendance shot up and the building became crowded; and soon the new pastor found himself devoting more of his time to the work at Darrow Road. As a result of this growth the Darrow Road Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized on July 9, 1950 with 12 charter members. During the years the original building has been remodeled and enlarged several times; and at present the church and parsonage serve quite adequately the needs of the people.

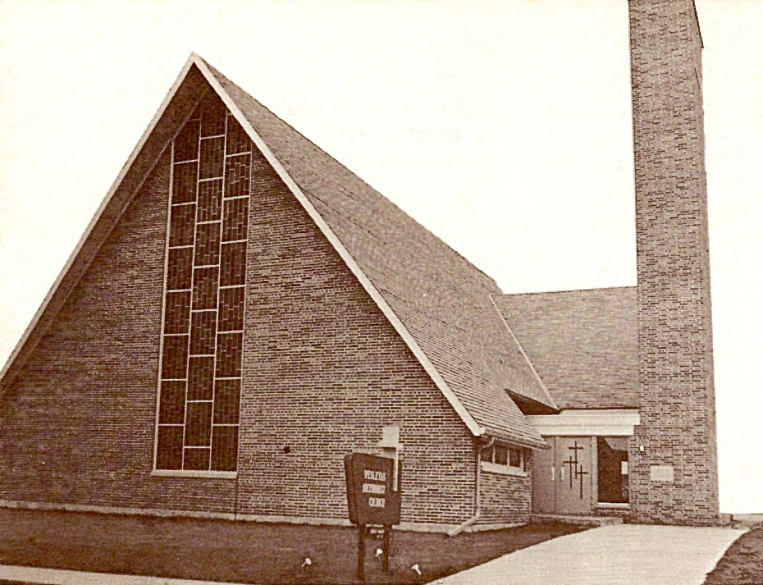
REV. & MRS. HAROLD E. KELLER,  
WESLEY, SHARON



PARSONAGE



CHURCH EXTERIOR



# EAU CLAIRE

CHURCH EXTERIOR

## PASTORS:

Charles Butcher (1923-1943)  
 Lloyd and Josephine King (1943-1952)  
 Layland and Madelene Smith (1952-1955)  
 Joseph Reid (1955-1961)  
 Fred B. Francis (1961- )

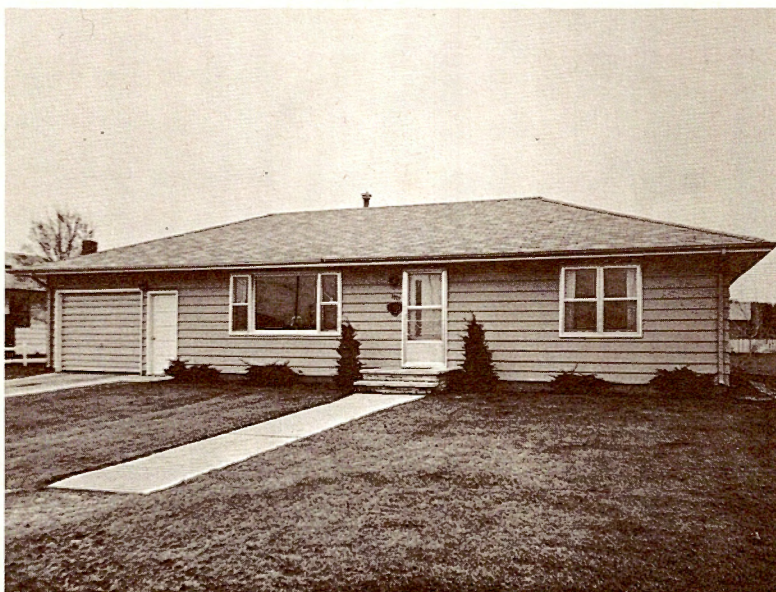
CHURCH INTERIOR



## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Rev. and Mrs. Charles Butcher  
 Mr. Martin Ehrhardt  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ben Kohlhepp  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Kohlhepp, Jr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Kohlhepp, Sr.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Rossow  
 Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Rossow  
 Mr. and Mrs. Ed H. Schramm

PARSONAGE



The first move to start a Wesleyan Methodist Church in Eau Claire was taken in 1923 when several from Eau Claire went to Dunnville, Wisconsin to visit Rev. and Mrs. Charles Butcher who were doing pioneer work. The Butchers were invited to come to Eau Claire to hold services in homes.

In January, 1924 a special revival effort was conducted by Rev. J. B. Clawson in the Salvation Army hall. The next June Rev. John Cooper from New York held a tent meeting which resulted in the organization of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Eau Claire, June 22, 1924.

The following September Rev. and Mrs. Butcher moved to Eau Claire and began conducting public services in their home and in rented halls until a new church and parsonage could be built. The new church and parsonage on Emery at Chauncy Street were finished in the fall of 1925 and dedicated January 3, 1926. During the 20 years of Rev. Butcher's ministry, the church grew steadily in spiritual and numerical strength, reaching a membership of 113 and a Sunday school enrollment of 220. They were largely influential in getting many of the young people to attend church colleges. By the end of their ministry thirty young people had gone from the church to become ministers, ministers' wives, and missionaries.

Soon after Rev. Reid came, the Lord opened a way for the purchase of a site on Clairemont Avenue at Keith Street for a new church. The old church was sold to the Jewish congregation and services were held in halls downtown until the new building was finished. Many can yet remember how the congregation met in the basement in the late fall and endured the chill that comes when doors and windows are not yet installed. The first functions to be held in the sanctuary were a wedding and the annual Christmas program in December, 1959. Rev. Smith delivered the dedicatory address November 6, 1960. When the Francis family arrived in 1961, the people were hastening to finish a new parsonage.



REV. & MRS. FRED B. FRANCIS, SANDRA, PATRICIA, ROBERT

# GULL LAKE



CHURCH EXTERIOR

Rev. O. S. Warner and Frank Hotchkiss, a layman from near Hay Lake, pioneered the work at Gull Lake. These two men held meetings and did personal work among the families in the community. They gathered together a group of people whom they organized into a class in 1917. Services were held in the old Gull Lake school house.

A Sunday school has been maintained in the church since the earliest days. At one time the attendance in this country church reached up into the seventies. That was back in the days of big families. Tradition states that at one time three families alone furnished thirty members of the Sunday School. A Women's Missionary Society has been in operation for some thirty years.

During the ministry of Rev. Harry Johnson the church was built and dedicated. It is a small church building in size, but it has served as a place of worship and fellowship for some thirty-seven years. Much of the material and practically all of the labor were donated. Rev. Johnson recalls that only \$300 cash went into the construction. Elmer Asp, one of the devoted members of the church, built the pews which are still in use.



CHURCH INTERIOR

#### **PASTORS:**

O. S. Warner (1917-21)  
W. H. Titus (1921-24)  
Earl Slack (1924-25)  
Harry Johnson (1925-32)  
O. S. Warner (1932-36)  
Lloyd King (1936-40)  
Clarence Mason (1940-43)  
Ernest Friebel (1943-46)  
Clarence Titus (1946-52)  
John Heavilin (1952-59)  
Russell Buck (1959-62)  
W. H. Titus (1962- )



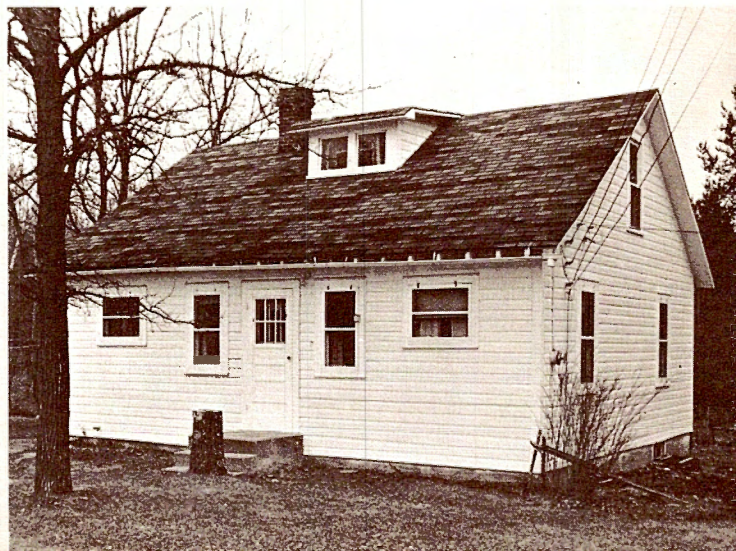
REV. & MRS. WALTER H. TITUS

#### **CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Alma Buckman  
Eugene Graham  
Pansy Graham  
Myrtle Hains  
Frank Hotchkiss  
Ray Hotchkiss

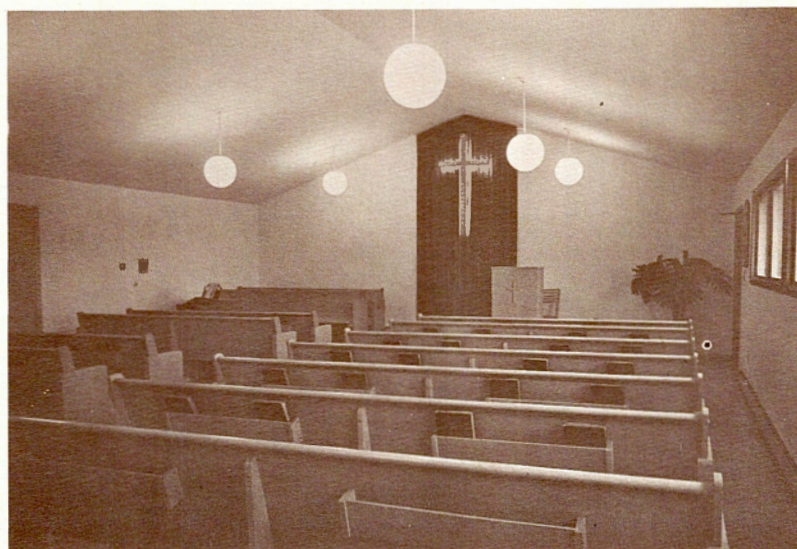
The parsonage was built during the ministry of Rev. King. There are no records from which to find any details about its construction, but it would appear that Mr. Asp engineered the work. Under the ministry of the present pastor improvements were made on the parsonage. In the fall of 1962 the well was completed and a water system and bathroom were installed. At the same time the parsonage basement was repaired and converted into Sunday School classrooms. In the fall of 1965 a new garage was constructed.

Several people of the Gull Lake church have gone into Christian work, of whom, Florence (Buckman) Johnson and Lester R. Buckman are presently serving the church in full-time service.



PARSONAGE

# HALE PARK



CHURCH INTERIOR

In December of 1960 the Conference Board of Trustees authorized the purchase of property at 12219 Janesville Road in the Milwaukee suburb of Hales Corners. This was the beginning of another church in the Milwaukee area, although long before this it had been a part of the vision of the Conference leaders. In 1961 plans were adopted for the parsonage-chapel unit, and the next spring work on the building was begun. A good deal of voluntary labor was furnished by pastors of the Conference and the Conference President.

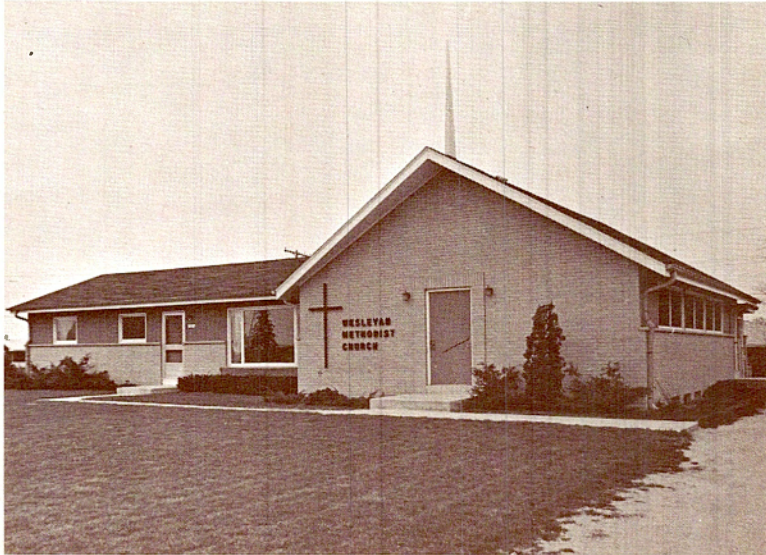
At the 1962 Conference session Rev. Franklin was appointed pastor, and he and his family moved immediately into the parsonage to begin the task of opening a new church. There was much work to do in completing the building and making preparations for the opening service. October 7, 1962 the church doors opened for the first service in this new venture of faith. The prayers and labors of God's servants were rewarded with an immediate group of interested individuals.

The Franklins continued their faithful labors until 1965 when Mrs. Franklin became ill. Pastor Franklin remained until Conference time, but he found it necessary to close the Sunday school for the summer.

Rev. and Mrs. Buck and their family, sensing God's leading, made hurried preparations for moving and arrived at Hale Park for services the first Sunday following Conference in August 1965. The Sunday school was reopened the second Sunday in September with four classes and 25 enrollees. Attendance and interest have continued to increase. As of October 2, 1966 there were nine classes in the Sunday school with an enrollment of 86. Fifty families now call Hale Park their church.

Membership classes for adults were held in the spring of 1966 and growing out of this was the beginning of the organization of the church in June. Members were received throughout the year and charter membership was closed at the end of the Conference year 1967.

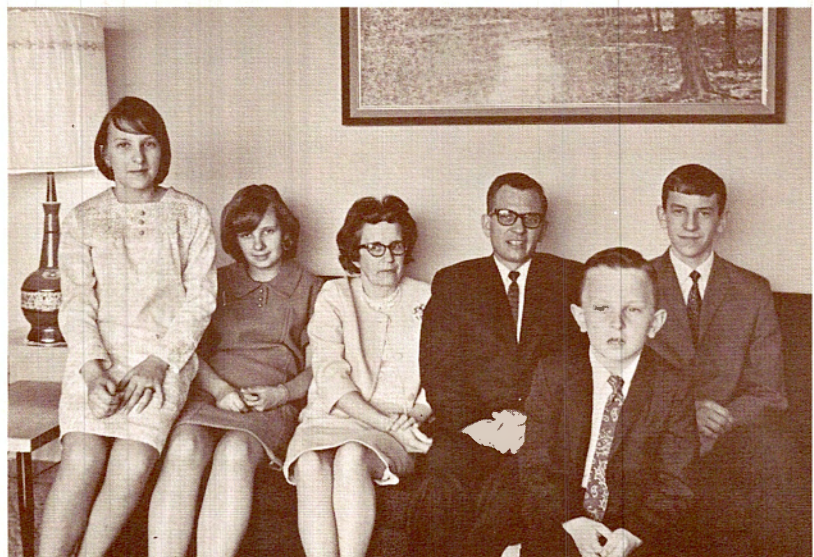
# HALES CORNERS



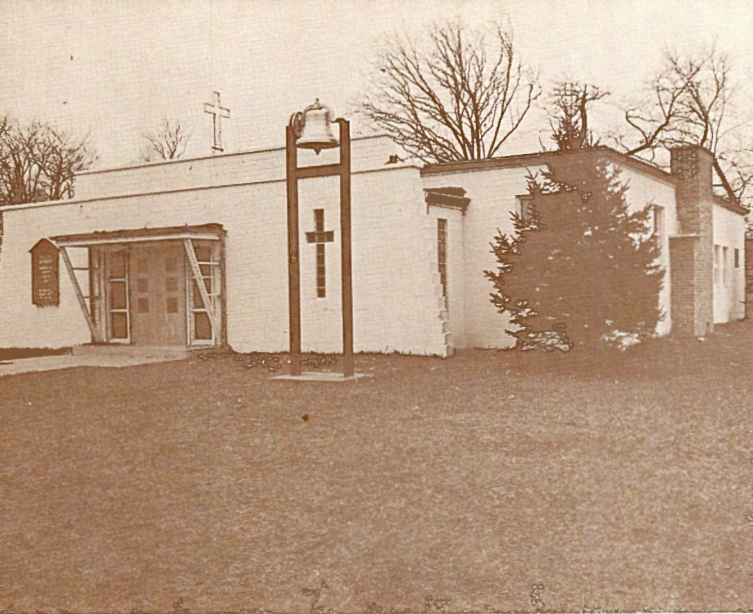
CHURCH EXTERIOR

## PASTORS:

Richard Franklin (1962-65)  
Russell Buck (1965- )



REV. & MRS. RUSSEL G. BUCK, STEVEN, DARLA,  
CHARLENE, DARRELL



CHURCH EXTERIOR

# HANCOCK



PARSONAGE

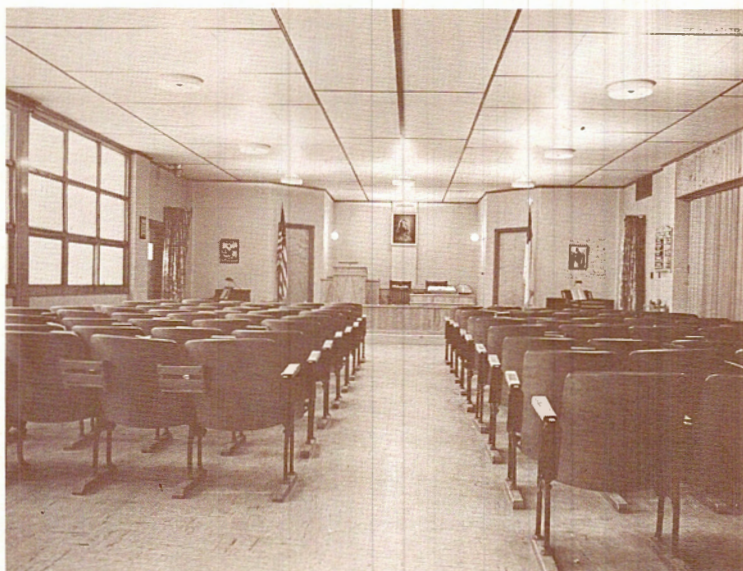
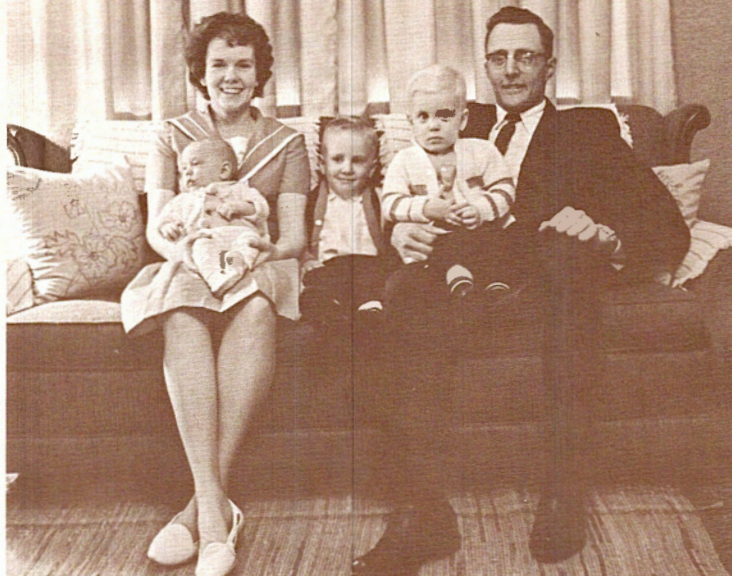
## EARLY MEMBERS:

Vainetta Brown	David Fowler
Annena Cotrone	Florence Fowler
Carl Cotrone	Laurence Fowler
Mitchell Cotrone	Oliver Fowler
Nunzio Cotrone	Verla Gear
Rosette Cotrone	Karl Schwarz
Edward Erdman	Laurene Schwarz
Joanne Erdman	Lois Schwarz
Lauraine Erdman	Merlin Taylor
Theresa Erdman	

## PASTORS:

Charles Butcher (1949-53)  
 Ronald Heavilin (1949-53)  
 I. J. Butcher (1953-57)  
 Carl Holder (1957-63)  
 Jerry Rott (1963- )

REV. & MRS. JERRY ROTT,  
JEFFREY, JAMES, JOHN



CHURCH INTERIOR

Rev. Charles Butcher, who was engaged in pioneer work in Wisconsin Rapids and Stevens Point, was invited to preach at the Homecoming services of the Potter Memorial group in June of 1949. In the fall, this group, that worshiped some seven miles southeast of Hancock, invited Rev. Butcher and Rev. Heavilin to pastor the church because Rev. A. E. Knaak, a retired Free Methodist minister who had pastored the church for some years, had requested leave of absence for the winter. The following summer Rev. Knaak returned, and when he was forced to retire in the fall because of poor health, the church again called upon the Butchers and Heavilins. During the faithful ministry of these two families, a Wesleyan group known as the Central Wisconsin Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized. Nineteen people of the Hancock area joined the group between March 23, 1951 and July 19, 1953.

In the fall of 1953 when Rev. I. J. Butcher became resident pastor, a house and three vacant lots within the village limits were rented with option to buy during the year. The property was purchased and on March 29, 1954 ground was broken for the church. Work progressed rapidly through the aid of labor donated by the local men and Conference ministers. The first worship service in the new church was the Thanksgiving service November 24, 1954. Rev. Loring Peterson, Conference President, delivered the dedicatory address June 12, 1955.

In 1953 the Woman's Missionary Society was organized and in 1956 the Wesleyan Youth was organized. The Sunday school that was organized on the first day of the year 1955 recorded an average attendance of 40 for the first quarter of the year 1956.

Three young people of the church have gone into full-time Christian service: Ellsworth Fowler, Mary Holcomb, and Mitchell Cotrone are serving as missionaries under the Wesleyan Missionary Board in Puerto Rico, Sierra Leone, and Colombia, respectively.

# HAYWARD



CHURCH EXTERIOR

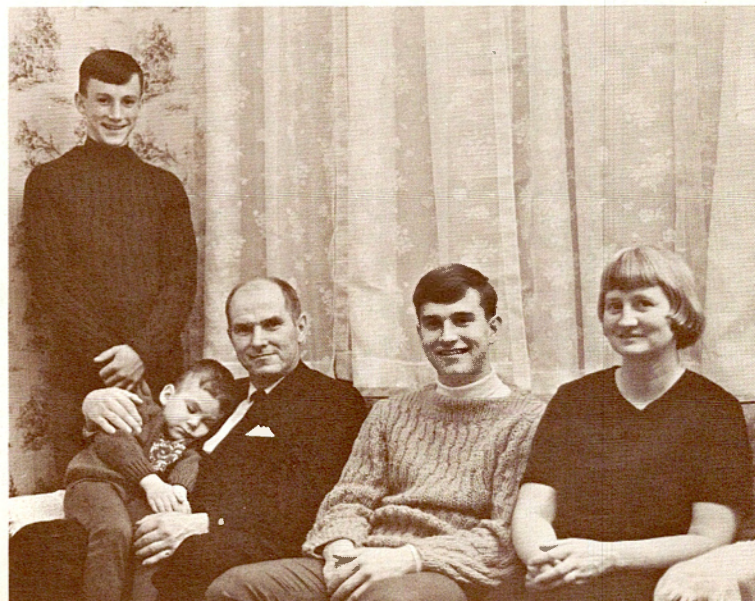
## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. A. M. Carpenter  
Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Hazelton  
Mr. and Mrs. C. Klenk, Sr. and son  
Nina Olson  
Vera Olson  
Mr. and Mrs. John Sipe

REV. & MRS. JOHN K. CLARKE,  
DANIEL, DAVID, RONNIE (DICK)

## PASTORS:

Sidney S. Hotchkiss (1925-34)  
Walter H. Titus (1934-37)  
Jennie Clawson (1937-39)  
Clinton W. Jones (1939-42)  
Lester R. Buckman (1942-43)  
Carl E. Olander (1943-46)  
Henry Clark, Sr. (1946-48)  
Robert Thrasher (1948-49)  
Robert Matke (1949-53)  
Loring Peterson (1953-54)  
Charles N. Pierce (1954-57)  
Robert C. Girard (1957-59)  
Leigh Nygard (1959 & 1960)  
summer interim and assistant  
John K. Heavilin (1959-65)  
Richard Williams (1965-66)  
John K. Clarke (1966- )



PARSONAGE



CHURCH INTERIOR

The Wesleyan Methodist Church in Hayward had its beginning in a tent meeting held by J. B. Clawson, the President of the Conference, and Sidney Hotchkiss, pastor of the Stone Lake Church, in September, 1924. There were several people who were genuinely converted before cold weather forced the meetings into the home of Dr. W. A. Hazelton, a man deeply interested in the work of the Gospel. Within a short time the church of the Norwegian Danish Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church was available for services on a rental basis.

The following year saw another revival in Hayward under the auspices of the Wesleyan Methodists with Preston Kennedy as evangelist. As a result of this revival, the Hayward Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized on August 23, 1925 with eleven charter members. The first pastor of the church was Sidney Hotchkiss. He continued to pastor the Stone Lake Church, but in 1926 he moved to Hayward where he ministered for several years. The congregation continued to use the church owned by the Scandinavian Methodists and in 1943 purchased it.

Since the building had been erected in 1894, it was in need of much remodeling. In 1946 the church began to improve its building. Materials were hard to obtain during the war years; consequently, there were many delays as well as adjustments made in plans. The church was moved onto a basement and a heating system was installed. Later an addition for a new vestry was added and the sanctuary remodeled.

Through the intervening years the congregation has continued to improve the church and parsonage. New pews were purchased in 1964; a central heating system put in the parsonage in 1965; and an addition with a basement was added onto the parsonage in 1966. With these additions the church strives to maintain its ministry to the community as well as to the many summer visitors in the "Musky Capital of the World."



# JANESVILLE

CHURCH EXTERIOR

That which was to become the Wesleyan Methodist Church of Janesville had its beginning on January 25, 1953 when Rev. Mason conducted the first service in the Mason home. The small group of worshipers held their first Sunday school classes April 5. Attendance increased so that by June they felt they should conduct a Daily Vacation Bible school which 85 pupils attended. The interest of the parents was aroused also, for 125 viewed the work of their children at the close of the final session.

Three adjoining lots for a church were purchased on Benton Avenue. Following many hours of donated labor by Rev. Mason and other men of the Conference, the church was dedicated December 4, 1955.

Upon completion of the apartment above the sanctuary, Rev. Peterson and his family moved in. This was a great improvement over the basement apartment where the Masons lived during the latter part of their ministry. Under the direction of Rev. Peterson the church became organized July 13, 1958. In the fall of 1959 ground was broken for the parsonage. Rev. Peterson and some of the laymen poured 3,000 hours of labor into the home that was dedicated February 14, 1960. In August of the same year Rev. Peterson left Janesville to assume the duties of Conference President.

Two organizations of the church formed under Rev. Sanders' ministry were the Woman's Missionary Society and Christian Youth Crusade.

One of the charter members of the church, Charles Anderson, is now pastoring the Mt. Pisgah and Oak Ridge Wesleyan Methodist Churches.



CHURCH INTERIOR



REV. & MRS. JOHN GROVER

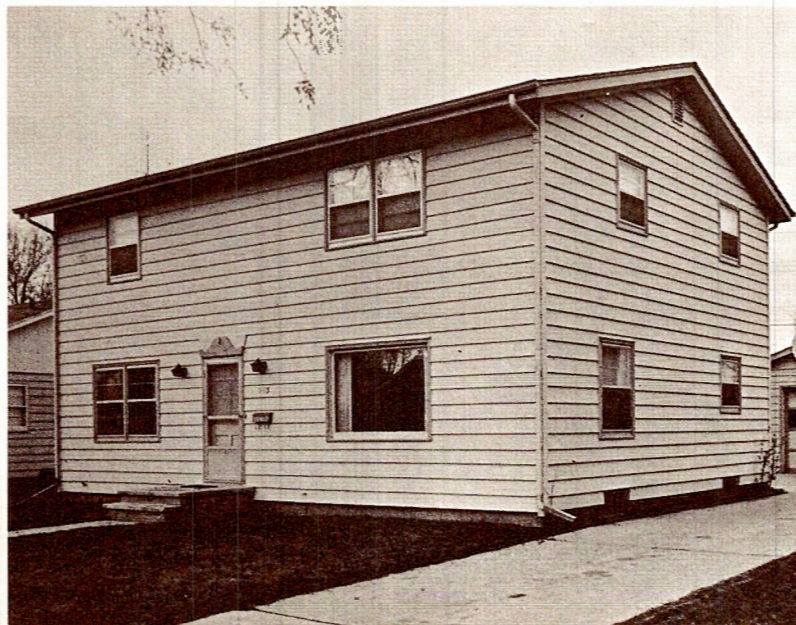
#### CHARTER MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Anderson  
 Lee Austin  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Austin  
 Mrs. Bernard Buggs  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Eastman  
 Mr. and Mrs. Fred Gilmore  
 Mr. and Mrs. Robert Jewett  
 Mr. and Mrs. Earl Marsh  
 Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Mason  
 Laura Mason  
 Rev. and Mrs. David Peterson  
 Mr. and Mrs. John Sievers  
 Mrs. Fred Smith  
 Mr. and Mrs. Dale Tatroe

#### PASTORS:

Clarence Mason (1953-56)  
 David Peterson (1956-60)  
 Lynford Sanders (1960-65)  
 Daniel Wolf (1965-66)  
 John Grover (1966- )

#### PARSONAGE



# MADISON FIRST

Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Titus were the first Wesleyan pastor and family to pioneer work in Madison. The family made some preliminary trips to Madison to investigate the possibilities of finding employment, a place to live, and a location for the church. During the summer of 1952 they spent their vacation living in a tent and building a basement. They invited Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Titus to join them in the effort. The two families moved into one basement on Irish Road.

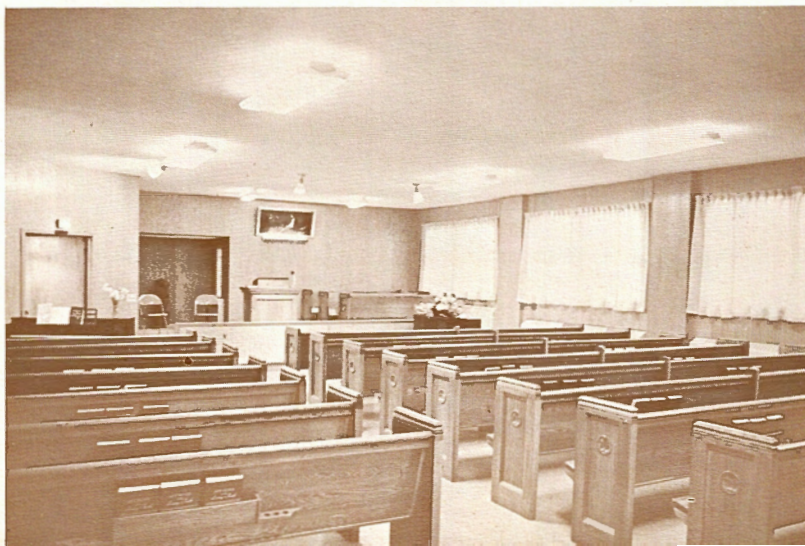
The first meeting of the Madison Wesleyan Methodist Church was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Donald M. Boone in September, 1952, at which time plans for starting Sunday services were made. Those present were Rev. Loring Peterson, Conference President, Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Titus, Rev. and Mrs. Clarence Titus, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Boone, and Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Boone. A room was rented at the Y.M.C.A. where services were held from October 19, 1952, to August, 1955.

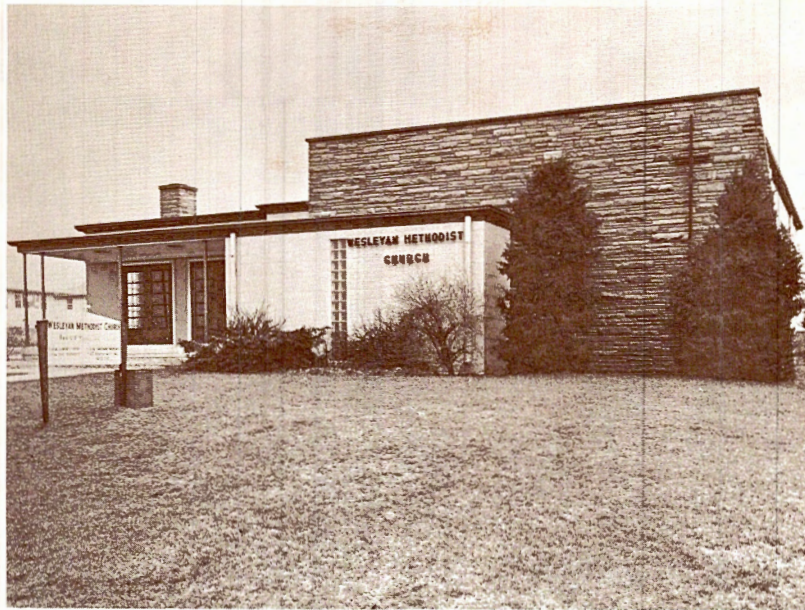
The first service was held in the present church building on Whenona Drive in August, 1955. The parsonage was started during the summer of 1962 and the Floyd Titus family moved into the basement in November of that year. The upper floors were ready for occupancy in January, 1963. These buildings became a reality, not by dreams, plans, and prayers alone, but through many hours of donated labor. Several helped in this pioneer project, but the major portion was done by Rev. Floyd Titus. Rev. Loring Peterson and Rev. Floyd Titus spent much time securing loans. In the meantime, Rev. Titus completed his own home and then mortgaged it to secure additional funds. His wife willingly gave twelve years of her life to work outside the home and the church.

The church was organized in July, 1956 as a Wesleyan Methodist Church with sixteen charter members. Present membership is 41. The church operated on a budget of \$2400 during her first full year of services. Total disbursements for the conference year 1964-65 amounted to \$9800.

Martin LaBar, who served the church faithfully while attending graduate school at the University of Wisconsin, is now teaching at Central College, Central, South Carolina.

CHURCH INTERIOR





CHURCH EXTERIOR

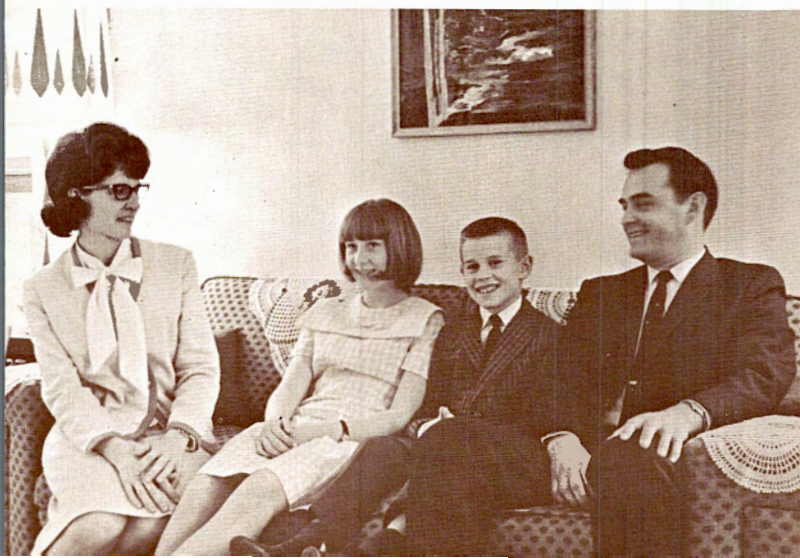
**PASTORS:**

Floyd Titus (1952-64)  
 Clarence Titus (1952-58)  
 (Co-pastor)  
 Morris Budensiek (1964-65)  
 G. E. Yarrington (1965- )

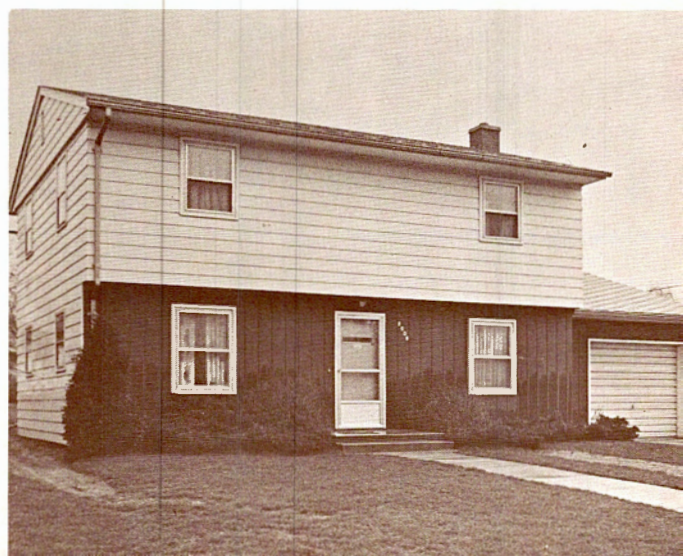
**CHARTER MEMBERS:**

Donald Boone	Gloria Sielaff
Osea Boone	Oscar Sielaff
Louise Cox	Clarence Titus
Wayne Cox	Floyd Titus
Vera McCord	Jane Titus
Bill McKennon	Olive Titus
Hazel McKennon	Richard Titus
Joyce Olson	Bertha Wong

REV. & MRS. ELLWYN YARRINGTON,  
 CURTIS, CRYSTAL



PARSONAGE



# MADISON GOOD SHEPHERD



CHURCH EXTERIOR

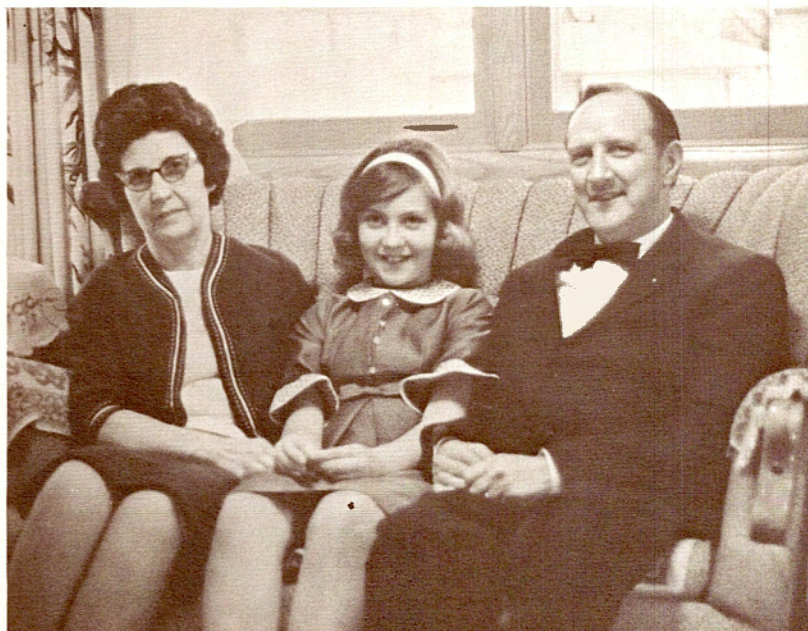
## PASTOR:

Eldred Perkins (1964- )

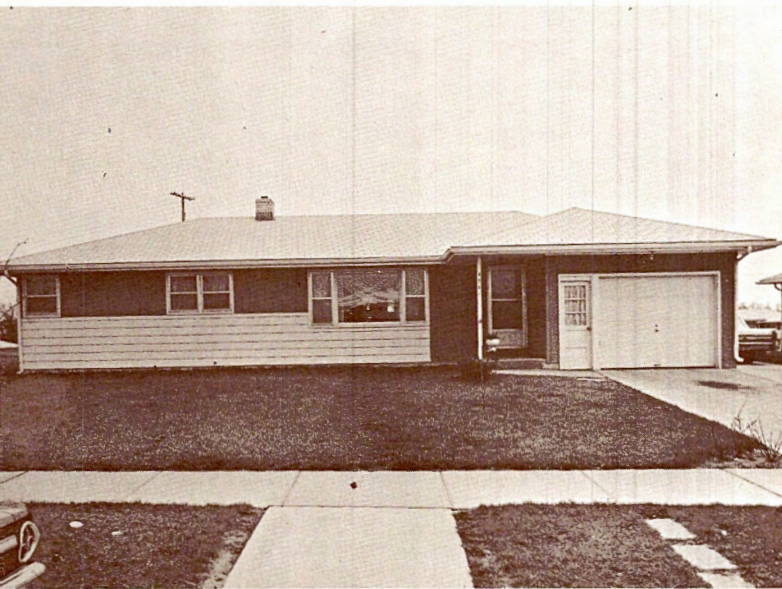
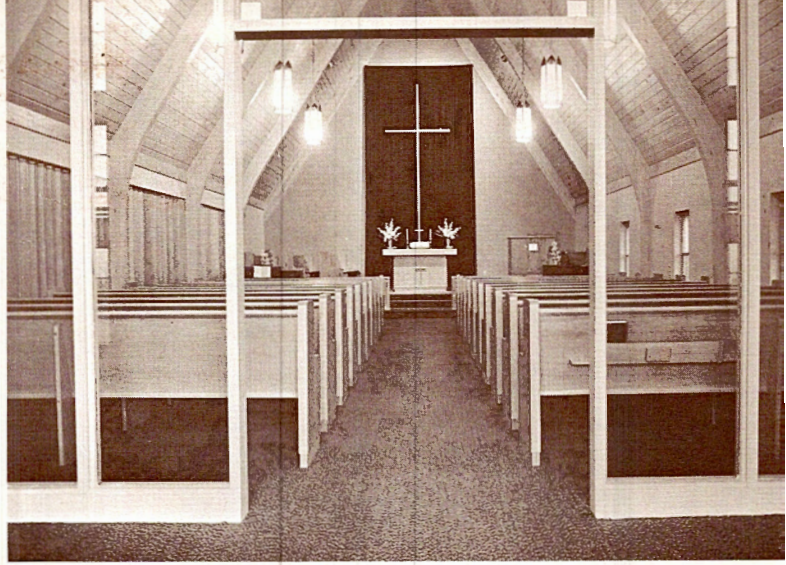
REV. & MRS. ELDRED PERKINS, SHARON, (LINDA)

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Ray and Eloise Asbjornson  
Delbert and Marilyn Bender  
Henry and Mary Brock  
James and Dee Crooks  
Truman and Sally Harried  
Richard and Janice McCord  
Judy McGrew  
Albert and Carol Moore  
Glen Napier  
Rev. Eldred and Elvina Perkins  
David Perkins  
Linda Perkins  
Mr. and Mrs. James Pfefferle  
Robert and Pat Riggins  
Phil and Fern Wahlberg  
James Wahlberg



CHURCH INTERIOR



PARSONAGE

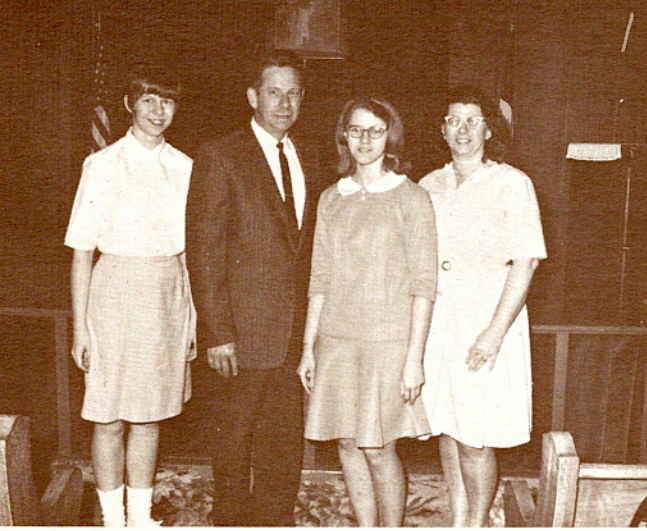
The Good Shepherd Wesleyan Methodist Church was started as a result of the vision and dedication of Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Titus, who earlier founded the First Wesleyan Methodist Church located in Madison.

With the help of one of their laymen, Mr. James Crooks, and the Conference President, an excellent location was secured on Acewood Boulevard. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Brown donated one acre of valuable ground adjacent to the building site for parking and future expansion.

On June 22, 1964 the Conference extended an invitation to Rev. and Mrs. Eldred Perkins of Scottsdale, Arizona, to help design, develop, and pastor the new church. They accepted and arrived in Madison on September 6, 1964. The Conference purchased a lovely three-bedroom parsonage just one block from the church on September 18, 1964.

On September 29, 1964 the Conference President, Rev. David Peterson, Rev. Eldred Perkins and family, Rev. and Mrs. Lynford Sanders, and James Crooks participated in impressive ground breaking ceremonies. The building was completed and the opening service was held on February 26, 1965, with a good community representation. The large picture window of the Good Shepherd was unveiled and presented to the community in memory of Robert Murray, son of Rev. and Mrs. Perkins.

One year after ground was broken for the church the group became organized as the Good Shepherd Wesleyan Methodist Church. Since that date the young church has continued to grow both numerically and spiritually. The total adult membership is now 50.



REV. & MRS. MAURICE HIGGINS AND FAMILY

# MILLVILLE

## PASTORS:

Harry Moeller (1964-66)  
Maurice Higgins (1966- )

The first settlers came to the territory now known as Millville in 1838. The next few years saw a steady trickle of settlers, most of whom came from Ohio. They were all of Protestant faith and many had belonged to Methodist Episcopal churches in their old homes. It was quite natural that itinerant Methodist Episcopal ministers should be warmly welcomed.

The first church services were held in 1846, frequently at the home of William Kidd. After that they were held in the school house which was built in 1848. In 1853 the first church building was erected. The service of dedication was held by Rev. Alfred Bronson. This buliding was remodeled several years later and in 1918 was again rebuilt to include a full basement and Sunday school annex.

In the early times the Millville church was part of the Patch Grove circuit, but in 1868 Millville and Mount Hope were set apart as a separate circuit. The church at Millville was the only church building on the charge; other points held services in school houses. The minister held three services each Sunday and several week nights.

The Methodists decided to close the church at Millville and it remained closed for five years. Mr. and Mrs. Milo Bean and others were concerned about having the church for this community. Rev. Harry Moeller, the pastor of the Wesleyan Methodist church at Eastman, Wisconsin, agreed to start church services. They had church school on Saturday mornings, worship service on Sunday afternoons, and prayer meeting on Thursday evenings. This arrangement continued for over two years. Rev. Maurice Higgins held his first service June 19, 1966. Average attendance in Sunday school for the first quarter of 1966-67 was 19, and the attendance increased consistently until this Sunday school won the annual statewide contest the spring of 1967 with an average of 66.

CHURCH INTERIOR



CHURCH EXTERIOR



# MILWAUKEE

## PASTORS:

Royal Bailie (1951-57)  
Carl Jackson (1957-59)  
Wilbur Wolf (1959-66)  
Harry Johnson (1966- )

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Rev. and Mrs. Royal Bailie  
Meredith Bailie  
Mr. and Mrs. Ray Button  
Ann Dollhoph  
Shirley Dollhoph  
Van Dollhoph  
Mildred Hollingsworth  
Emma Lux  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wynn



REV. & MRS. HARRY JOHNSON

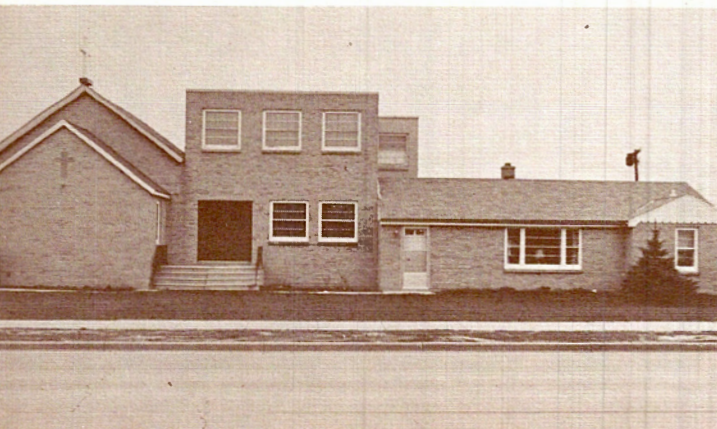
The Milwaukee Wesleyan Methodist Church at 2465 South 108th Street became a reality because of the vision of Rev. Loring Peterson who explored the possibility of starting a church in this suburban area in 1950. At that time lots on a busy bypass thoroughfare were purchased and a small frame church was bought and relocated on the lots.

Rev. and Mrs. Royal Bailie secured employment in Milwaukee in August, 1951. They lived in the Conference's trailer home and pastored while doing secular work. Shortly after the church was ready, a group of Conference youth canvassed door to door after which growth was constant. The group felt the need of a parsonage and in 1953-54 one was constructed with volunteer labor. Twelve charter members joined the church at its organization on April 10, 1955.

Under the leadership of Rev. Jackson the educational building which provided room for Sunday school growth, was constructed.

The chapel was extensively remodeled under the leadership of Rev. Wolf. Attendance increased and an active youth program was promoted. A division in the congregation occurred in April 1966 when a number of the families and the pastor left the church. Rev. Russell Buck, Rev. Loring Peterson, and Rev. David Peterson supplied the pulpit until September, 1966 when Rev. Johnson accepted the pastorate of the church. Church and Sunday school attendance has increased in recent months.

CHURCH EXTERIOR

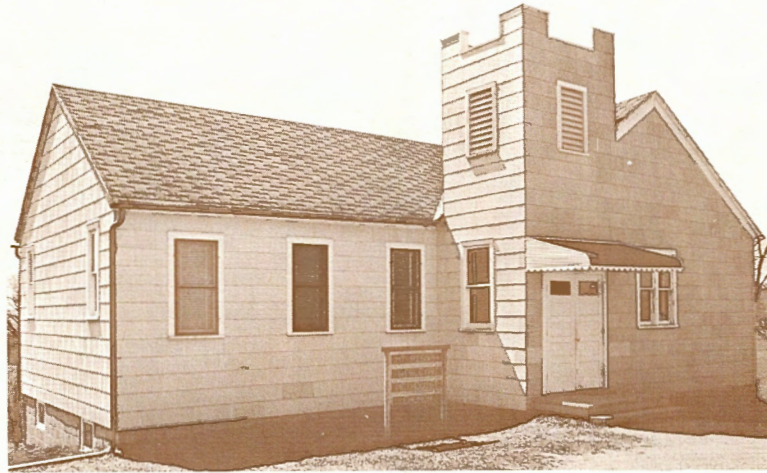


PARSONAGE

CHURCH INTERIOR



# MT. PISGAH and OAK RIDGE



CHURCH EXTERIOR

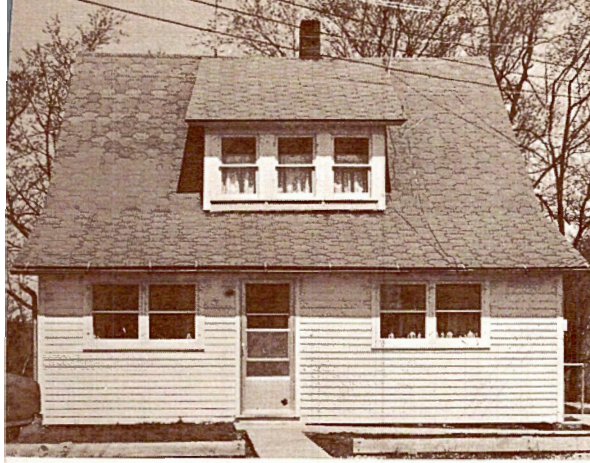
Wesleyan Methodism made its first start at Billings Creek in 1879 when a church with fourteen members was organized. For several reasons—the unsettled nature of the community, deaths, and removals—the church became defunct after a few years. A second attempt was made about 1887 when Rev. R. Powell, the pastor of the Burr Circuit, came to hold revival services with the assistance of Rev. Macy Bunker. As a result of this revival a new church was organized in January, 1889 at the home of W. E. Davis. This church held its services in a school for many years and in 1918 moved to the Whites-town Town Hall.

The Oak Ridge church was also started under ministerial leadership from the Burr Circuit when Rev. Mrs. Rose came and held a revival in the home of Oliver Schermerhorn. Seven people were converted in this meeting, and in January, 1893 a church was organized and became part of the Burr Circuit. Services were held in school houses until 1896 when a church building was erected. This same church was remodeled in 1941 and again in 1962.

The Billings Creek and Oak Ridge churches remained a part of the Burr Circuit until 1919 at which time they were set off from the Burr and Valley churches. A parsonage was built for the new circuit at Billings Creek in 1924. The name of this church became Mt. Pisgah in 1927. The Mt. Pisgah church purchased silt-covered lumber from the LaFarge Lumber Company after the flood of August, 1935. The people cleaned the lumber and used it for building a church that was dedicated November 1, 1936. In late spring of 1950 the expansion program began, and the dedication of the new addition occurred in the fall of 1951. Ten years later the parsonage was remodeled and enlarged.

REV. & MRS. CHARLES ANDERSON, STEVEN, AMY, RENAE





PARSONAGE

**PASTORS:**

R. Powell  
 Macy Bunker (1888-90)  
 Mrs. J. A. Rose (1890-94)  
 O. S. Warner (1894-96)  
 Frank Decker (1896-99)  
 Mrs. J. A. Rose (1899-02)  
 John Gillem (1902-04)  
 Ambrose Delap (1904-05)  
 Miss Mae Lewis (1905-07)  
 Charles Lyons and Albert Shore (1907-08)  
 O. S. Warner (1908-14)  
 Wesley and Mae Markee (1914-17)  
 Maurice Babcock (1917-19)  
 George Nofsinger (1919-24)  
 Walter Titus (1924-25)  
 Maurice Babcock (1925-27)  
 George Nofsinger (1927-28)  
 Isaiah J. Butcher (1928-37)  
 Clair Gearhart and Mack Budde (1937-38)  
 Miss Wilma and  
 Mr. Charles Bakke (1938-39)  
 Miss Wilma Bakke (1938-43)  
 Eldred Perkins (1943-45)  
 Guy and Marie Hahn (1945-6 mo.)  
 Kenneth Hintz (1945-47)  
 Clarence Mason (1947-52)  
 Lloyd and Josephine King (1952-53)  
 Michael Schell (1953-55)  
 John Clarke (1955-66)  
 Charles Anderson (1966- )

CHURCH INTERIOR



**CHARTER MEMBERS:**

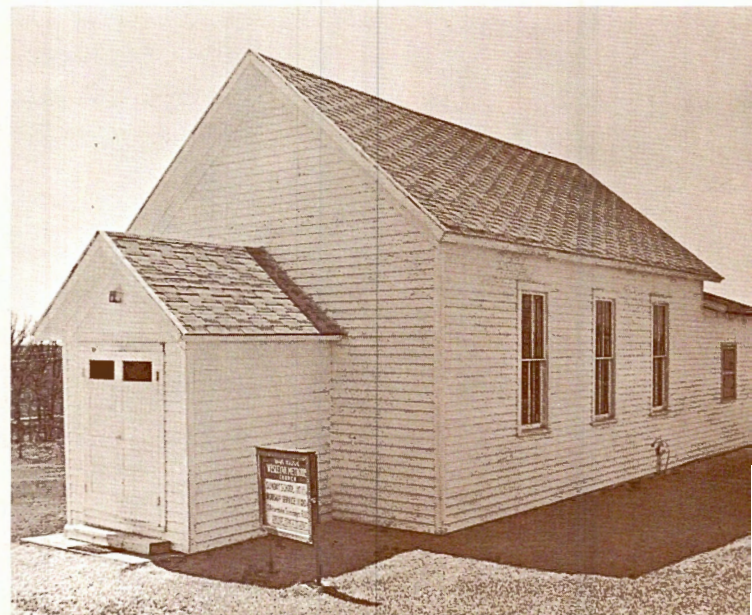
**Mt. Pisgah:**

William Breidenstein  
 Emma Davis  
 Livingston Rhone  
 Mary Rhone  
 Augusta Schermerhorn

**Oak Ridge**

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Calhoun  
 Mrs. James Currier  
 Mr. and Mrs. James Mains  
 Mr. and Mrs. George Rumppe  
 Mr. and Mrs. Gus Rumppe  
 Mr. and Mrs. William Rumppe  
 Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Schermerhorn

CHURCH EXTERIOR



CHURCH INTERIOR



# PARKWAY



CHURCH INTERIOR

In the late eighteen seventies, Wesleyan Methodist services were begun in the Baraboo area by Elder Van Driessen who preached at Lyons or present day West Baraboo. No church resulted from these efforts, however; but shortly thereafter, Elder Van Driessen was invited by several families to hold a revival meeting in a school house at Peck's Corners, located six miles north of Baraboo in Fairfield Township. This meeting was a success. In the early eighties a lot was donated and a church built. Soon a house was purchased and moved along side the church as a parsonage.

The work was carried on at Peck's Corners for many years. One noteworthy feature of the work was the practice of holding quarterly meeting on Saturday afternoons. Services were held on Saturday evenings and at times three services were held on Sunday. About 1916 the Free Methodists discontinued their services in Baraboo, and the Fairfield congregation at Peck's Corners rented the church and opened a Wesleyan Methodist mission in the city. A parsonage at 445 Maxwell was purchased at this time. Rev. Heisel, the pastor, preached at Peck's Corners in the morning and at the mission in the afternoon. When Sidney Hotchkiss was the pastor, he lived at Peck's Corners but continued to hold services at both places.

In late 1922 the congregation purchased the Methodist church at Blake and Walnut Street. This building was occupied shortly after Christmas, and the congregation was encouraged to look for greater success in God's work. Within weeks a revival was held. The congregation continued to worship in this building for nearly forty years during which time more than a dozen ministers led the people.

Under the leadership of Thomas Bailie plans were made for the construction of a new building. One friend of the church donated the land at Vine Street and Parkway; and while Carl Jackson was pastor, the church was built, with George Halsted drawing the plans and donating weeks of work. The first service was held in June 1961, and on September 22, 1961 the building was dedicated.



PARSONAGE

# BARABOO



REV. & MRS. H. S. BENNETT

## EARLY MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. John Gillem  
Mr. and Mrs. Grant Francisco  
Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Wilcox  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Herron  
Mr. and Mrs. Marian LaMar  
Hattie Halstead  
L. F. Halstead

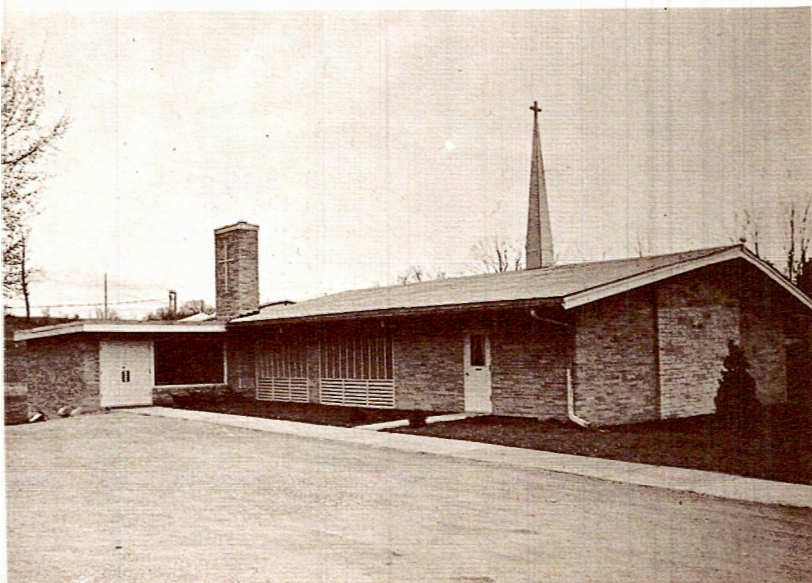
## PASTORS:

R. Powell (1888-89)  
J. W. Delap (1889-92)  
O. S. Warner (1892-94)  
Mrs. J. A. Rose (1894-96)  
John Gillem (1896-99)  
? ? (1899-1903)  
B. F. Baldwin (1903-04)  
? ? (1904-05)  
Frank Decker (1905-06)  
? ? (1906-67)  
John Gillem (1907-13)  
Wesley & Mae Markee (1913-14)  
A. J. Heisel (1914-19)  
S. S. Hotchkiss (1919-23)  
Paul Delap (1923-24)  
Wesley & Mae Markee (1924-26)  
Roy Zschiegner (1926-29)  
Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1929-35)  
Jay Elmer (1935-38)  
S. S. Hotchkiss (1938-43)  
Kenneth Hintz (1943-45)  
Walter Rogers (1945-47)  
Loring H. Peterson (1947-49)  
Harold Johnson (1949-52)  
Harry Johnson (1952-56)  
Thomas Bailie (1956-59)  
Carl S. Jackson (1959-62)  
Frank Underwood (1962-65)  
H. S. and Ila Bennett (1965- )

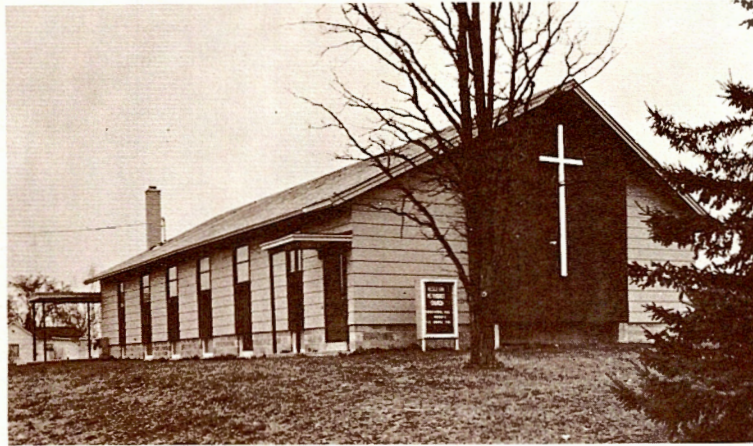
## \*\* Early Pastors, but dates uncertain:

Mrs. Bishop  
E. P. Bruce  
A. A. Martin

## CHURCH EXTERIOR



# RICE LAKE



CHURCH EXTERIOR

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Emil Bonin  
Mrs. Lottie E. Bonin  
Mildred C. Bonin  
Mrs. Edith Christianson  
Mildred Christianson  
Norman Christianson  
Raymond Christianson  
Ferdie Engberg  
Mrs. Ruth Engberg  
Elof Frederickson  
Esther Johnson  
Mrs. George Johnson  
George Johnson

## PASTORS:

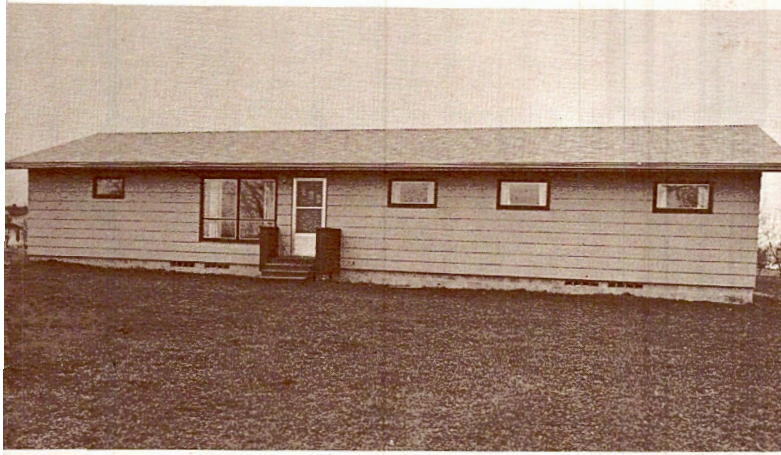
Charles Butcher (1930-31)  
Estelle Lienard (1931-37)  
Isaiah J. Butcher (1937-40)  
Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1940-45)  
Joseph B. Clawson (1945-49)  
Tilmon Hicks (1949-51)  
Guy M. Hahn (1951-53)  
Joseph Reid (1953-55)  
Michael Schell (1955-57)  
Joseph B. Clawson (1957-59)  
Donald Berry (1959- )

A small group of people in Rice Lake who felt the need of spiritual fellowship and worship began meeting together for prayer. Some of them had heard of the Wesleyan Methodists and contacted their Conference President Rev. J. B. Clawson. During the earliest months the group met in homes, but they soon changed their meeting place to a Lutheran church. Then they rented a room from the Presbyterians and worshiped there until August of 1930, when the church was organized, after which they held services in a rented store building.

Shortly after Mrs. Lienard arrived she located the property on the corner of Marshall and Wilson Streets. This property was purchased and the front rooms were remodeled into a little chapel. Through the years three major remodeling projects were necessary to meet the needs of the growing congregation.

Finally in 1960, due to the growth of the church, a search began for suitable property that would offer larger facilities for worship and living quarters. The estate of Frank and Elizabeth Smith located on Orchard Beach Lane and Bundy Avenue was purchased early in 1961. The sale of the old property to the VFW in August 1962 made possible the ground breaking for the parsonage the 17th of the same month. The second stage of the building program got under way October 27, 1962 with the beginning of the church structure. What a time of rejoicing was Palm Sunday, 1963 when the congregation assembled for the first service in the new church. June 6, 1965 Rev. Reid returned to deliver the address for the dedication of the church and parsonage. There has been a constant growth in both Sunday school and church attendance since the congregation moved into the new buildings.

PARSONAGE



CHURCH INTERIOR



REV. & MRS. DONALD BERRY, DIANE, DONNA LEE,  
STEVEN, BETH, PATTY KAY

# SPOONER

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Daisy Askay	Rose Quick
George Clark	Ruby Quick
Nellie Johnson	Willard Quick
Lucille McNitt	Minnie Rounce
Marion McNitt	William Stacyse
Marvin McNitt	Alice Stimpson
Minnie McNitt	Anna Mae Stimpson
Myrna McNitt	Ben Stimpson
Gertrude Quick	Delbert Stimpson
Hazel Quick	Lillian Stimpson
John Quick	Leo Swan
Minnie Quick	



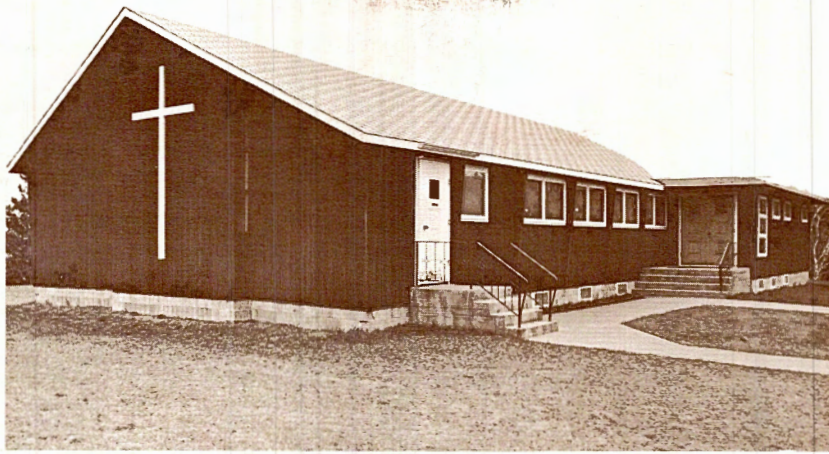
CHURCH INTERIOR

## PASTORS:

Esther Johnson (1936-39)  
Lester Buckman (1939-40)  
Isaiah J. Butcher (1940-48)  
Marie Hahn (1948-49)  
J. B. and Jennie Clawson (1949-53)  
J. B. Clawson (1953-54)  
Tilmon Hicks (1954-55)  
John K. Heavilin (1955-59)  
Russell G. Buck (1959-65)  
David D. Howell (1965-5 mo.)  
James Huffman (1966-7 mo.)  
David D. Peterson (1966- )



PARSONAGE



CHURCH EXTERIOR

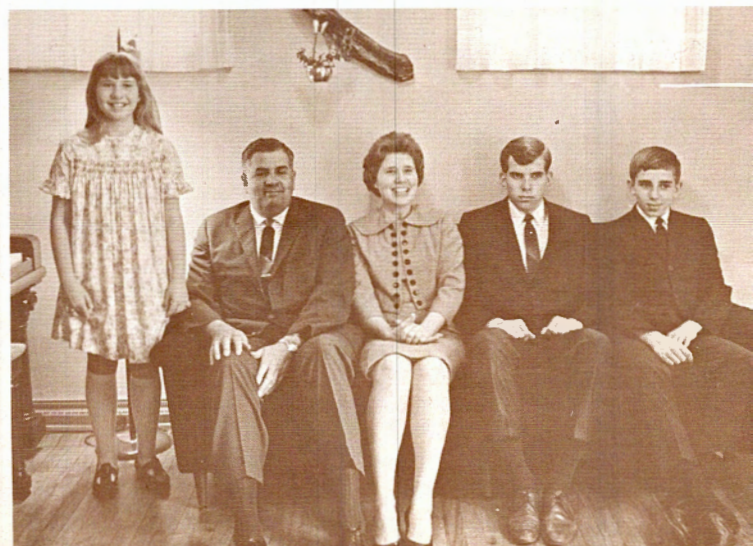
In the summer of 1932 Rev. H. K. Long of St. Paul, Minnesota came to Spooner and held a special evangelistic meeting. This meeting was the forerunner to forming the Spooner Wesleyan Methodist Church. From 1932 to 1936 several assisted with the preaching among whom were Rev. O. S. Warner of Stone Lake, Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Lienard, and Charles and Wilma Bakke of Rice Lake. On November 10, 1936 the church was declared an organized body by Rev. J. B.. Clawson, Conference President.

Sometime during the first four years of its existence, the group purchased a building to be used for a church at Smith and Scribner Street. This building was remodeled on the outside while Miss Johnson was pastor. The interior of the church was remodeled, a lot adjoining the church was purchased, and the parsonage was built under the direction of Rev. Butcher. For over fifteen years these buildings served the congregation.

On January 17, 1953, during the pastorate of Rev. and Mrs. Clawson, Mrs. Clawson died. Rev. Clawson carried on as pastor for another year and six months.

The limitations of the church building were felt for several years. On March 26, 1959 the church voted to purchase a new site of 13 acres, including a home for a parsonage, on highway 70 on Spooner's southwest side. At the same meeting a motion passed to sell the properties on Scribner Street. On July 12, 1959 the church voted to purchase a precut church package plan. In the spring of 1960 under the direction of Rev. Buck the present church was started and it was completed later the same year. Dedication of the new church was held June 25, 1961 with Rev. Robert Mattke bringing the dedicatory message. As a result of many hours and many hands the congregation has a church which is both attractive and functional.

Average church attendance is over 100. From the charter membership of 23 in 1936 the church has shown modest gains with a present membership of over 60. Of the charter members only two, Mrs. Minnie Quick and Mrs. Minnie McNitt, are presently members of the church.



REV. & MRS. DAVID D. PETERSON, ROBERT,  
KENT, FAITH

# STONE LAKE



CHURCH EXTERIOR

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Rev. and Mrs. J. B. Clawson  
Mr. John Gundry  
Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Walter  
Benjamin C. Walter  
Miss Huldah L. Walter  
Miss Laura R. Walter

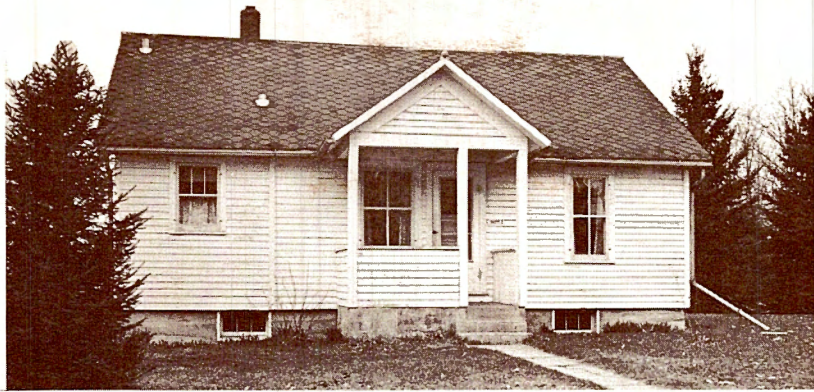
## PASTORS:

J. B. Clawson (1911-16)  
Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1916-18)  
A. F. Klein (1918-19)  
Walter Titus (1919-22)  
Ira Bradley (1922-23)  
Sidney Hotchkiss (1923-26)  
Isaiah J. Butcher (1926-28)  
S. S. Hotchkiss ((1928-29)

George Nofsinger (1928-34)  
Walter Titus (1934-40)  
Lester Buckman (1940-42)  
Robert Thrasher (1942-47)  
David D. Peterson (1947-50)  
Guy M. Hahn (1950-51)  
Ernest Friebel, Jr. (1951- )

REV. & MRS. ERNEST FRIEBEL, JR., KELVIN, (KERWIN)





PARSONAGE

"The Stone Lake Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized September 10, 1911 with Brother Warner presiding." Thus reads the first entry in the minutes of this rural area northern Wisconsin church. Not many months prior to this date several families from Oskaloosa, Iowa had moved into the small community of Stone Lake, some coming by covered wagon. Because of their common beliefs, these families held services which lead to this organizational meeting.

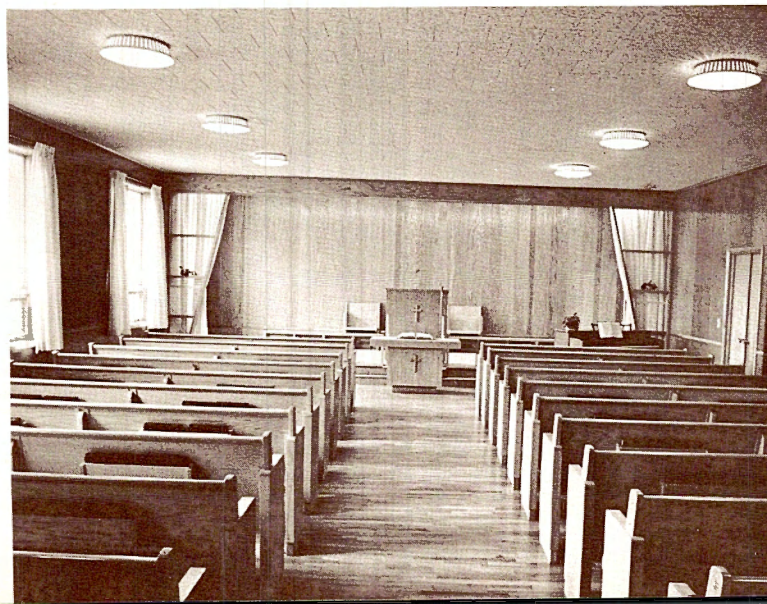
While pastoring at Stone Lake, J. B. Clawson preached once a week, at least for a time, at Stanberry and saw souls saved in that community.

The building of the church structure was during the pastorate of J. B. Clawson. Apparently constructed in 1912 at a cost, in labor and material, of \$759, an insured value of \$1200 was considered at a business meeting held January 8, 1913.

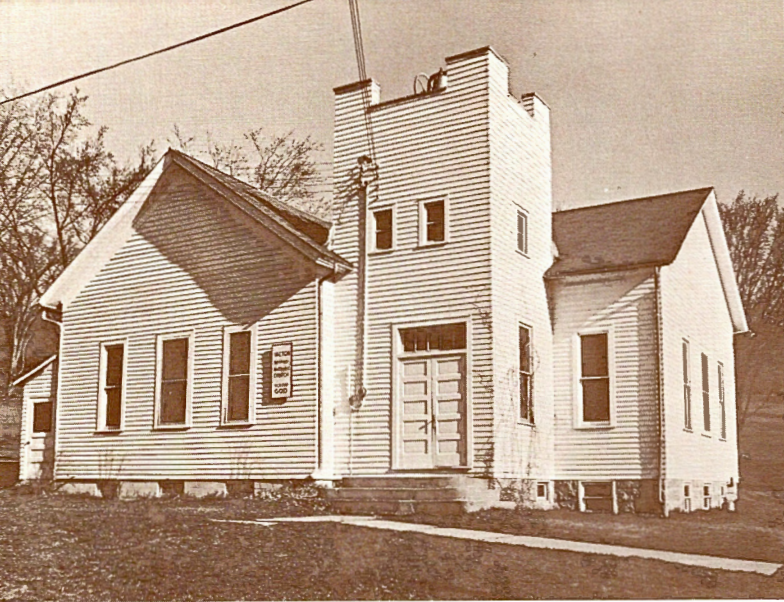
In 1938 a basement was laid up under the building giving additional space and also room for a much needed furnace system, inasmuch as the church had been heated by a barrel stove in the sanctuary. A further addition to the basement was built in 1960 and proved a great help in providing Sunday school classrooms. A superstructure was raised upon the basement addition in 1962 and remodeling of the entire structure began in 1963. However, the interior was extensively damaged by fire on July 4, 1963 and much of the previous remodeling had to be done over. Volunteer labor aided greatly in this project.

This church indeed stands as a landmark of the efforts of God-fearing pastors and laity working together, praying together, believing together, and standing together as a church united and as a church desirous of letting its witness for God and holiness be seen.

CHURCH INTERIOR



# VALTON



CHURCH EXTERIOR

Sometime in the eighteen sixties Josephus Wood, a Wesleyan Methodist from Indiana, settled in the Valton area; but finding no church of the denomination he became a member of the United Brethren church. At the organization of the Valton Wesleyan Methodist Church in January, 1873, Mr. Good was one of the charter members.

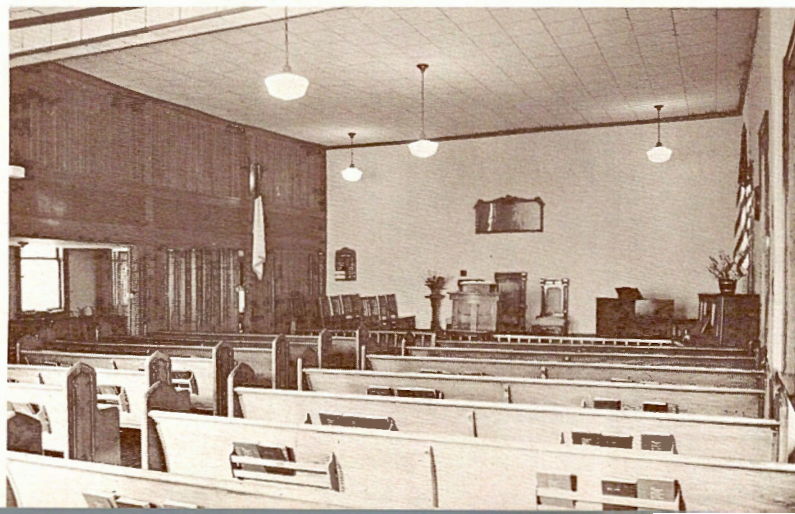
Though records are very incomplete for the early years of the church, it appears that Valton was part of a circuit which included Bethel and Carr Valley and was called the Oaks, Bethel, or Ironton Circuit. The parsonage was at Bethel, while the services were held in the United Brethren church as the circuit owned no church building. There was a Union Sunday School with the United Brethren, though it was very small with attendance ranging from 15 to 39 and the offering from five cents to 85 cents.

In 1905 the United Brethren decided to disband their church as the membership had dropped to six. At a public auction the Wesleyan Methodists bought the building for \$300. The community backed the venture by raising money for a new roof. The ministers traveled to Fairfield and Stephens Valley during the year immediately preceding World War I. At the close of the ministry of Sidney Hotchkiss, who was known as the tall preacher, the Valton church was set off as a separate church.

The church experienced considerable growth under the ministry of Charles Butcher. A parsonage was purchased and electric lights installed. This growth continued under the Markees and as the result of a revival the church membership was doubled. Mrs. J. B. Clawson was the pastor for three years while her husband was Conference President. Sometime during her second ministry the church was enlarged; a balcony and Sunday school rooms were added, and a basement was put under part of the building. Much of this work was done by Rev. J. B. Clawson.

The Valton church was again intimately connected with the work of the Conference when G. M. Hahn became President in 1945 and his wife remained as pastor. A full basement was put under the church while Rev. Bailie was pastor. Within recent years the heating system of the church was changed to oil and that of the parsonage was converted to gas.

CHURCH INTERIOR



# PASTORS:

Macy Bunker  
 John DeLap  
 Frank Decker (1892-96)  
 Mr. J. A. Rose (1896-99)  
 F. G. Walters (1899-03)  
 O. S. Warner (1903-08)  
 Albert Shore (1908-09)  
 John Gillem (1909-10)  
 Wesley and May Markee (1910-13)  
 Sidney Hotchkiss (1913-17)  
 Charles Butcher and  
   George Nofsinger (1917-18)  
 Charles Butcher (1918-22)  
 Mae Markee (1922-25)  
 Wesley and Mae Markee (1925-26)  
 Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1926-29)  
 J. K. Peckham (1929-33)  
 Drayton Elmer (1933-35)  
 Mrs. J. B. Clawson (1935-38)  
 Guy and Marie Hahn (1938-45)  
 Mrs. Guy Hahn (1945-48)  
 Carl Holder (1948-52)  
 Lloyd Poe (1952-57)  
 Royal Bailie (1957-58)  
 Clarence Titus (1958-62)  
 Ard Blomberg (1962-64)  
 LeRoy Drake (1964- )

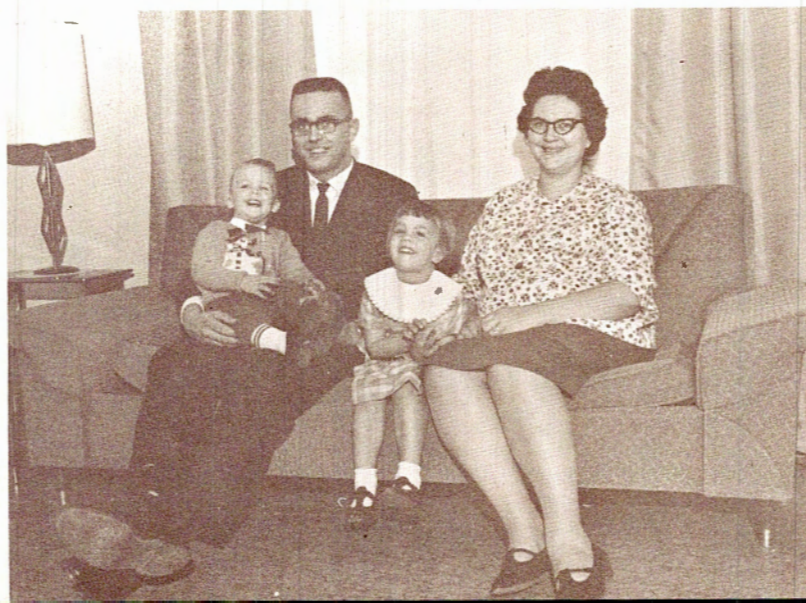


PARSONAGE

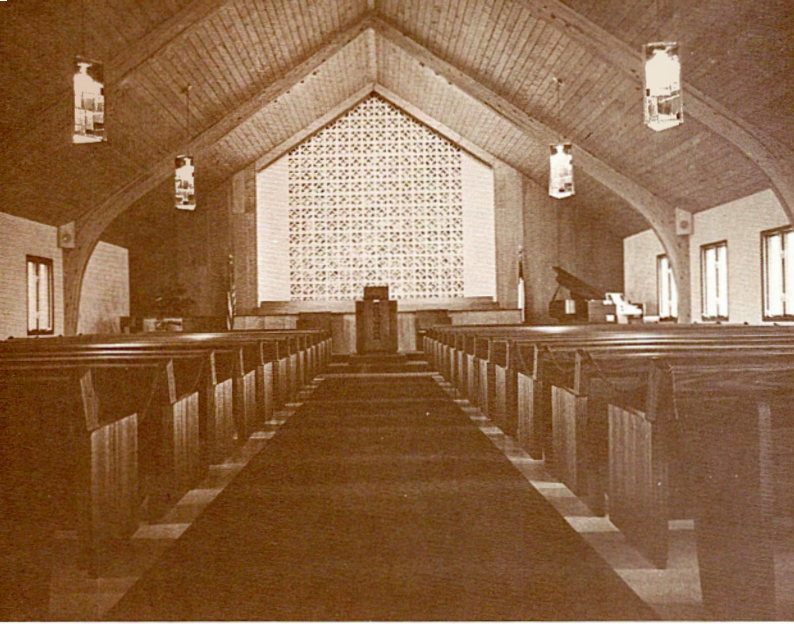
# CHARTER MEMBERS:

Benjamin T. Burdick	Amasa A. Lyon
Safronia Burdick	Caroline E. Lyon
Samuel Davisson	Aaron D. Miller
Sarah Davisson	Elisabeth Mullenix
Hawood Good	Jonathan Mullenix
Josephine Good	Ruth Mullenix
Josephus Good	Martha Smith
Sarah Good	Hance Thompson
Lewis Hutchins	Mary Thompson
Sarah Hutchins	Catharine Wright
Jeremiah E. Jackson	John E. Wright
Lucetta Jackson	William Wright

REV. & MRS. LeROY DRAKE, JACKIE, JEFF



# WESTBROOKE



CHURCH INTERIOR



CHURCH EXTERIOR

Jack Wynn, a layman from the Milwaukee Wesleyan Methodist Church, had the desire and vision to establish a church at Waukesha. Under the direction of the Wisconsin Conference, he built the parsonage and educational unit.

The first meeting of this church group was held September 21, 1958 in the family room of the new parsonage, with Rev Brannon presiding. His letter sent out to the people closed with the invitation, "The church gives you a hearty welcome to worship the Lord in the beauty of His Holiness."

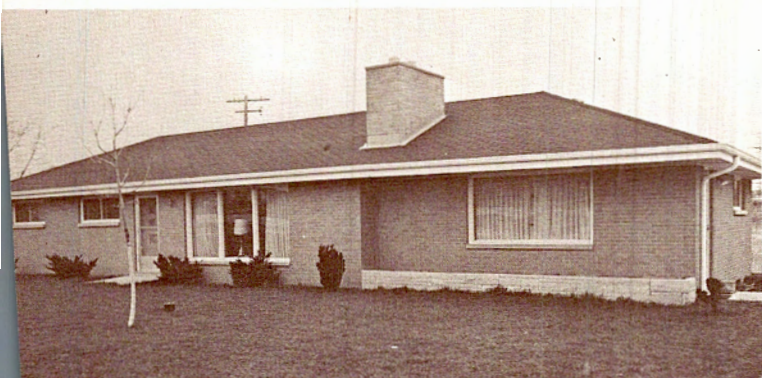
Dr. Harold K. Sheets, father of Mrs. Brannon and Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America, preached at the second service that was held, September 28. Services were changed from the parsonage to the educational unit on Easter Sunday, March 29, 1959. Rev. Brannon was taken from the group by his death on August 20 of the same year.

Rev. Loring Peterson, Conference President, assumed the duties of pastoring the church September 1, 1959. He filled the positions of pastor and President until August, 1960 at which time he became full time pastor of the church. The group was organized as the Westbrooke Wesleyan Methodist Church with 31 full members on December 11, 1960. Under the leadership of Rev. Peterson the church was erected. Rev. David Peterson, Conference President, delivered the dedicatory address at the special service held May 2, 1965.

# WAUKESHA



REV. & MRS. LORING H. PETERSON, RENAE,  
MARSHA, BRAD



PARSONAGE

## PASTORS:

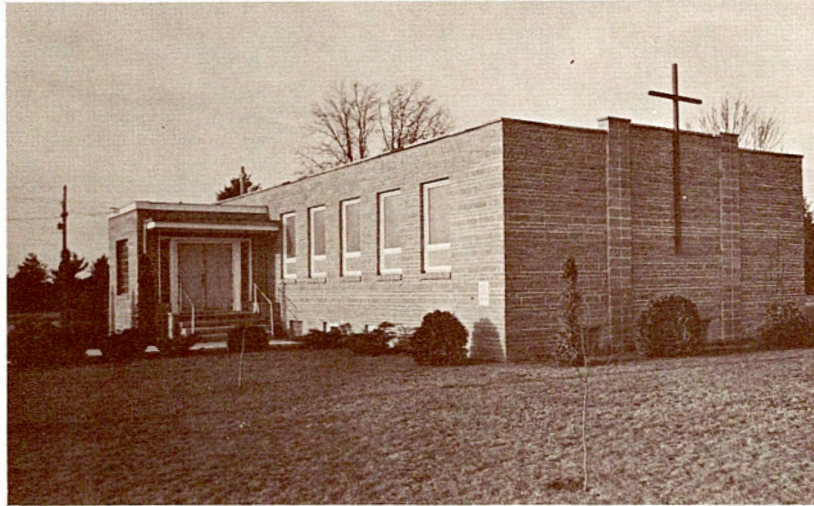
Gerald G. Brannon (1958-59)  
Loring H. Peterson (1959- )

## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Donald Beebe  
Mrs. Cecil Bridges  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl Dettman  
Mr. and Mrs. William Glenn  
Mrs. Mervin Hall  
Mrs. William Harding  
Sue Hollingsworth  
Mrs. Max Hollingsworth  
Mr. and Mrs. George Lambert  
Irene Manker

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Perschbacher  
Rev. and Mrs. Loring Peterson  
Mr. and Mrs. Leland Pettis  
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Piagentini  
Mrs. John Prelozni  
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Schubert  
Dennis Sparks  
Larry Sparks  
Mrs. Loral Sparks  
Mr. and Mrs. Linn Swenson  
Mike Swenson  
Bonnie Werner

# WISCONSIN RAPIDS



CHURCH EXTERIOR

The Wisconsin Rapids Wesleyan Methodist Church had its origin with tent meetings conducted by Rev. Charles Butcher, who held services in the summers of 1945 and 1946. An interested group, who attended these meetings, expressed concern for the Wesleyan Methodist church to continue in this city.

The local congregation was organized as a part of the Central Wisconsin charge which included churches at Stevens Point and Hancock. There were seven charter members.

The Seventh Day Adventist church was rented as a temporary place of worship until property was purchased by Rev. Ronald Heavilin in 1950. The house on this property at 10th and Prospect streets was remodeled into a chapel and living quarters. The chapel was dedicated September 4, 1951.

In 1953 Rev. Butcher accepted a pastorate in California and Rev. Heavilin answered a call to occupational missionary work in Puerto Rico. The Heavilins sold their property to the Wisconsin Conference. On December 5, 1953 Rev. and Mrs. H. S. Bennett moved from Michigan to begin their work as pastors.

PARSONAGE



## CHARTER MEMBERS:

Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Higgins  
Mrs. Herb Hellman  
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Parker  
Mrs. Ethlye Ramm  
Mrs. George Siegmann



REV. & MRS. JOHN K. HEAVILIN, KEITHA, PAMELA

The Central Wisconsin charge was disbanded and three separate churches were formed. By 1956 the chapel had reached its capacity for Sunday school and church attendance. With only \$300 in the building fund, the members sought a suitable place for a new church. Mr. Earl Wood donated one city block at 13th and Huntington Blvd. for the church. Conference approval was given to begin building on a "pay-as-you-go" basis in May, 1957. The church took Psalm 20:7 as a promise and a challenge: "Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God."

The new building was completed in December, 1960 with an indebtedness of less than \$10,000. The dedication service was held December 3, 1961. The mortgage for the parsonage property was burned August, 1965.

The church showed renewed growth after moving into its new building. The church and Sunday school membership doubled by July, 1965. Present church membership is 29.

Two charter members have entered full time Christian service. They are Edgar Parkers, Associate Pastor of the Wheaton, Illinois Bible Church, and Maurice Higgins, who pastors the Wesleyan church in Millville, Wisconsin.

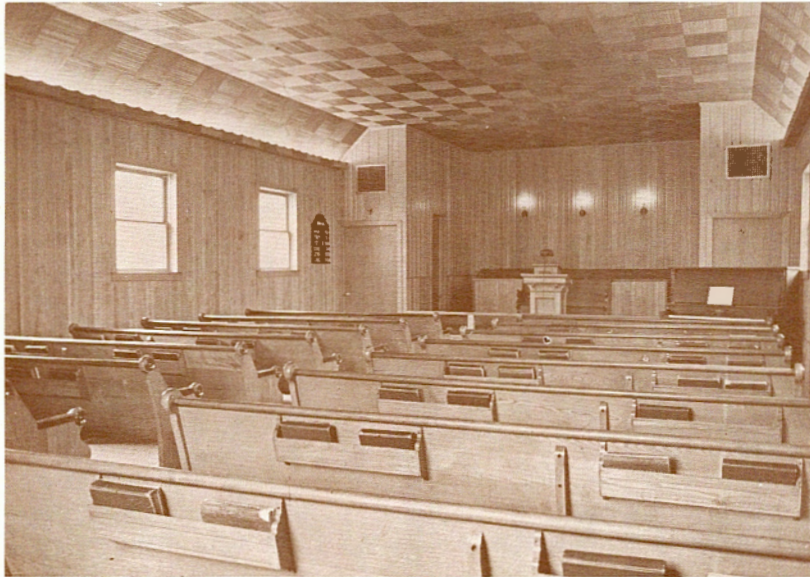
#### CHURCH INTERIOR

#### PASTORS:

Charles H. Butcher (1946-53)  
 Ronald A. Heavilin (1946-53)  
 Claton Butcher (1947-48)  
 (Assistant)  
 H. S. Bennett (1953-65)  
 John K. Heavilin (1965- )



# WOODLAND



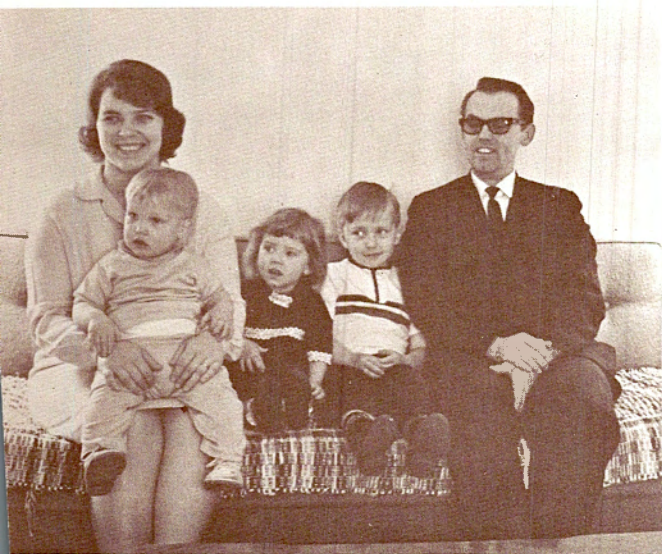
CHURCH INTERIOR

In the spring of 1947 Rev. Mason, pastor of the Superior church and leader of the Darrow Road Sunday School, was approached by a fellow Christian with regard to holding services at Woodland where some members of her family resided. One offered to pay a dollar toward gas if he would come. He and his family came for several months and held services in the afternoon or evening at the Woodland school. In July Rev. Thrasher took over their work. His devotion to God and love for his fellowman lead him to serve faithfully for the next year, driving from Superior until December and afterwards from Stone Lake.

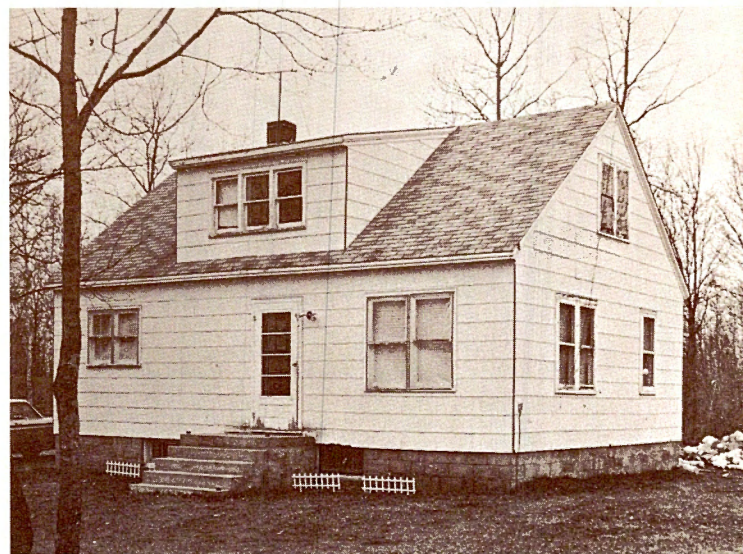
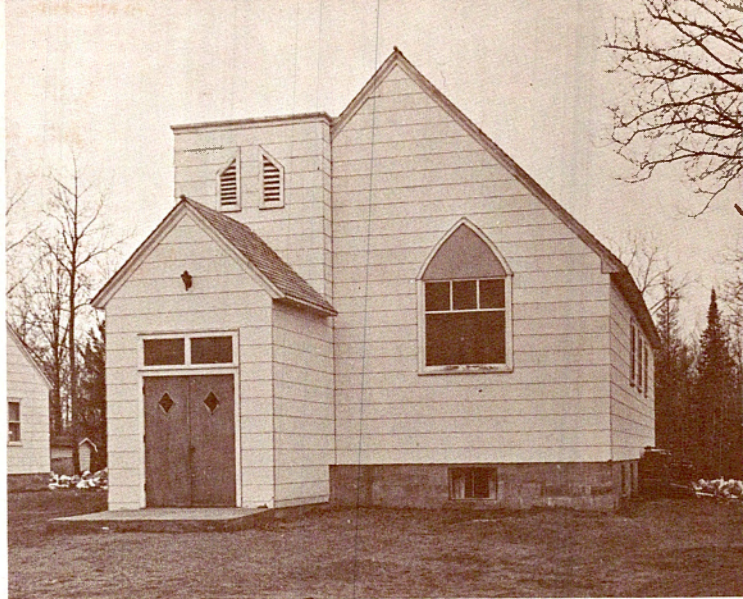
Rev. Fegan was appointed resident pastor in July, 1948 and he and his family moved into the rented parsonage. The organizations of the Woman's Missionary Society in June 1949 was a result of Mrs. Fegan's deep concern for missions. The Woodland Wesleyan Methodist Church was organized April 2, 1950 at the Blaine Town Hall, where services were conducted. How people rejoiced when three acres of land were purchased September 12, 1950!

During Rev. Hicks' ministry the parsonage was constructed; dedication was held in the spring of 1953. Service were held in it for short period before the basement of the church was ready. Arrangements to purchase and move the Chittamo church or the Wood River Lutheran Church were nearly completed, but in April, 1953 the congregation voted to build its own church. The Christmas program of 1953 was given in the basement, and services continued there until the church was nearly completed.

The superstructure of the church was erected under Rev. Buck's leadership. He and the men of the church cut and moved logs which were made into lumber for the church building. Dr. Harold K. Sheets, Superintendent of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America, presented the sermon at the dedication service held May 4, 1958.



REV. & MRS. ARD BLOMBERG,  
CURTIS, ROBIN, ARDETH LEE,



PARSONAGE

#### CHARTER MEMBERS:

Clyde Busby, Jr.  
Pearl Busby  
Goldie Carlson  
Len Carlson  
Merton Carlson  
Meta Carlson  
Victor Carlson  
Robert Fegan  
Vivian Fegan  
Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Johnson  
Mrs. Clarence Lee  
Anna Slipher  
Gladys Slipher  
Irvin Slipher

#### PASTORS:

Clarence Mason 1947  
Robert Thrasher (1947-48)  
Robert Fegan (1948-51)  
Tilmon Hicks (1951-54)  
Russell Buck (1954-59)  
Benjamin Drown (1959-66)  
Ard Blomberg (1966- )

# OTHER FIELDS OF LABOR



Rev. J. B. Clawson—Superannuated, President Emeritus, having given almost 50 years of service to the Conference.



Rev. Robert Mattkee: Professor at Miltonvale College since 1965.



Rev. I. J. Butcher—Superannuated, serving as pastor almost 40 years.

## OTHERS NOT PICTURED

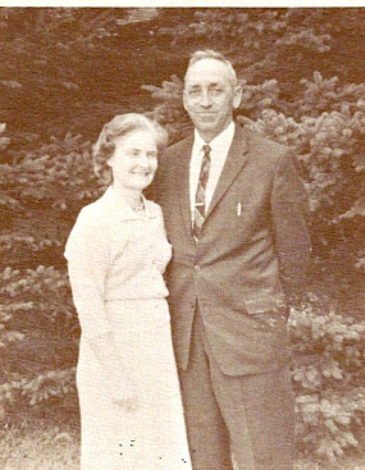
Rev. Wayne Cox, further study and Wesleyan Gospel Corps—Summer 1966.

## RESERVE ELDERS:

Sylvia Lee, Clarence Titus, Frank Underwood.

## UNSTATIONED ELDERS:

M. H. Budensiek, Richard Franklin, Marie Hahn, Josephine King, C. H. Maddux, Raymond Warren.



Rev. Harold and Edna Johnson: Missionaries to Japan since 1953.



Rev. and Mrs. Robert Thrasher—home missionaries to Indians in Sawyer County since 1949.

Wesleyan Church  
ARCHIVES

2000