

HISTORY of ST. PETER'S PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH of WATERFORD, PENNA.

The following history, 1827 - 1927, is printed on pp. 5-10 of a booklet entitled "1904 - 1927 EVERY DAY COOK BOOK of TESTED RECIPES Prepared by the Ladies of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, Waterford, Pa., Centennial Edition." The little book also contains many ads from a variety of local businesses, as well as, of course, hundreds of old-fashioned recipes. It was discovered by Kathy Hauser at Donna Schutte's "Smiling Glass Antiques," at the Folly Antique Mall, 654 West 26 St. Erie, PA.

"The first Episcopal Church Service held in Waterford was on a "week-day evening" in February, 1827, at the Waterford Academy. The Service was held by the Rev. Charles SMITH assisted by the Rev. Benjamin HUTCHINS. An infant (A. JUDSON) was baptized. The congregation was organized the following summer and occasional services were held. During the year 1828 the Rev. Bennett GLOVER held Services here one-fourth of the time, giving the Christmas Service to this place. On March 28, 1831, at a meeting of the minister, church wardens and vestry of the Church it was decided to erect a church edifice the coming summer. Fifteen hundred dollars had already been raised, a lot had been donated by Mr. David DICK of Meadville and one hundred acres of woodland had been given by Mr. J. B. WALLACE toward paying for labor and materials. Lot No. 232 was purchased by Mr. John REYNOLDS of Meadville and other heirs of Thomas R. KENNEDY, deceased and also heirs of Andrew Ellicott KENNEDY, deceased, late Assistant Surgeon in the United States Navy; the purchase price being seventy-five dollars, and the date December 9, 1833.

Those present at the meeting when the plans were made to build the church were Rev. Bennett GLOVER, D. Moore BRADLEY, Timothy JUDSON, J. VINCENT, Amos JUDSON, Martin STRONG, James POLLOCK and John TRACY. They elected Amos JUDSON, J. VINCENT and William BENSON a committee to make contracts and superintend the building. The church was to be of brick on a stone foundation, with a tower, whole to be of the same size and dimensions as the Episcopal church in Meadville.

The corner stone was laid in the fall of 1831.

The chancel was circular in shape with a small altar at the back and a kneeling bench all around which was covered with red moreen. The entrance to the chancel was on each side at about an equal distance from the center to the end of the chancel. A small reading desk was at the front in the center. A pipe organ was installed in the rear of the church about half way between floor and ceiling. This organ was made at or near Corry and was the gift of Mr. Amos JUDSON. At a meeting of the wardens and vestry in March 1833 a plan of pews was made and an appraisement of the same was exhibited. This plan was adopted and ordered filed with other papers of the church. There were forty-eight pews, fifteen on each outside row and nine in each center row. The front pews were square, being entered by a door. In the original plan, pew No. 1 was at the rear on the north side, the front one of the two outside rows being large, square, double pews. The original holders of these pews were:

No. 4	Henry COLT, Sr., who paid.....	\$60.00 for the same
No. 8	John MARVIN	80.00
No. 9	Timothy JUDSON	85.00
No. 10	Hugh HAMILTON & R.H. ALLEN	85.00
No. 12	Wilson KING	95.00
No. 13	John TRACY	100.00
No. 14	Amos JUDSON	100.00
No. 15	Martin STRONG	190.00 double pew

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No. 16	Amos JUDSON, Esq.	200.00 front of pulpit
No. 17	James POLLOCK	100.00
No. 23	John BOYD	60.00 rented
No. 33	C. BOYD, S. COOK, P. E. JUDSON	200.00 rented double pew front
No. 34	John VINCENT, Esq.	190.00 double pew
No. 40	John WOOD, Esq.	85.00

On November 13, 1832, the church was consecrated by Bishop ONDERDONK, several were confirmed and there was a service of the Holy Communion.

June, 1833, two Sacraments were administered by the Rev. E. G. BUCHANAN, brother of the Hon. James BUCHANAN, President of the United States.

The early subscribers to finance the Church were, Amos JUDSON, Martin STEPHENSON, John VINCENT, James POLLOCK, B. B. VINCENT, John TRACY, William BENSON, John WILSON KING, William REYNOLDS, Timothy JUDSON, P. R. JUDSON, Ansel WOODARD, He COLT, B. W. VAN SISE, William JUDSON, Chas. C. BOYD, F. W. MILLER, J. H. BRADY, J. S. COOK, John MARVIN, Obadiah HENDRYX, John STEEVE, H. R. VINCENT, David B. COOK, Samuel JEWETT and Thomas FRETWELL. These subscriptions ranged from fifty cents to ten dollars a year to be paid in cash, board, or "the making of boots."

In a letter written by B. B. VINCENT, April 15, 1836, to Rev. William HILL urging him to accept the rectorship of the church, he states the following conditions of living: "A snug building, suitable in size for your family may be had on rent for forty to fifty dollars per annum with one third to two-thirds acre of ground attached. Wheat 1.12½, corn 75¢, potatoes 25¢, oats 31¢, wood 75 cents a cord, beef 4 cents, butter 12½ and vegetables comparatively cheap. The upkeep of a horse you need not incur as you can be supplied by your friends free of expense." Evidently the terms were not sufficient although they offered him "a possible \$100.00 from the missionary fund and about \$200.00 from the society and about \$75.00 from Rockville and our friends at Meadville have promised forty to fifty dollars for a few years." In refusing he quotes St. Paul, "But if any provide not for his own and especially for those of his own house he has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel."

August 24, 1839, the vestry granted to John C. SMITH on behalf of the Associate Reformed Church the use of the Episcopal Church for two Sundays--their building undergoing repairs and improvements and unfit for use.

We find record of the following Bishops who held services in the church during the past years: Bishops Henry ONDERDONK, A. POTTER, J. B. KERFOOT, Cortland WHITEHEAD, Rogers ISRAEL and John C. WARD.

The succession of Rectors from its organization were the Revs. Bennett GLOVER, 1828 to August 1836, Samuel Tiffany LORD, 1836-1838, Tobias Harper MICHELL, M.D., 1839-1849, Richard SMITH, 1849-1853, John IRELAND (Deacon), 1862-18

S. B. MOORE, July 1870 for six months, John A. DOORIS, Feb. 1871 for five months, Samuel J. FRENCH, 1873-1874, T. O. TONGUE, 1874-1876, E. D. ERVINE, 1876-1878, Thomas WHITE, 1879, two months, W. H. ROBERTS, 1880, E. D. ERVINE, 1881-1888, W. B. THORNE, 1888-1891, Jeremiah COOPER, 1891-1897, Harrie Howe BURGERT, 1897. A. E. CLAY, Mr. COLE, Dr. CONANT, Mr. CADY, Arch-deacon MATTHEWS, Roger M. CHARNOCK, Mr. GRAY, Dr. Francis Seldon TAYLOR, Herbert D. CONE, Dr. D. E. S. PERRY, Mortimer ASHTON, and Henry A. POST.

During the period of the rectorship of Rev. S. D. MC CONNELL the church was renovated under the personal supervision of R. M. GREEN. The organ gallery was

ST. PETER'S CHURCH, continued

removed, modern pews substituted (the old ones were used to make a wainscoting around the inside of the church), a chancel platform erected whereon was placed an altar formerly used in the old St. Paul's of Erie, a Bishops chair and two smaller chairs given by John A. VINCENT of Cleveland, a prayer-stall given by Leon VINCENT of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and a lectern by J. P. VINCENT of Waterford, Memoriam.

Early Baptisms

- 1832, Phoebe Ward VINCENT
 - 1833, Eunice Dewey JUDSON, Louisa HITCHCOCK, Henrietta COLT, Sarah Ann VINCENT, Wm. Mitchell JUDSON, James Craig STANFIELD
 - 1834, George Isherwood WATERHOUSE, Maria WOOD, Herman Bolton WOOD, Phineas Dunh JUDSON
 - 1837, Jane POLLOCK, Mary Ruth MARVIN, Sophia Charlotte MARVIN, Francis Oscar WATERHOUSE, Strong VINCENT
 - 1838, Charles Henry JUDSON, Wm. Thomas BARNARD, Hortense Roseline MARVIN, Nancy Vincent WOOD
 - 1840, George BARNARD, Blanche VINCENT, Guy JUDSON, John FRETWELL, Nancy FRETWEL Maria Jane BLAIR, Sarah Caroline BLAIR, Patrick Washington BLAIR
 - 1841, Adelaide MARVIN, Ariana JUDSON
 - 1842, Ravenscroft MICHELL, Robert James BARNETT, Charlotte Eliza JUDSON, Belle VINCENT, Mitchell VINCENT, Maryann WOOD, Hannah WATERHOUSE
 - 1843, Hobart MICHELL, Martha Ann MOREHEAD
 - 1844, Effa VINCENT, Henry Clay JUDSON
 - 1844 (sic), Grace VINCENT, Vincent WOOD, Phoebe Jane BARNETT, Mark Newton JUDSO
 - 1847, Mary Henrietta CHEVALIER
 - 1848, Rosalie CHEVALIER, Mary Henrietta BARNETT, Phoebe WOOD, Roseline VINCENT, Leon VINCENT
 - 1849, Mary Agnes MOREHEAD, George WILLIAMS, Blanche ALLEN
 - 1851, Mary Elizabeth GEER, Ellen Caroline GEER, Florence Lillian GEER, Charles Wm. GEER, James Preston VINCENT
 - 1852, Amelia MC SPARREN
 - 1853, Pilgrim F. MC DONALD, Wm. Alexander MC DONALD
 - 1854, William, Electa and Madeline CHEVALIER, Mary Adelaide BROTHERTON, Mary Et VINCENT
 - 1856, Henry Ward BROTHERTON
 - 1857, Alice WEST, Eliza, Mary and Harwood EYEINGTON
 - 1858, George Jones WARDEN
 - 1859, Mary Jane VINCENT, Anson KING
 - 1860, John Rawle BROTHERTON
 - 1862, Blanche Hortense BROTHERTON, Amos JUDSON
 - 1862 (sic), Otis Chester WEST, Jessie Ann LUPTON
 - 1863, John Mark HOLDER, Mary Katherine KING, H. SEELY, Mrs. Marietta VINCENT, J sephine VINCENT, Charles Edward BLICKENSIFER, Osborn HOLDER
 - 1866, Rebecca JUDSON, Georgia VINCENT, Virginia ANDERSON, Robert Lyne BROTHERTO Emma STRONG, Alma PHELPS, Mary Viola FARRAR, Maryette VINCENT, Jessie Kin JUDSON
 - 1867, George KING, Pattie OWENS, Edwin ERICSON, Hobart Steve VINCENT
 - 1868, Alice Gertrude BOYD, Mary Etta ANDERSON
 - 1869, Lida Kate ROBERTS
 - 1870, Marietta ANDERSON, Emma Maria BARNETT, Henry Robert ANDERSON, Jessie May BARNETT, Jemima Esther MORROW, Effie PHELPS, Marietta ANDERSON (sic), Grace Jane ANDERSON, Perry Lincoln ANDERSON
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ST. PETER'S CHURCH, continued

1842, continued

- 18 months; Elizabeth Catherine ISHERWOOD, aged 89 years
1843, Michael HARE (pensioner) aged 116 years; John TRACY aged 73 years; Hobart MICHELL aged 6 days; Wm. Penneck MICHELL aged 22 years
1844, Robert POLLOCK aged 58; Charlotte JUDSON aged 25 years; Mrs. Adelaide HAI aged 23 years; Newman Bolton WOOD, aged 9 years; William SHARP aged 84 years; Mrs. William SHARP aged 78 years
1845, Albert, infant son of T. B. VINCENT
1846, infant son of Wm. BENSON, Jr.; Hulbert BARNETT aged 75 years; Mark Newton JUDSON
1848, Mrs. MC GILLS
1849, infant child of J. P. JUDSON
1850, William BENSON aged 65 years; Carson GRAHAM aged 65 years; Effa VINCENT aged 21 years; James WHITNEY aged 17 months; Charles WOODWORTH aged 49 years; Olive STIVERLING aged 17 years
1851, Thomas SKINNER aged 80 years; Martha CANNING aged 17 years; Mrs. Amanda M WAY, aged 36 years; Mrs. Anna JONES aged 40 years; Florence Lillian GEER aged 2 years; Blanche ALLEN aged 2 years; _____ SEDGWICK aged 10 months; Susan PARMALEE aged 49 years; Mary VINCENT aged 29 years; Ezra PARMALEE
1853, Josiah SIMPSON aged 40 years
1852 (sic), Wm. MC FADDEN aged 37 years
1853 (sic), Mrs. Martha SMITH aged 95 years; Emma Victoria WIANS; Hiram A. CHAS aged 48 years; Mary JUDSON aged 75 years; Mary Carson VINCENT aged 34 years
1860, John VINCENT aged 88 years
1862, Jessie Ann LUPTON aged 16 months
1863, Alice S. F. WEST
1864, Robert BOYD aged 70 years; _____ FRETWELL (a soldier); Robert Forest FLETCHER aged 28 years; Mr. BRYANT aged 65 years; John KING aged 70 years
1865, Effie VINCENT aged 21 years; Sarah FAULKNER aged 40 years
1866, Nancy VINCENT aged 83 years; John Vincent MC KAY aged 20 months; Mary C. STANFORD aged 40 years
1867, the Rev. Tobias Harper MICHELL, M.D.
1869, Esther MORROW aged 32 years
1870, Mrs. Nancy ANDERSON aged 66 years
1872, Henry DOWLER aged 76 years.

The first Sunday School was established June 1, 1834, with the following pupils enrolled:

Eunice JUDSON, Maryette JUDSON, Belinda BOYD, Mary JUDSON, Henrietta COLT, Sophia JUDSON, Harriet WEST, Adelia MC GILL, Catherine MILLER, Hannah MC KAY, Amelia GRAHAM, Jane BENSON, Emily HAMILTON, Charlotte JUDSON, Nancy CANNON, Mary Jane CANNON, Matilda STAFFORD, Phoebe Ann STAFFORD, Phoebe Ann SYBRANT, Sarah TRUESDALL, Cordelia HUNT, Caroline HUNT, Esther HUNT, Helen HAMILTON, Mary HAMILTON, Mary MILLER, Ann HUNT, Sophia DICKEY, Adelia STAFFORD, Mary MARVIN, Harriette MILLER, Mary COLT, Sarah HAMILTON, Elizabeth VINCENT, Rebecca FORD, Rebecca BOWMAN, Celestia HAINES, Angeline CROW, Amelia CROW, Betsy Adeline DECK, Adelia STAFFORD, B. B. VINCENT, C. C. BOYD, Jos. DOREMUS, Frederick MILLER, Robert TRUESDAIL, J. Preston VINCENT, Dayton SIGLER, James HAMILTON, Evan GARRETT, John CANNON, John HOWE, James M. MC KAY, John SHERIFF, John COLT, Seth MULLEN, William COLT, William HAMILTON, Pierce MILLER, Amos JUDSON, Charles ANDERSON, Clinton COLT, Horace HUNT, Caleb KILBORN, William MC GILL, Landaff STRONG, Samuel TRUESDAIL, William KNOX, Stoughton HAYES, Myron TRACY, David CROW, Benjamin Gray and Ebenezer LARKIN.

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