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Assembly of God was started in 1937, they first met in a storeroom. In 1940 they built a building at 311 S. College St. In 1974 a fellowship hall was added.

Baptist Chapel Mission began in 1963. The group first met in the Powell Building 658 W. Main Street. In 1965 it was incorporated and moved to the Leading Building at 223 W. Main St. The name was changed to Valley View Baptist Church. In 1967 the Greyhound Post House became available and the congregation decided to purchase this building. This Church used 320 S. Pilling St. as their address. The Post House had been 402 S. Pilling St.

Baptist - First Baptist Church organized in a home of Isaac Evans in Oxford Township, Coshocton County, called the White Eyes Plains Church on Nov. 5, 1825. It was a brick building 30x60 with a slate roof. It was across from the Union one room school, which was located about three miles west of Newcomerstown. Years after the White Eyes Plains Church was established, a meeting was held on Sunday, August 26, 1900 to discuss the possibilities of starting a mission in Newcomerstown. The next Sunday it was reported that the Town Hall in Newcomerstown would be available for services free of any charge except for heat and light. A year later, the White Eyes Plains Church and the Pleasant View Baptist Church pledged to support the Newcomerstown Mission. The first Sunday School was established a month after the pledge. A charter was signed in 1902 and the mission became a Baptist Church. A lot with a small building on it that had been used as a meat market was purchased. The meat shop was then transformed into a House of Worship, which served as the First Baptist Church until 1915. A new church building was built on this lot in 1915 and it was later replaced in 1966.

Baptist - A Baptist society was here prior to 1884.

Baptist - The Trinity Baptist Church was Organized in 1908. The Church building was located at 586 Clow Ave. In 1923 it was destroyed by fire. In 1925 the building was replaced. The first chairs used in this church were from the Old Opera House.

Catholic - St. Francis De Sales, established in 1917. They bought property at 449 E. State St. in 1818 and converted it for use as a church. Later the Lanning house on Goodrich St. was used. In 1938 a new church building was built at 446 S. River St. Fellowship Hall 1969.

Church of Christ was established in 1901, Building was at 560 W. State St. They built a new building at 475 S. Goodrich St. in 1960.

Church of God was begun as mission work. It started in Newcomerstown in Jan. 1966 at the Powell Building at 658 W. State St., which had formerly held another congregation's meetings, now was used to house the Church of God's services. In 1970 they purchased the Old Trinity Methodist Church which is located at 301 W. Church St.

Evangelical United Brethren Church met at 117 S. River St. upstairs from 1900 to 1906 before moving to a new building at 157 W. State St. in 1906. In 1946 the Evangelical United Brethren and the United Brethren Church were merged and became the United Brethren Church. In 1968 when the United Brethren Church united with the Methodist Church. the congregation elected to stay in their own church building, but renamed the church the Calvary United Methodist Church.

Four Square Gospel Church began in 1932. It was located in an upstairs room at 117 S. River St. Later the group moved to Canal St. (the Ortt Building) and then to the Hartly lot just off State St. In 1937 the present church building was built at 315 S. West St. and remodeled in 1962

Lutherans - Evangelical English Lutheran Church first met in a log school house which also served as a Community Center. They were founded on Nov. 11, 1832 and stayed until 1838. This school house was built about 1820 and was located on the south side of the Pioneer Cemetery. The property for the cemetery and the school had been given to the village by Andrew Creter. In 1838 they bought property and built a new two story brick building on Neighbor St. The property was bought from Nicholas Neighbor. Emanuel Greenwald was the pastor in both locations. John Rodney bought the building in 1869 and changed it into a dwelling. St. Paul Lutheran Church built a new building at 121 - 123 S. College St. in 1869. It was a two-story frame building. The Masonic Lodge was on the second floor. A new brick building was built in 1906.

Methodist - St. Paul's African Methodist Episcopal Church was founded in 1920 at 551 Clow Ave.

Methodist - Christ United Methodist Church. The College St. Methodist Church and Trinity Methodist Church merged in 1966. The combined congregation then worshiped in the Trinity Methodist Church building at 301 W. Church St. until the new church complex at 648 Oak St. was completed in 1969.

Methodist - Methodist Episcopal Church, 301 W. Church St. was organized in 1830, they met in school houses and homes until 1835. A brick church was built in 1836. In 1866-67 a new frame structure was built on the old site. In 1916 a new brick building was built. They merged with the Methodist Protestant Church at 145 E. Canal St. (1939-ML)

Methodist - Methodist Protestant Church was organized in 1842. the first church was built on the east side of the present Presbyterian Church. New building built at 145 E. Canal St. in 1878. They merged with the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1939.

They changed their name to College St. Methodist Church. in 1955 the building was damaged by a tornado. They moved to the Touraine Supper Club building on N. College St. in 1955. In 1966 they merged with the Trinity Methodist. The property was sold to the State of Ohio. The building to be removed for Route 36 by-pass (1966-ML)

Methodist - Trinity Methodist Church bought the building at 301 W. Church from the Methodist Episcopal Church about 1839. In 1970 it was sold to the Church of God.

Presbyterian Church was organized Nov. 13, 1876 and met in the former Methodist Protestant Church in the frame building on the land now occupied by the Post Office at 133 W. Canal St. until their building was erected in 1878 on its present site. The Manse, since Feb. 14, 1900, the home of all pastors was purchased from Dr. J. R. McElory and sits on the property adjacent to the church on the west side.

Nazarene - Church of the Nazarene, established in 1935 and first met in the Duff Hall at 117 S. River St.. Later the group bought a church building in Plainfield, Ohio. They then moved to 351 W. Neighbor St. In 1943 a new church building was built on the same site. In 1954 a new and larger building was built. In 1965 a new addition was added after buying the adjoining property.

Scriptural Holiness Church was formed in 1962. The former Church of Christ building at 560 W. State St. was bought for their use. They became the Church of Christ in Christian Union.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Over the years, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church has been situated in several locations. Andrew Creter gave to Newcomerstown an acre of ground, half for a burial ground and half for a school. A small frame school house which served as a community center was built on this site. It was here that the Lutherans were brought together for worship.

Rev. Emanuel Greenwald first held services at the same school house in 1832 and the first communion on May 4, 1834. The first six communicants were Judge Nicholas Neighbor, Sr., William Neighbor, Hannah Neighbor, Elizabeth Neighbor, Catherine Neighbor and William Tufford. On May 10, 1835, a permanent organization, known as St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Newcomerstown, was effected. Nicholas Neighbor and Joshua Gardner were elected elders and Jacob Miller and Leonard Neighbor were elected deacons.

In a short time after the organization of the church, steps were taken toward the erection of a house of worship. With much energy, zeal and sacrifice, the fathers labored in this direction and as a reward for their labors, they had the pleasure of beginning to hold divine services in the brick church on Rodney's Hill (corner of Neighbor and Bridge streets) under the pastorate of Rev. Greenwald. This was the first church in Newcomerstown.

In this church was hung the first bell of Newcomerstown. The bell was brought to town by a canal boat in 1841. Not only was it used to summon the people to worship, but it also served as a fire bell and was used to note the beginning of town council meetings. It also tolled the funeral dirge. The ringing sound of this historic bell still calls the congregation to worship.

Services were held in this church until Aug. 18, 1869, when the building was sold to John Rodney, who converted it into a dwelling. The Booth Apartments now stand on the site.

The second congregational building was the first building at the present location, 121 S. College St. It was a frame, two-story building and was built by the congregation at a cost of \$3,500. The cornerstone was laid Oct. 29, 1869. The church was dedicated in the spring of 1870. The second floor was rented by the Masons, the village's oldest lodge. For a time, the rear of the structure was used for a community college, or "normal school," thus the name of College Street.

In the early days of the congregation, the church was connected with a number of other Lutheran churches to constitute a charge. The churches at Chili, Stone Creek, Port Washington, Sonora and Adamsville were at times part of this charge.

The women of the church have always played an active role in the history of St. Paul Lutheran Church. One such example would be the events prior to the construction of the present church. Miss Belle Beers, representing the Ladies Aid Society, offered to give financial assistance to expedite the process of constructing a new building.

The present building is the second at 121 S. College St. The cornerstone was laid March 18, 1906. The bricks for its exterior were baked and glazed right on the site of construction and local clay was used.

By 1974, the belfry was in need of further repairs and a contract was let to brick and rebuild the top half with a cupola and cross being added. In 1982, aluminum building products were installed on the eaves, tower and cross.

During the pastorate of Rev. Foust, the parsonage was located beside the church. When the parsonage needed complete renovation, after much debate it was decided to buy a new parsonage. A suitable location was found at 102 Downs Ave., where Rev. Haggis and his wife, Crystal, now live. The first pastor to live on Downs Avenue was Rev. Fletcher and his family. It was in 1966 that the front section of land facing Canal Street and known as "canal land" was purchased from the state at a cost of \$350. The kitchen and bathroom at the parsonage have been remodeled. A one-car garage was removed and a two-car garage has been built in recent years.

Fellowship Hall, located in the church basement, was remodeled in 1959; the extensive project saw a new kitchen installed, new ceramic walls and the lowering of the ceiling. A new lighting system was installed later. The project also included a partial remodeling of the sacristy.

In 1958, the merger of St. Paul and St. Jacob Lutheran congregations took place. St. Jacob's building (located south of of Newcomerstown) was sold in 1974 to a different denomination, Full Gospel Temple Church.

As a lasting memorial to St. Jacob's congregation and church, the original oil lamp chandelier, bought in 1898 by the St. Jacob congregation and converted to electricity at the end of World War II, was brought to St. Paul Church on July 21, 1974. The chandelier is now in daily use, hanging over the church overflow area. Recently, the pulpit and pulpit chairs from St. Jacob have been refurbished and restored. They also have been placed in the overflow area.

"Adventures in Faith," a program of raising funds for the building of an educational unit and renovation of the church, was begun in 1959 under the pastorate of Rev. Fabian. The building of the educational unit, along with certain other improvements in the church, was approved in 1961. Ground was broken in 1962 for a new two-floor educational unit consisting of Sunday School rooms, rest rooms, coatrooms, stairwells and an add-on hot water heating system.

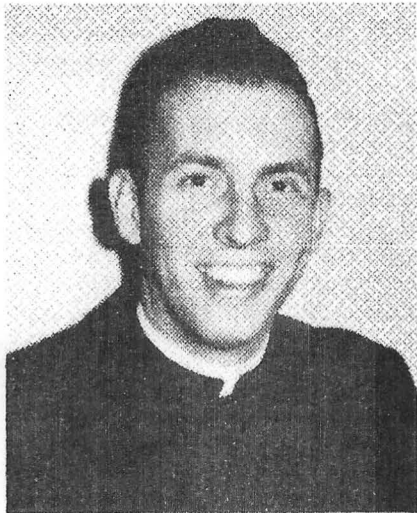
Improvements to the church property consisted of renovation to the front interior of the church and altar area; on the front exterior of the church, a large cross assembly along with a low, decorative brick wall was constructed with the name of the church. The original entrances were closed and new entrances constructed. This multi-stage improvement included necessary changes in the physical church to interface the old and new structures, among them offices for the pastor and secretary.

The architect for the \$100,000 project was Frederick Stritzel of Columbus. The educational unit and church renovation was formally dedicated on Jan. 20, 1963, attended by the congregation, area church leaders, the community and Synod.



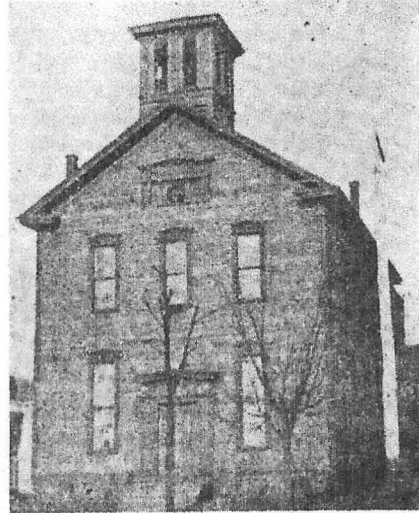
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Rev. John Fabian 1958-1963

Cornerstone laid for education addition and remodeling

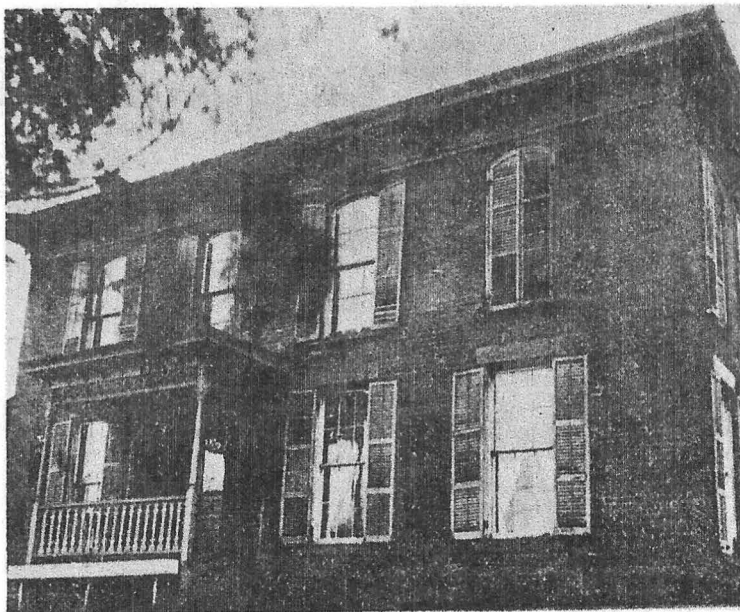


FRAME CHURCH
121 S. COLLEGE ST.

Dedicated on Oct. 29, 1869

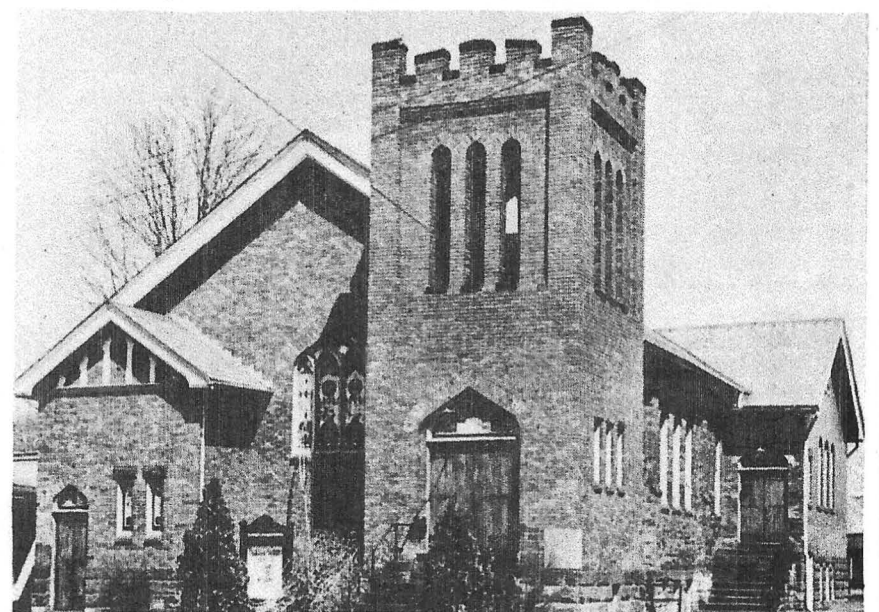


ST. JACOB'S CHURCH



BRICK CHURCH ON RODNEY'S HILL

Services began 1838



BRICK CHURCH 121 COLLEGE ST.

Dedicated Dec. 15-16, 1906



The History of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church

The bell that summoned the people to worship also served as a fire bell and was used to note the beginning of town council meetings. It was brought to town by a canal boat in 1841. It was the first bell in the community and was recently salvaged from the burned structure in 1999 to be placed in the new church once it's built. The second congregational building was the original structure at 121 South College Street. It was a framed two story building built by the congregation.

The second floor was rented to the Masons. For a time, the rear of the structure was used for a community college, thus the name College Street.

The third church building was the second one at the College Street location. The cornerstone for it was laid on March 18, 1906. The bricks for its exterior were baked and glazed on the construction site from local clay.

The belfry of the church and the northwest part of the roof sustained extensive damage when a tornado swept through Newcomerstown in the early morning hours of March 11, 1955. The damage was repairable. Church services were held at various

buildings throughout town until repairs were made.

The wooden structure supporting the bell had deteriorated through the many years of service and in 1868 heavy wooden beams were installed so the historic bell could once more toll. By 1974, the belfry was in need of further repairs along with the top half of the copular being repaired and a cross added.

An education wing was added in 1962. It was two floors and consisted of Sunday school rooms, rest rooms, coatrooms, stairwells and a hot water heating system. Additional improvements were made.

As a lasting memorial to St. Jacobs Congregation and church, the original oil lamp chandelier, which was bought in 1898 and converted to electricity at the end of World War II, was installed at St. Pauls overflow area. St. Jacob's pulpit and pulpit chairs were refurbished and placed in the overflow area also.

In the early morning hours of October 19, 1999, an arsonist set a fire in the church office that gutted the building. It was a tremendous shock to the church family and community. Very few items

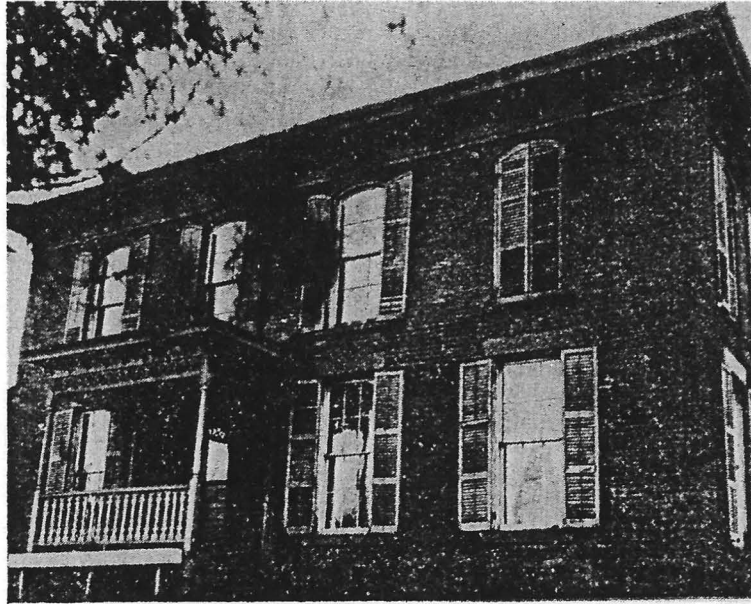
were saved; the bell, a few stained glass windows, and the cross on top of the cupola. Many of the historical memorabilia were all destroyed.

The congregation met in the East Elementary Gym since the first Sunday after the fire. Plans were set in place to begin building a new church soon after the fire. In the span of eighteen months, plans were approved to build on the current location.

Groundbreaking for the new church was Easter Sunday, April 15, 2001.

After much hard work, church and community fund-raising the doors of our NEW Church once again opened for fellowship and worship in April of 2003.





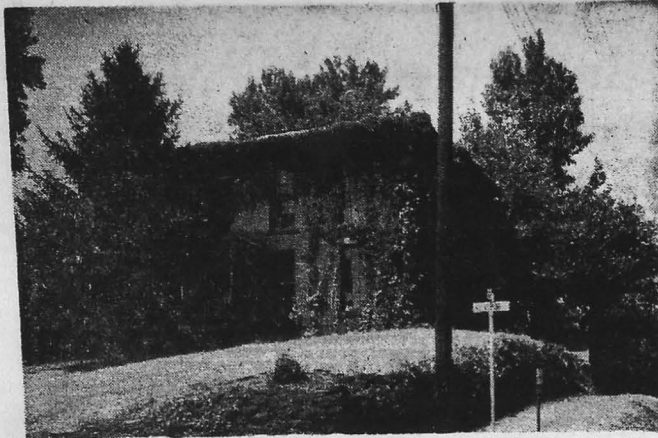
BRICK CHURCH ON RODNEY'S HILL

Services began 1838

BRIDGE & NEIGHBOR ST.

COLLEGE ST.

N'town Lutherans Mark 129th Anniversary



FIRST CHURCH—The old Neighbor house here is the first church in Newcomerstown and was used by the Lutheran congregation from 1838 to 1869, when it became a private home.



SECOND LUTHERAN BUILDING—This frame church was built in 1869-70 at a cost of \$3,500 by the Lutheran parishioners.

Built First Church in Newcomerstown

Lutheran Church Founded 1838

Members of St. Paul's Lutheran church in Newcomerstown who recently celebrated the dedication of a new church building can look back on a number of "firsts" during their 129 years as a congregation in Newcomerstown.

Founded by Rev. Emanuel Greenwald of Frederick, Md., who began preaching in 1832, the permanent congregation

was founded in 1835 and obtained its first house of worship in 1838 when a brick church was erected on Rodney's Hill. The old Neighbor home is still there.

Near this structure, which was Newcomerstown's first church, was also the town's first bell, transported on the canal and hung from a rail fence where it summoned worshipers, tolled the funeral dirge

and summoned volunteer firemen.

On Aug. 18, 1869, the building was purchased by John Rodney and converted into a private dwelling. Two lots were purchased Oct. 9, 1869, for \$250 and on Oct. 29, 1869, a cornerstone was laid for a new frame church, which was dedicated in the spring of 1870 after an expenditure of \$3,500.

conducted on the interior and exterior of the building, a basement was added and a double garage added to the rear of the lot.

During the 1935 Centennial Anniversary celebration it was reported that the congregation's total expenditures exceeded \$45,000 for the preceding 10-year period and the following groups were organized:

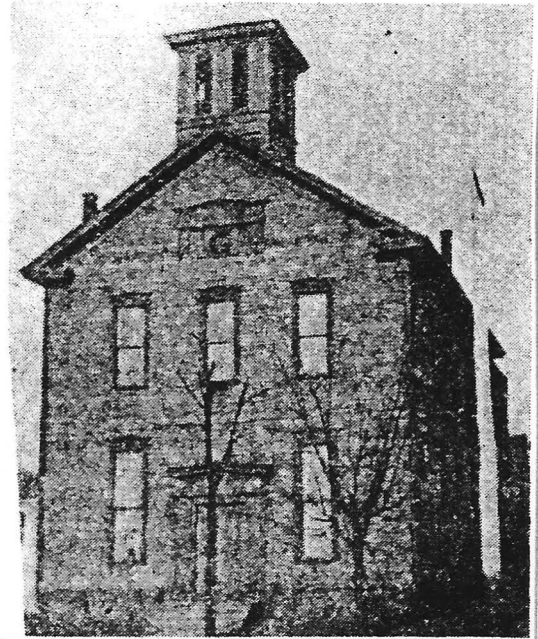
paign, and ground was broken in March of 1902.

Dedication of the present structure was conducted Jan. 20 of this year.

Ministers of the Newcomerstown church during its long evolution since 1835 have been:

Rev. Greenwald, 1835-40, Rev. E. C. Yunge 1840-43, Rev. E. Melsheimer 1843-46, Rev. A. N. Bartholmeh 1850-58, Rev. M. Bartholmeh 1859-1861

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**FRAME CHURCH
121 S. COLLEGE ST.**

Dedicated on Oct. 29, 1869



*Lots were purchased Oct 9,
1864 for \$25000
Corner stone Oct 29, 1869
Rev. F. H. Melhorn of Pittsburg
preached at the service.
Dedicated Spring 1870. Cost \$35000*

*Parsonage in back
ground
1906 Church built on
this site.*

St. Paul Lutheran Church was founded on November 11, 1832, in a little log school house. A brick edifice was completed in 1838 that was located on the corner of Neighbor and North Bridge Street (which was then called Railroad Street). This brick structure, in later years was used as a home and was called the Neighbor Property. This Neighbor family were decendents of Nicholas Neighbor.

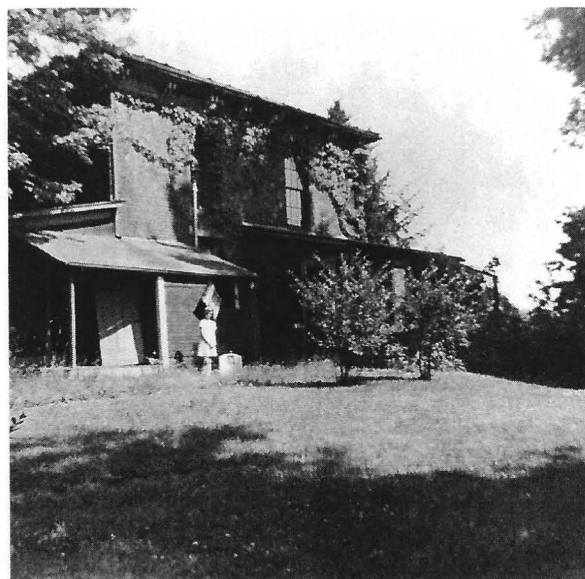
Mrs. Alma Neighbor was an elementary school teacher in the Newcomerstown School District for many years and also was a renown artist. One of the Neighbor daughters also taught school in the local school district - Bertha Ellen (Neighbor) Gilchrist. She later moved to the Cleveland Area.

This same site is now the location for the Booth Apartments.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
as it appears today

Another view of the old St. Paul's Lutheran Church on the corner of Neighbor and N. Bridge Street. This was later occupied by the Neighbor family.



THE OLD RODNEY HOUSE

By

Lois Zimmer Craig

2 February 1965

One of these days in the not too distant future, Newcomerstown's most legendary landmark--the Old Rodney House crowning the hill on North Bridge Street--probably will be a thing of the past.

Regarded as a hazard by parents in the neighborhood whose ventures some children find expeditions into the gloomy interior more thrilling than TV, the sturdy brick house with gaping windows has been the object of much concern to village officials for a number of years.

Without it the town will never be quite the same, for it embodies not only the spirit of the Lutheran congregation which first built it, but the proud and peppery spirit of John Rodney and his wife Ellen who were its owners after the church became a dwelling.

The history of the first is carefully recorded in annals of St. Paul's Lutheran Church which abandoned the house of worship on the hill for a new one down in the valley back in 1869.

With the congregation went the bell which had been brought to the village on a canal boat and had been suspended on a near-by rail fence until the community's first church, built with brick burned on the spot, could be completed in 1838.

Once installed in the bellfrey, it clanged out the alarm for fires, summoned village officials to meetings and no doubt tolled on the sad day in 1865 when word came of President Lincoln's assassination. and regularly, every week for 127 years it's been calling Lutherans to Sunday School and church.

It's the Rodney part of the story, however, which presented the village with the dilemma that finally, within the next year or so, probably will be resolved by a sale of the property for delinquent taxes.

Relatively few still living in the area have any personal recollection of the Rodney's, but many were highly respected and of the type which leave a lasting impression, so they were easily visualized by children and grandchildren of their contemporaries found them a favorite source of reminiscing.

BRIEF HISTORY OF METHODISM

IN NEWCOMERSTOWN

- 1830 - The Methodist Episcopal Church of Newcomerstown was organized.
- 1832 - The Methodist Protestant Church of Newcomerstown was organized.
- 1939 - All M. E. and M. P. Churches became The Methodist Church, and former Methodist Episcopal changed its name to Trinity Methodist Church, and former Methodist Protestant became known as College Street Methodist Church.
- March 6, 1966 - A most significant and great moment in Methodism in this village occurred on this date - College Street Methodist and Trinity Methodist became ONE by a merger of the two congregations and was known as The Methodist Church of Newcomerstown, Ohio. After the merger of The E. U. B. Churches with The Methodist Church in April 1968 through action taken at the General Conferences, the name of local Methodist Church was changed to CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF NEWCOMERSTOWN, under which name it is now known.
- June 16, 1968 - Ground was broken for the new Church buildings of Christ United Methodist Church on Oak Street. ?
- Oct. 20, 1968 - The corner stone service was held for Christ United Methodist Church.

THURSDAY, JUNE 18, 1953

AROUND TOWN

QUESTION: When was Newcomerstown's first church started?

Answer: In 1830. It was the Methodist Episcopal Church. Rev. Donahue was the first pastor. The congregation had no building and worshiped at members' homes. In 1836 the first church building was erected at the corner of Church and River sts., site of the present Trinity Methodist Church.

The Evangelistic English Lutheran Church was organized Nov. 11, 1832. They erected a building on N. Bridge st. in 1838.

LET CONTRACT FOR BRICK

At a meeting of the building committee of the M. E. church this city, held Monday evening, the contract for furnishing 50,000 face brick to be used in rebuilding and an addition to the church, was let to The Coshocton Brick Co. About 25,000 common brick to be used in the work will be bought from a local brick plant. The plans submitted to the state building board by Architect F. D. Jacobs have been accepted with but few changes, and bids for the construction work will be asked for at once. A tower will replace the old steeple and the entire building veneered with a chocolate colored face brick. The new 35x52 addition on the south side will be of solid brick construction. It will be used for a Sunday school room, and may be thrown open on all occasions, as the pulpit will be removed to the north end of the church. The plans also provide for elevated floors. July 1914

1914
301 W. CHURCH ST.

1907 STEELE NO. 2 301 W. CHURCH ST. M.E. METHODIST 12



M.E. METHODIST CHURCH
S.W. CORNER OF CHURCH & RIVER ST



13



THURSDAY, JULY 3, 1958

14

NOTICE

TO ALL MEMBERS OF THE COLLEGE ST.

AND TRINITY METHODIST CHURCHES

A CONGREGATIONAL VOTE ON THE PRO-

POSED MERGER OF THE TWO CHURCHES

WILL BE TAKEN

SUNDAY JULY 6

7 p m At The COLLEGE ST. METHODIST CHURCH

8 p. m. At The TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

Only those 21 years or age or over and present at the respective meetings are eligible to vote.

Trinity Methodist

1942



✓
The Church of God was begun as mission work. It started in Newcomerstown in January 1966. The Powell Building on West State Street, which had formerly held another congregation's meetings now was used to house the Church of God's services.

The year 1966 also saw the church incorporated and 1970 saw the purchase of the old Trinity Methodist Church which is located on the southwest corner of River and Church Streets by this church group.

This church congregation has been very active helping with many bicentennial events and honored their minister Reverend Glenn Shugars with a special Partor's Appreciation Day in 1976 to which the Bicentennial Committee was invited.

This special day was marked with the celebration of the Bicentennial Theme in the Church service and was very appropriately done to fit the Bicentennial year.



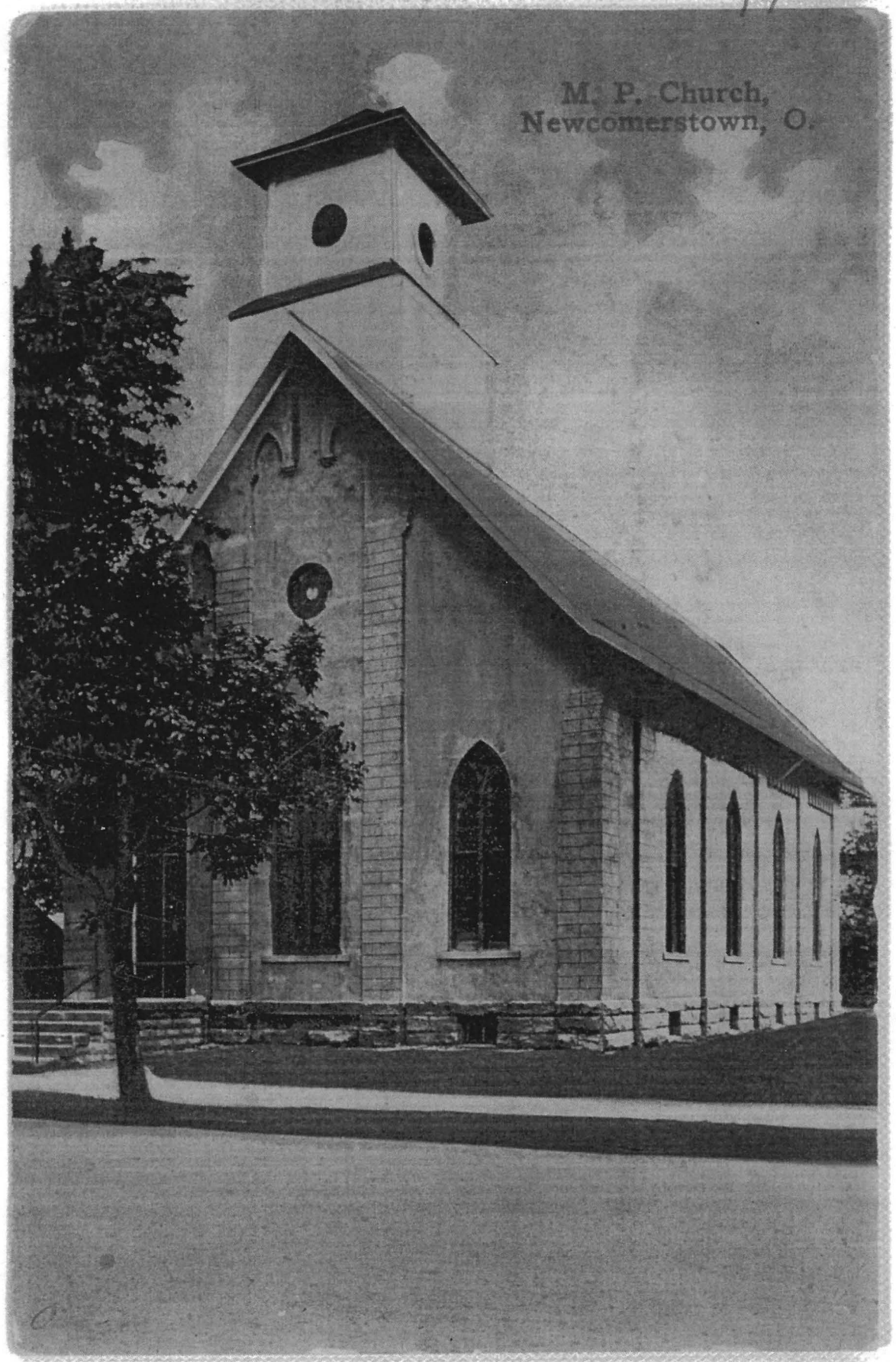
M. P. Church, New Comerstown, Ohio



1912 METHODIST PROTESTANT

1914

M. P. Church,
Newcomerstown, O.



METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH
S. W. CORNER OF CANAL AND COLLEGE ST.



College St. Methodist church
corner of college + canal st. — car wash now
torn down early 1960's at the site.



S. W. CORNER OF CANAL AND COLLEGE ST.

REMODELING CHURCH

The Methodist Protestant Church
Extensively Improved.

Since our recent reference to the repairs begun on the M. P. church of this city, great progress has been made. The tall, spiral cupola has been replaced by one of low, modern style, and the cornice and eaves have been extended in proportionate and graceful form. The brick exterior has been coated with cement, which gives it a grey stone appearance, and improves its looks very much. The front entrance is changed to the northeast corner of the building, made accessible by a flight of broad cement steps. There is also an entrance at the southeast corner of the church, facing College st. The pulpit is to be at the front or north end of the church, and directly behind it, where the vestibule was formerly, the organ and choir will be located. On entering the church from the front, the audience will be facing you. The interior is to be newly frescoed, and will present an entirely different appearance to that of former years. The erection of the church was begun in 1878 and dedicated in 1879. The members of the congregation deserve much praise for their spirit of devotion, self-sacrifice and enterprise, and are to be congratulated for the model conceptions of improvement which they have adopted and are carrying out. The work is being nicely executed by Messrs. Frank and Charles Baxter and Mr. S. L. Dawson. The church will probably be ready for re dedication early in September. Pastor Lafayette Bowman and the Ladies' Aid Society of the church deserve credit for the part they are taking in beautifying the edifice.

July
1912

Newcomerstown News
July 1912

College St. Church Purchases New Site

(Continued from Page One)

church building was later converted into a dwelling and is now part of the American Legion home in Canal Court.

Some of the charter members of this society were Mr. and Mrs. Mose Morgan, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Mulvane, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Stout, Mr. and Mrs. John Mulvane, Mr. and Mrs. George Leighninger and Mrs. Catherine Fletcher.

At that time the Newcomerstown church was on a circuit with Port Washington, Chili, Pleasant Hill, Evansburg, Buckhorn and Ross. The first record of salary was one hundred dollars for the years work of the pastor. In the years 1843-44 Rev. John Caddes was the pastor at a salary of one hundred and seven dollars and from that time the salary was increased up to about three hundred and eighty five dollars in 1877.

IN 1877 THE members began to feel the need of a new church. They thought it an immediate necessity and explained it in their words, as follows: "The immediate necessity for such an undertaking grows out of the fact that a comparatively large and somewhat pretentious church edifice has been built in such close proximity as to over-shadow the humble structure in which the Methodist Protestants were worship-

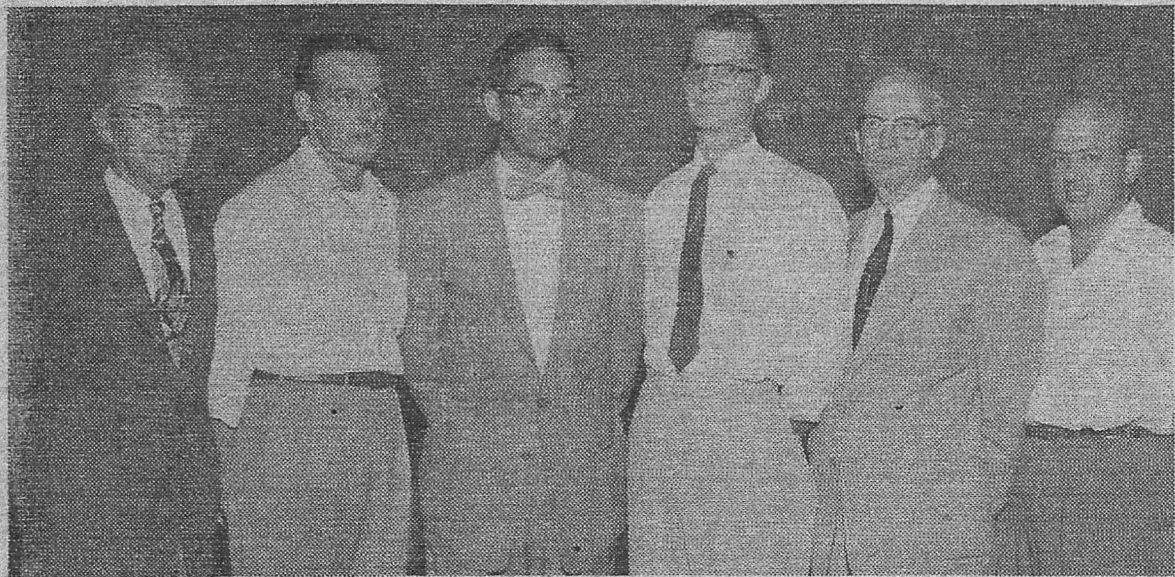
ping and occasioned serious disturbances of the congregations in their respective houses at the same hour."

Thus the property of the Methodist Protestant church was rendered unsuitable for the purpose of religious worship. The membership decided to sell that church property and if possible secure a more suitable site on which to build a home more in keeping with the wants of the community and with the spirit of the age."

So a great campaign was launched and they had a new church home soon, which is the structure at the corner of Canal and College Streets, which now has to be abandoned.

That church building has served this community well for over seventy seven years and been a land mark for many generations and to use the words of the former historian "to secure a more suitable site on which to build a home more in keeping with the wants of the community and with the spirit of the age", the membership, officials and the pastor have approved the plan and pattern for the new church home on North College st.

College St. Methodists Buy Touraine as Site for Church



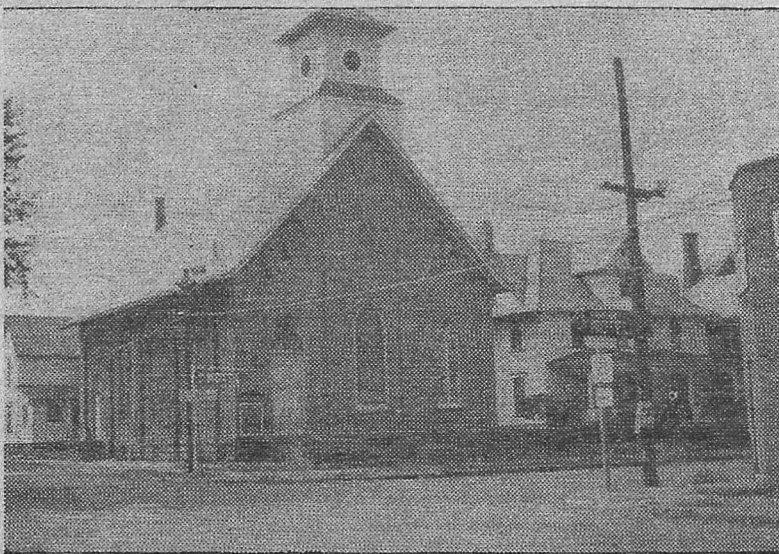
The trustees of the College st. Methodist Church of Newcomertown have purchased approximately eight acres of land with a large steel and concrete building measuring 50 by 80 feet with an addition 30 by 34 feet from Victor and Joseph Lenzo it was announced this week. This action by the trustees followed a quarterly conference of the church which approved the project.

The land is located on N. Col. st. and presents an excellent site for church use, with off-street parking.

The church home of the College St. Methodist Church at the corner of Canal and College sts. was severely damaged by the March tornado and after inspection was found to be unfit for use primarily because of deterioration.

It is planned to use the present building on the premises purchased for worship services temporarily and education and when the new sanctuary is completed the present building will then be used for educational purposes. An architect has been contacted and will examine the premises next week for the purpose of making suggestions for the new proposed sanctuary.

The Touraine Supper Club will vacate the property this week



TRINITY METHODIST CHURCH

The Methodists Churches in Newcomerstown helps to make up some of the history of our town. The first Methodist Church to be organized was the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1830. The first Board of Trustees members were some names that are still around today in the names of ancestors of the people on the Board. Jacob Tufford, Aaron Schenck, Peter Gaskill, Conrad Miller, and Isaish Wilkin. The first minister was a Reverend Donahue.

Members of this group of worshipers met in schoolhouses and individuals' homes until 1835 Conrad Miller deeded the lot located on the southwest corner of Church and River Street to the Methodist Trustees to build a church. The first church was built in 1835. This building burned down and a new church was built in 1866-67 which was also a frame structure. In 1916 the need to enlarge the building brought the congregation to the conclusion to build a new brick building. This is the Trinity Methodist Church that we all knew until the Christ United Church building was built and two congregations united into one church. The Trinity Methodist building was sold to the Church of God.

COLLEGE STREET METHODIST CHURCH

The second Methodist Church was the College Street Methodist Church, which was established in 1832 - 1842. There is a question as to which date is correct.

The Methodist Protestant Church (College Street Methodist) was formed when the Coshocton Circuit was divided. This formed the Tuscarawas Circuit and the Newcomerstown Mission. Dr. James Brown and David Mulvane were the leading members of this church.

The first building was situated on what is now the site of our Post Office Building on Canal Street. The congregation attended this frame building until 1878. It is said the

the members of the congregation were upset because a "great edifice" had been built next to the MP church and the members did not like to be in the shadow of this "great edifice", so they decided to move. The "great edifice was the Presbyterian Church). In 1878 a brick structure had been erected at the corner of College and Canal Streets, which is where the members of the College Street Methodist Church attended until March 1955. This was the site of the College Street Methodist Church until on March 11, 1955, a tornado hit the church building, lifted the roof off the building and then set the roof back down on the building. There is a car wash on this site now.

COLLEGE STREET METHODIST CHURCH (TOURAINÉ BUILDING)

The building was deemed unsafe and the congregation moved to North College Street after purchasing the Touraine Supper Club from Joe Lenzo. With some renovations the building was turned into a church building and the members attended church there from 1955 to 1969 when they united with the Trinity Methodist congregation to make the Christ United Methodist Church. At that time the road went in front of the building, not in the back as it does now. The North College Street site is now the ODOT building.

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The present church building was built from 1966 to 1969 when it opened to the combined congregation of both Methodist churches. Over time the church has been renovated and also has had three additions. Those additions are the West entrance room and drive up so people can get out of their cars and not get wet, or have to walk in snow. The Wesley Music Auditorium which was built for the choir. After years of not having any designated place for the choir to practice but the sanctuary or fellowship hall, the auditorium was built. The choir practices on Thursday evenings and other times when necessary. This addition is also used for many other things. The third addition built was the River of Life Community Center which is a huge room and can accommodate playing basketball, volleyball, or a second service or special events.

Christ United Methodist Church

23

Christ United Methodist Church of Newcomerstown is the result of a merger of two old and respected denominations. The older of the two, the former Methodist Episcopal Church, was organized in 1830.

The Rev. Donahue was the first pastor of this newly organized church, with Jacob Tufford, Aaron Schenck, Peter Gaskill, and Isaiah Wilkin serving on the Board of Trustees. Since they had no established place of worship, they did as early Bible Christians did — met wherever possible; in their case, in homes, barns or school-houses.

However, in 1835, Conrad Miller deeded a lot to them and one year later the church was completed. This lot was on the corner of Church and River Streets, and the church erected thereupon was used until 1854, at which time it was abandoned and the society worshipped temporarily in Crater's Hall. In 1867, a frame church was erected on the same site with Dickerson R. Moore as pastor.

By June 22, 1884, the quarterly report was given and revealed a total membership in the Sunday School of 97 with an average of 48 and 8 teachers in attendance. In 1945-46 the average attendance was 200.

In 1916, the building committee of Thomas J. Shannon, Samuel Rush, John W. Ley, John Hinds, and F.L. Euga added to the frame building of 1867 and covered the entire surface with brick. The new church was dedicated on March 12, 1916; the minister was H.F. Patterson. The Queen Esther Class was organized in the same year.

The College Street Methodist, formerly the Methodist Protestant Church was formed in 1843, and was the first building erected on Canal Street. It stood about where the present post office is located. Records indicated that in 1866, the congregation was considering the raising of funds to build another church. However, this suggestion was shelved temporarily and the building they had was equipped with new underpinning, a new roof and new seats.

In 1878, the congregation moved to its new location, at the corner of Canal and College Streets. This church was dedicated in 1879 by Rev. S.A. Fisher, who at a later date, became one of its pastors. The cost of the building, including the furnishings, was about \$4500. In 1955, this building was almost demolished by a tornado and the congregation was forced to move to other quarters. Following a period of some indecision, they contracted to purchase the Touraine Club, north of town, and this edifice served as their church home until the merger of the two Methodist Churches, in 1966.

College Street Methodist Church and Trinity Methodist Church merged on March 6, 1966, under the name of the Methodist Church of Newcomerstown, Ohio. Thereafter, when the United Brethren Church merged with the Methodist Church Conference, the name was changed to Christ United Methodist Church, which is the present name of the church.

At the time of the merger of the two Methodist Churches, March 6, 1966, the former College Street Methodist Church had purchased a 3.62 acre tract of land by deed dated December 7, 1965, from Clark VanVoorhis and his wife, Laura, which tract is the present site of Christ United Methodist Church. When the merger of the two churches occurred, Rev. W.A. Hewitt, who was the pastor of College Street, and Rev. Edwin F. Eshelman, formerly pastor of Trinity Methodist, were retained as co-pastors and served the combined congregations until July 1, 1967, when Rev. John P. Benson became the new pastor and he served until July 1, 1973, when Rev. Ray Snyder was appointed by the Conference to serve said church and who is at this time the pastor.

Following this merger, the two congregations took action to start a new building program. The groundbreaking ceremony at the Oak Street site occurred on June 19, 1968 and October 20, 1968, the cornerstone was laid. The dedication service was held in May of 1969.

The Reverend Ray Snyder is the present pastor of the church. It has some 700 members. - Submitted by Rev. Ray Snyder; Written by Doris Baker

History TUSCARAWAS CO.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in 1830, with Rev. Donahue as pastor. The first Board of Trustees were Jacob Tufford, Aaron Schenk, Peter Gaskil, Conrad Miller and Isaiah Wilkin. The society worshiped in schoolhouses and homes until 1835, when Conrad Miller deeded to the trustees the lot upon which the present edifice stands. A brick church was

erected in 1836 and used by the society until after the war. In 1866-67, a new frame structure was erected upon the old site. The church was dedicated during the ministry of Rev. Dickenson R. Moore. A parsonage was also built at a cost of \$1,100. A year after the dedication of the church, during the pastorate of Rev. S. A. Thompson, an extended revival occurred, also during the pastoral term of Rev. S. R. Clark. The society at present is in a flourishing condition with Rev. W. C. Endly as pastor. During the last winter, the society was visited by the most gracious revival that has ever occurred in its history. The present church membership is 130.

The Methodist Protestant Church of Newcomerstown was organized in 1842. In September of that year, Coshocton Circuit was divided and Tuscarawas Circuit and Newcomerstown Mission formed. Dr. James Brown and David Mulvane were early leading members. The first church was built on the east side of the present Presbyterian Church, and was occupied until the present edifice was constructed in 1878, during the pastorate of Rev. W. L. Wells. It was dedicated July 3, 1879, by Rev. S. A. Fisher, of Cambridge. The building is a handsome brick structure, 40x64 feet in size, and its cost, including furnishing, was about \$4,500. The present pastor is Rev. L. Boman, the present membership about 100.

and the church plans to have their first service in the new quarters Oct. 9th. The building has been inspected and approved and there is very little work to be done before services can be held.

THE WOMEN of the church, the Women's Society of Christian Service, has been active for many years. They have served the local Rotary Club its weekly dinners for almost thirty years. The basement of the old church was remodeled with ceramic tile and a special gas furnace before the destructive March storm.

In the new church home the large kitchen with the regular restaurant equipment, which has been purchased by the women of the church, will afford all conveniences in the serving of dinners and banquets by the society.

This move by the College st. Methodists is in line with the progressive thinking of getting away from congested areas and out where off-street parking is available. Curbs and sidewalks will be laid in front of the property as soon as feasible, for the convenience of those who wish to walk. Later, the land will be landscaped and made a beauty spot, of which the community will be justly proud.

The present minister of the church is Rev. Henry Holyoak, who has served the local church for over seven years.

The board of trustees is composed of B. E. Reed, Robert Cramlet, Wallace Curtiss, Dr. R. L. McCulley and C. L. Pumphrey.

The real estate transaction was handled by John C. Ross, local Realtor and the legal work performed by Atty. Vernon Lee.

FROM CHURCH records and a brief history held by Benjamin Murphy, who has been a member of the church for over forty eight years, interesting items have been found which go back in the early history of the town.

The Union Methodist Protestant Society was organized in 1832 by Rev. Joel Dalby in Mose Morgan's barn. After the organization meetings were held in the Union school house until the erection of what was known as The Little White Church on the site of the present Post Office. This

(Continued on page 8)

TRUSTEES of the College st. Methodist Church which last week bought the Touraine Club for a church site are pictured in the top photo. Left to right, Bert Reed, Robert Cramlett, Rev. Henry Holyoak, Dr. R. L. McCulley, C. L. Pumphrey and Wallace Curtiss. Second photo from top is the College st. church which was damaged in the March tornado and third from top is the Touraine Club. At right is Rev. Holyoak.





Christ United Methodist Church,
Newcomerstown OAK ST.

Charter for Church signed 80 years ago

It was on a Sunday in August of 1900 that a small company of believers called "Baptists" decided to start a Baptist Church in Newcomerstown. Prior to this, they had been attending services in a church located west of town called the White Eyes Baptist Church.

The first meetings were held in the Village Hall. Actual organizational meetings began on June 30, 1901 and the charter was signed on Feb. 2, 1902.

On June 8, 1904, the Rev. W.J. Thompson was called as pastor and in 1905 the church purchased a piece of ground on South River St. with a small building formerly used for a meat market. This building served as their church home until 1915.

The church was admitted to the Cambridge Baptist Association on Aug. 23, 1905. The Rev. C. Mully came in June 1906 and served as pastor for two years. During this time the Womens Missionary Society was formed.

The congregation continued to grow and in 1915, during the pastorate of the Rev. L.A. Wilson, a new church building was erected on this property in place of the meat market building. The new church was a big undertaking and was to cost the "tremendous" sum of \$5,000. A dedication service took place on Nov. 28, 1915, with the Rev. David Morris preaching the dedicatory sermon.

During the following years the church was served by L.L. Lightner, W.B. Godsall, Harley C. Fletcher, L.M. Copeland, E.L. Greer, I.L. Basford, C.E. Thompson, Paul G. Smithson, B.A. Wilson, John Bradbury, Ralph Dovenbarger, Douglas Peters, George Shurtz and Fred Wakeling.

The Rev. Wakeling led the congregation in the forming of a building committee in 1962. Carl Peoples was committee chairman and Clifford Overholt was assistant chairman.

An architect was hired, followed by the purchasing of ground from the Bell Telephone Company. Arrangements also were made to purchase additional property from Cecil Haver on the southside of the church.

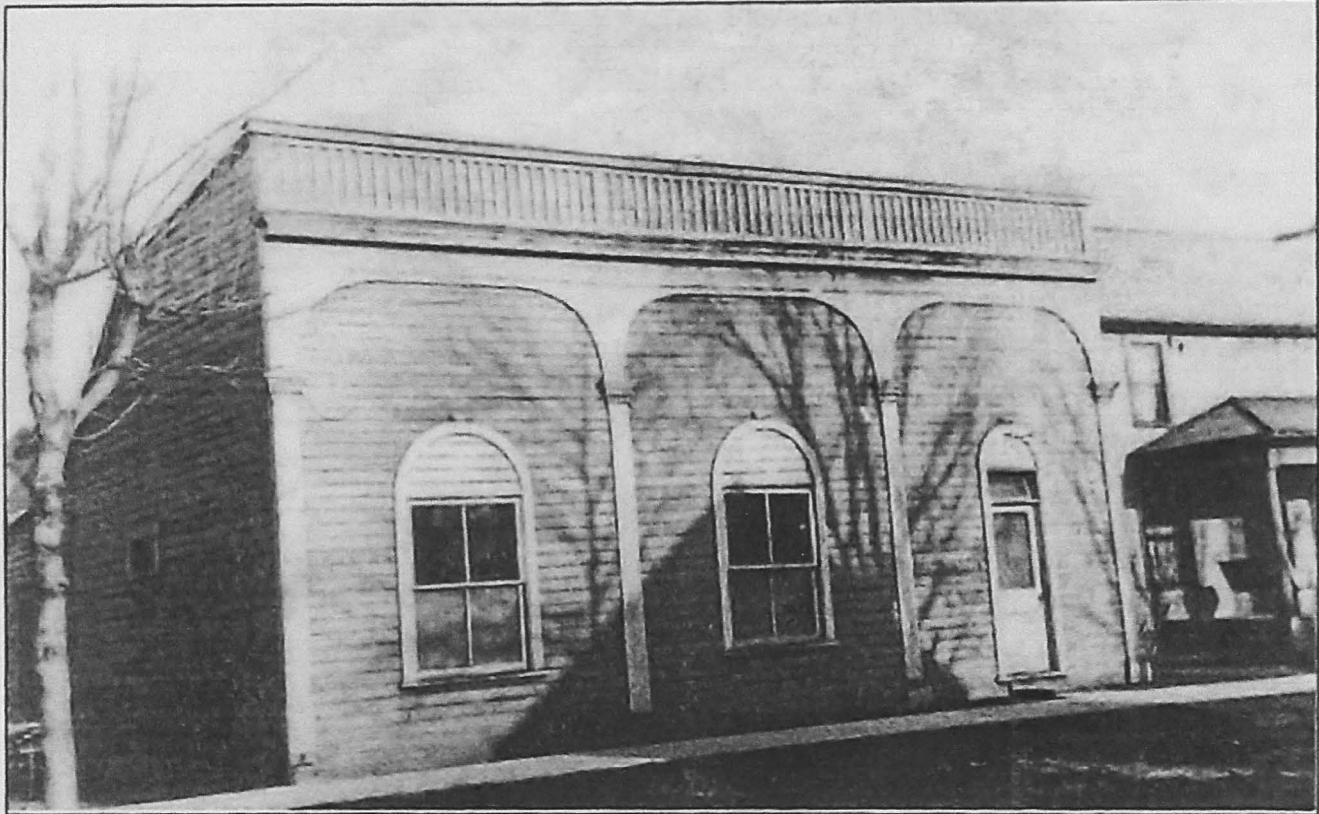
The next step was a fund drive — a very successful endeavor.

The J.A. Raeder Company of Dover was hired as contractor. The Rev. Harold Kidwell, who had come to pastor the church in September 1965 following the death of the Rev. Wakeling, worked hard in making the new church a reality.

Dedication of the present church facilities was held on Nov. 19, 1967.

This fall will mark the 80th anniversary of the Baptist Church in Newcomerstown. The local church is a member of the American Baptist Convention and the Cambridge Association with offices in the college at Granville, O.

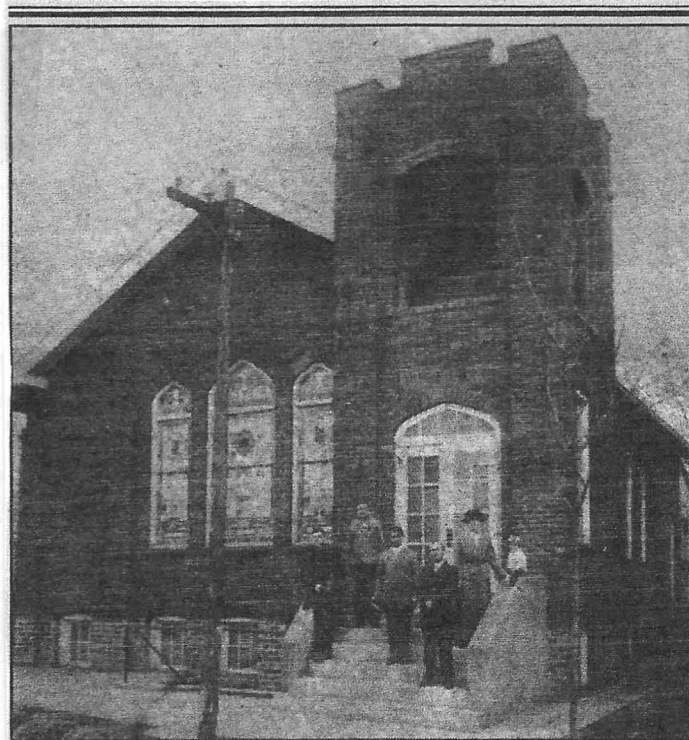
Present minister is the Rev. Donald Glasgow, who has pastored the church for the past seven years. He was preceded by the Rev. Tom Gamblin.



RIVER ST.

First Church Building 1905-1915

BAPTIST - FORMER MEAT MARKET



Newcomerstown Baptist Church, River St., is pictured at its dedicatory services Nov. 28, 1915. Rev. L.R. Wilson was pastor at that time in the church's history. The church was replaced in the mid-1960's with the building that stands there

Baptist Church to c

JESSI MARCINCAVAGE
Newcomerstown News

For the last century, The First Baptist Church looked upon the scripture, "*Now faith is the substance of things hoped of, the evidence of things not seen,*" (Hebrews 11:1) to assure them that God would provide a place of worship for them someday.

The First Baptist organized in a home of Isaac Evans in Oxford Township, Coshocton County, called the White Eyes Plains Church on November 5, 1825.

"I can remember when the church was a brick building 30x60 with a slate roof," said Roland Hackenbracht of the First Baptist Church of Newcomerstown. "It was across from the Union one-room school, which was located about three-miles west of Newcomerstown.

"The March 11, 1955 tornado destroyed part of the building."

Years after the White Eyes Plains Church was established, a meeting was held on Sunday, August 26, 1900 to discuss the possibilities of starting a mission in Newcomerstown. Faith gave them the chance to see and feel this mission enterprise. The next Sunday it was reported that the Town Hall in Newcomerstown would be available for services free of any charge except for heat and light.

A year later, the White Eyes Plains Church and the Pleasant View Baptist Church pledged to support to the Newcomerstown Baptist Mission. The first Sunday School was established a month after the pledge.

A charter was signed in 1902 and the mission became a Baptist church. Rev. W.H. Taylor was the first pastor at the Baptist Church. In March 1902 there was a Declaration of Faith and Rules of Order. It is written in the declaration of faith that their beliefs "of the scriptures", "of the true God", "of all the fall of man", "of the way of salvation", "of justification", of the freeness of salvation", "of grace and regeneration", of the repentance and faith", "of the perseverance of the saints", "of baptism and the Lord's Supper", "of the Christian Sabbath", "of civil government", "of the righteous and the wicked" and "of the world to come" to be included.

On June 8, 1904 the Reverend W.J. Thompson was called as pastor after Rev. Taylor closed his work in Newcomerstown. During the term of Rev.

Thompson, a lot with a small building on it that had been used as meat market was purchased. The meat shop was then transformed into a House of Worship, which served as the First Baptist Church until 1915.

The church was then admitted into the Cambridge Baptist Association.

The First Baptist Church was ministered to by several other pastors after Thompson's leave. It was during Rev. Wilson's time that a new church building would be erected at the cost of \$5,000. A dedicatory service was held on November 28, 1915 for the new church building that the pioneers of the First Baptist church worked hard to obtain.

"I can remember going there and sleeping on the hard pews," said Mardell Shaw. "I can remember the services that we had in the old church.

"I remember for birthday's they had this wooden cake and you went up front to put your money in the cake."

"I can remember after baptizing that we had to go outside to get to the basement," said Doris Overholt. "It didn't matter what the weather was outside, but no one caught a cold. This is the church I have always known. I was born and raised in it."

Norma Ross remembered the retreats that they had out in Otsego.

"That was a time when they got away from the fancy things and conveniences of home."

The ground for the present First Baptist Church was purchased in 1962. In 1966, the last service was held in the old church and it wouldn't be until late of 1967 that the dedication of the new church building would have taken place. During the time when there was no church, services were conducted in the East School building and prayer meetings were held in the community room of the Nation Bank of Dover in Newcomerstown.

"I can say that whenever there is a project, our church is debt free in the end," said Norma. "They work hard until they have the money to do it."

With hard work, there is unity and where there is unity there is love.

"It is not unusual for many hugs to be given before and after each service."

On April 21, the First Baptist Church will be celebrating their 100th Anniversary with a special "Faithful Service" on that Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. The celebration will be at the First Baptist Church on South River Street in Newcomerstown.

celebrate 100 years



CURRENT HOME OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



FORMER HOME OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The old Church of Christ structure now houses the Scriptural Holiness Church which you will read about later in this chapter.

The next church to be founded in Newcomerstown was the First Baptist Church which began in the year 1902 on January 26.

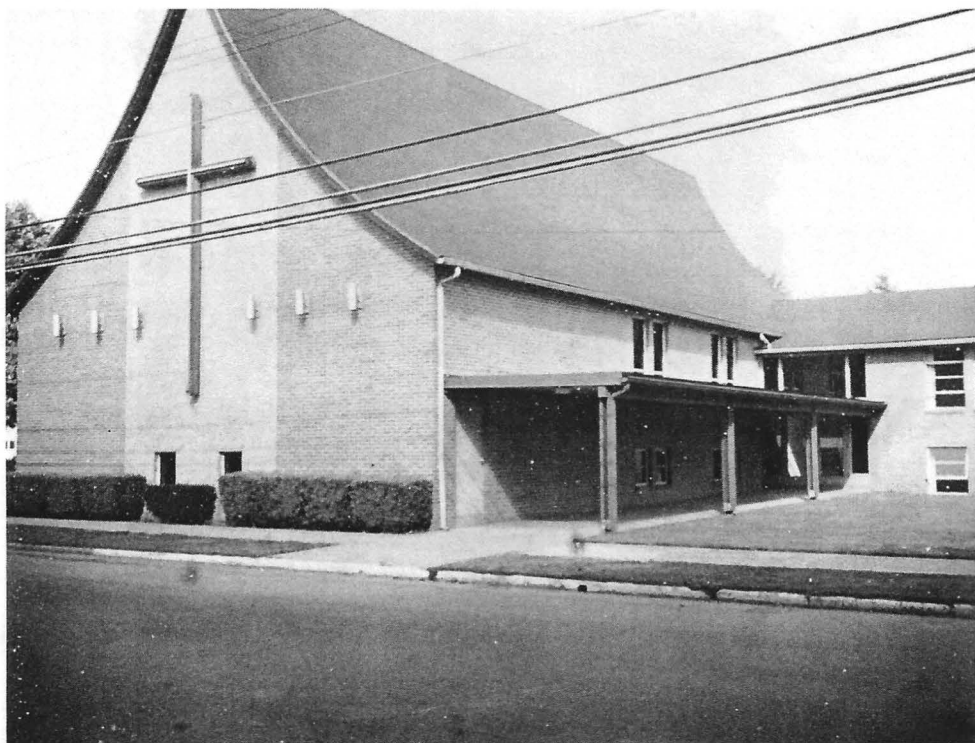
The church building was built and the dedication was held on November 28, in the year 1915.

In the 1960's it became necessary to enlarge the church and a new structure was built on the old site, which is located on River Street at Church Street.

This edifice is of brick and serves the congregation's needs well.

There was also a provision made for some parking at the time of the rebuilding of the new church which has greatly helped the parking situation of the people attending the Baptist Church.

The present minister is Reverend Donald Glasgow.





U. B. Church New Comerstown, Ohio 295.

1910 STATE ST.

In 1900 the town saw still another church come into being. This was the First Evangelical United Brethern Church in the old Index Building which was located on River Street.

In 1906 a new building was dedicated. It was built on the corner of Heller Drive (which was then known as Carlyle Street) and State Street.

In 1946 the Evangelical United Brethern and the United Brethern Church were merged and became the United Brethern Church.

During the past years the building has been enlarged when it became necessary. In 1968 when the United Brethern Church united with the Methodist Church, the congregation elected to stay in their own church building, but renamed the church the Calvary United Methodist Church.



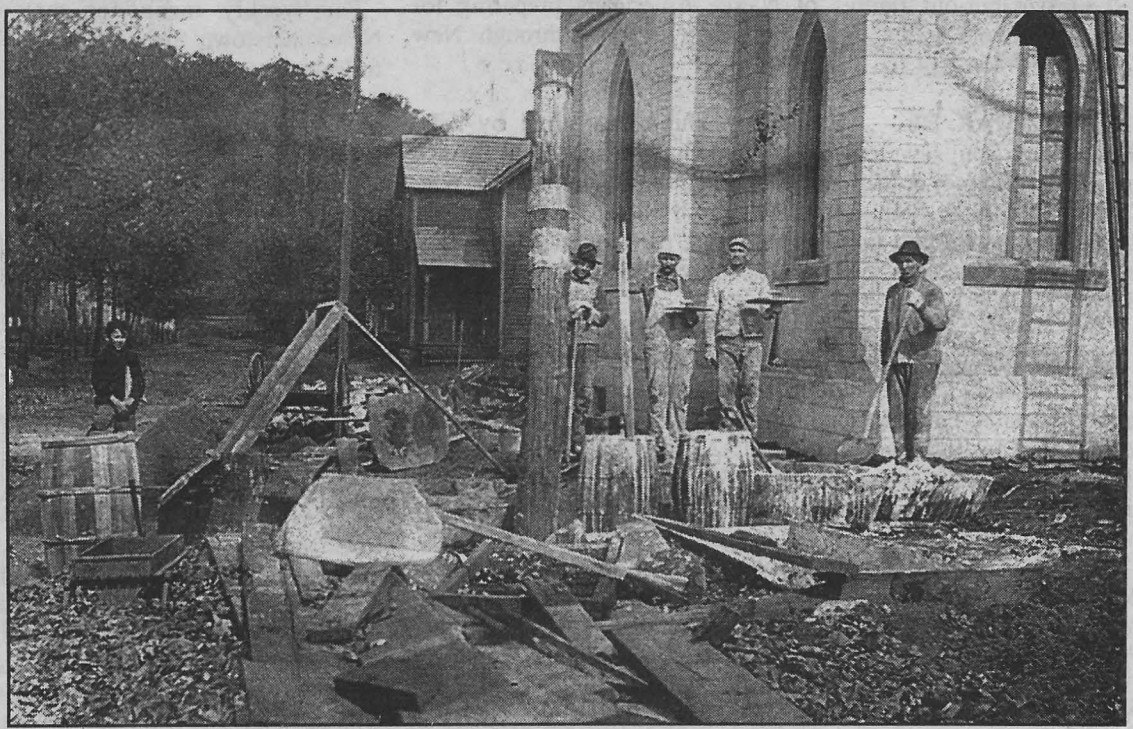
HISTORY OF THE CHURCH IN NEWCOMERSTOWN

Copied from directories 1966 and 1967 compiled by Larry Arnold, Sr.

"The Church of Christ in Newcomerstown was started by a few members here assisted by the original Yankee Ridge church under the evangelism of I. H. Pennell of Malta, Ohio. It began meeting in the Town Hall on Church Street in 1901. The two men who assisted most in the establishment of the church were the late Mitchel Atkinson and H. M. Eagon. A move was soon made to what we know as the Haver Building and from there to the McCulley Building, where services were held until the erection of a building on the corner of State Street and McKinley Avenue in 1908. At that time there was a membership of about forty.

In 1923 J. H. Hines began his work as the first located evangelist with the congregation. Since that time, such men as Oliver Johnson (1926), Ben S. Thisselle (1926-1931), H.E. Taylor (1932), L.F. Mills (1940), Carl Finley (1940), Kenneth Adams (1942-1944), Russell Bankes (1944-1946), Lawrence Stine (1946-1948), Wellington Gallagher (1948-1951), Fred Cline (1951-1955), and David Reppart (1956-1964) have worked here.

The present building was dedicated on June 4, 1961."



August 1909

This early 1900s photo shows the former Church of Christ under construction on the corner of State St. and McKinley Ave. The church is now the Church of Christ in Christian Union.

1909



The Newcomerstown Church of Christ
Meets at Goodrich & Elizabeth Street
Newcomerstown Ohio, 43832

The Church of Christ was established in the year 1901. The building for the church was located on West State Street. As the congregation grew so did the church.



Later the congregation decided to build a new structure which is located at the corner of Goodrich and Elizabeth Streets.



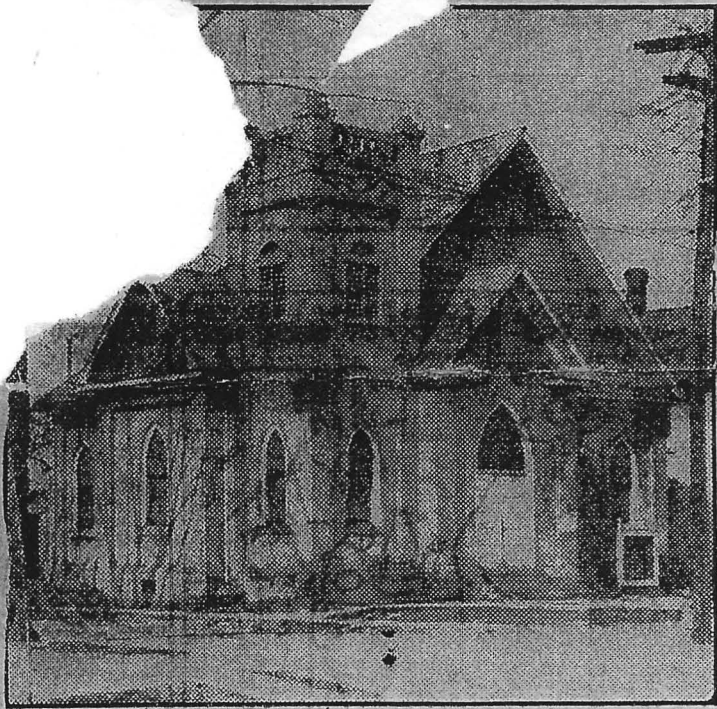
This building was erected in the year ~~1969~~ 1960. The present minister is M. Gale Yoho.

CHURCH
OF
CHRIST
1910



Bible School Class 1954





*Communion should be
"Communion"*

"Green's Photographs."

The Newcomerstown Church of Christ was the outgrowth of the restoration movement with the motto: "Where the Bible speaks, we speak; where the Bible is silent, we are silent", and was a mission effort sponsored by the Yankey Ridge congregation in co-operation with members of the church who were residents of Newcomerstown.

Under the ministry of Evangelist J. H. Bennel who is now well past the three-score-and-ten mile-post of life, the congregation began meeting for worship in the Mayor's office in 1901. Of those who assisted in the establishment of the congregation there remain at least two of the men, Mitchell Atkinson and H. M. Eagon, who have furnished much of the information contained in this brief history. A move was soon made to the Scott building and from there to the Index building where the meetings were held up to the time of the erection of a building for the express purpose of the worship of God.

The present building on West State street was erected in the year 1909 and at the time of opening was paid for with the exception of about fourteen hundred dollars which was cleared away in about three years time. The congregation entered the new building with a membership of about 40 and appointed to the scriptural office of Bishop or Elder three men, Esquire J. H. Cochran, John Harding and H. M. Eagon, and as deacons Amos Lynch, John Davis and Evan Palmer.

This congregation provides its funds by voluntary contribution on the first day of each week according to the rule set forth by the apostle Paul in first Corinthians, sixteenth chapter; and relief for the poor and needy, and flood and disaster victims, is sent or given direct to the needy ones. A thing that amazes many persons is the fact that this congregation even

with its present membership which is considerably larger than the original charter-member congregation, can raise the necessary funds for a liberal support for the minister provide funds for charitable purposes and for necessary running expense while depending solely on the weekly contributions into the church treasury. Another matter of weekly observance in this congregation is the Lord's Supper which is taken on the first day of the week in memory of Christ the head of the church, as according to the twentieth chapter and seventh verse of Acts of Apostles, which has been adhered to from the first meeting in the Town Hall whether a preacher was present or not.

Along with others who have preached for the Church of Christ, the voice of such able ministers as Nathan Cramblett, C. H. Morin, W. B. McVey, C. D. Moore and Joe A. Hines, though now silent and still in the embrace of death, have been heard to re-echo the loving invitation and world-wide plan of salvation as given by Jesus in the last and great communion, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved, but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned". And just as faithfully do the evangelists who now labor with this church, among them the Gallighers, the Butterfields, Dennis and Bankes, plead for pure gospel teaching, faith and worship along with pure and holy Christian conduct. Joe Hines was the first located minister and H. E. Taylor is the present minister having come here the first of this year from the church at Parkersburg, W. Va. Evangelist Taylor comes from a family of eleven children, has a ministry of eighteen years behind him, having begun when about eighteen years of age, and has three brothers, one brother-in-law and one nephew who are ministers of the Church of Christ.

Remembering Joe S. Warlick

James R. McGill

Joe Warlick (1866-1942) was born near St. Louis. The family later moved to Texas. In 1885, at age nineteen, Joe preached his first sermon in a small west Texas town. For the next fifty-four years, until he suffered a heart attack in 1939, Warlick continued preaching, debating, and writing without interruption.

His preaching was mostly in evangelistic meetings in which Joe would preach daily and nightly before moving on to preach at another location. He presented the gospel plan of salvation so plainly that thousands were led to faith in Jesus, repentance, and baptism for the forgiveness of their sins.

Preaching and Debating

Joe alternated between debating and preaching. A significant number of conversions resulted from the debates. Warlick presented the truth so that it stood out clearly in sharp contrast to the error presented by his opponent.

Warlick participated in 399 debates!

Outstanding Education

Joe had a fine education and made the very best use of it. Both in his

writing and in his speaking, his training enabled him to express himself in the most understandable way.

Joe had an older brother, Jim, and some younger sisters. Their father had decided that since he could afford to send only one child to school, it would be Jim, since he was older. But Jim said, "I don't care for an education and Joe does....Let Joe go to school." Joe said that this was the turning point in his life. Jim died in 1937 in Oklahoma City. At Jim's funeral, Joe said, "Whatever success I have attained in life I owe to Jim."

Joe and his first wife, Florence, had four children. In 1901, five years after Florence died, Joe married Lucie. Joe enjoyed the great blessing that both Florence and Lucie were fully supportive of his life's work.

Warlick's Writing

It would be natural to think first of the amazing number of Warlick's debates, and of the wonderful way in which the Lord blessed his preaching. He preached in many states and in Canada.

But Joe Warlick was also an outstanding writer. He made his points

as simple and clear to the reader as he did to the listener.

The Stark-Warlick Debate

One very historic example of Joe Warlick's use of both his speaking and writing skills was in the Stark-Warlick debate on the use of instrumental music in the worship.

This was a public, spoken debate, but the two disputants agreed that they would afterward write out their speeches for publication in a book to be published by the Gospel Advocate Company.

The debate was held at Henderson, Tennessee, in 1903. Henderson was significant because it was the home of West Tennessee Christian College.

At that time it appeared that any hope of stopping the tide of digression was dim. The church throughout that area was going into apostasy with such innovations as the introduction of instrumental music into the worship and the missionary society. The debate was a great success—a victory for truth.

Here is a typical sentence of Warlick's debate. It illustrates his clarity and forcefulness. He challenged his opponent: *"If there be in all the Bible one...verse authorizing instrumental music to be used in the worship of the church of Jesus Christ, bring it forward."* His opponent could not.

Far-Reaching Effect

More than a century has gone by since that debate. And for more than a century, at that very location, Freed-Hardeman University has been training great numbers of faithful gospel preachers and has helped toward building thousands of Christian homes. How different it might have been, were it not for the way the Lord used Joe S. Warlick!

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Religious Debate.

There will be a religious discussion held in this city beginning Dec. 28th. The opposing parties are Dr. D. B. Turney of Effingham, Ill., who will represent the M. P. church, and Elder Joe S. Warlick of Dallas, Texas, to represent the Church of Christ. The following are the propositions to be discussed:

1—The Scriptures teach that sprinkling or pouring clean water upon a proper subject in the name of the Trinity is an act authorized by Christ and practiced by his apostles for baptism. D. B. Turney, affirms; Joe S. Warlick, denies.

2—The Scriptures teach that immersion is the act commanded by Christ and practiced by his apostles for baptism. Joe S. Warlick, affirms; D. B. Turney, denies.

3—The Scriptures teach that in the conviction and conversion of the sinner the Holy Spirit operates directly (immediately) upon the heart. D. B. Turney, affirms; Joe S. Warlick, denies.

4—The Scriptures teach that baptism to the believing penitent is for (in order to) the remission of past (alien) sins. Turney, affirms; Warlick, denies.

5—The Scriptures teach that infants are proper subjects for baptism. Turney affirms; Warlick, denies.

6—The Scriptures teach that the church, or kingdom of Christ, was established (set up) on the first pentecost after the resurrection of Christ. Warlick, affirms; Turney, denies.

This discussion will continue for at least six days. OCT. 1906.

Got Them Reversed.

Rev. D. B. Turney of Effingham, Ill., who is to represent the Methodist Protestant church in the religious debate to take place in New-comerstown, beginning Dec. 28, calls our attention to the fact that, on proposition No. 4, namely, that "The Scriptures teach that baptism, to the believing penitent, is for (in order to) the remission of past (alien) sins," the names were reversed and should have read, Joe S. Warlick, of the Church of Christ, affirms, and D. B. Turney denies. It was the printer's mistake and not the one who furnished the copy. Dr. Turney adds, further, "I desire the sympathy, prayers, cordial co-operation and earnest friendship of every God-fearing, truth-loving and light-seeking soul in New-comerstown, and no doubt, my opponent also does. Information which we have acquired at great cost will be worth something to all who give us a patient hearing."

NOV. 1906

RELIGIOUS DEBATE.

The series of debates between Rev. Dr. D. B. Turney of Effingham, Ill., representing the Methodist Protestant church, and Elder Joe S. Warlick of Dallas, Tex., representing the Church of Christ, closed at the M. P. church in this city last Friday, after six consecutive daily discussions, each lasting probably two hours or more. The questions at issue were baptism, conversion and the establishing of Christ's kingdom; questions that have been debated time and again, and have become so fixed in the convictions of their adherents as to admit of little change, if any. No doubt the time could have been more profitably spent in harmonizing rather than distracting these or any other religious bodies. The churches and the world needs more of the genuine "spirit" and less of the "letter" of Christianity, and the churches should set the example in cordial fellowship, hearty co-operation, charity and brotherly love.

NEWMAN-BRAMHALL.

Mr. Arthur Newman of Coates.

JAN 1907

✓
In the year 1962 the citizens of Newcomerstown saw a new church formed which was the Scriptural Holiness Church.

This church was under the leadership of Reverend William A. Gamble.

The former building which was the Church of Christ houses the congregation for this church group. The church organization was incorporated in the year 1963 on May 29.



This church is located on West State Street and was the former house of worship for the Church of Christ group.

★ Presbyterians Observe

(Continued From Page 1)

Temperance House Museum.

The congregation was organized and met in the former Methodist Protestant Church in the frame building on the land now occupied by the post office.

The Manse, since Feb. 14, 1900 the home of all pastors and their families, was purchased from Dr. J.R. McElroy, and sits on the property adjacent to the church.

The record of the Mortgage Buring service of Sunday, June 15, 1941 contains this description of the original part of the church, namely the Sanctuary and front tower: "Of brick burned in the Tom Crawford brick works at the west end of Church St. and erected at a total cost of about \$3,000, it presented a fine appearance with its hand worked glass, burned after being brushed with special designs at the top of each window."

The one room and one door (aside from a small room on the northeast corner) and tower entrance stairway on the westnorth side of the auditorium was "The Church" until 1931 when the first meeting was held in a new part added to the south and containing a large Fellowship Hall and separate classrooms.

Cost of the addition was more than underwritten but due to the depression conditions including bankruptcy by 1940 about \$3,000 remained until liquidated by the drive which resulted in the

mortgage burning service of June 1941. cooperate in Christian work and faithfulness, and studying the unity and prosperity of the Church at home and abroad."

At that service the same seats were used as in the original building, the same first pulpit and communion table present with the same first windows but with new lights and a new steam-vapor heating system for the new part.

That same first communion table is still in the building and was used along with the new pulpit and chancel furnishings, installed in January, 1947 to celebrate the Centennial Communion Service Nov. 14. Pews for the congregation were installed in 1961 prior to the time of the 85th Anniversary, the last anniversary celebrated before the Centennial. It is interesting to note the last pews in themselves cost far more than the original building in 1877 and 1878.

It was the hope of those who spoke at the centennial service that this covenant would still be the example for the membership, now some 105 in number. The challenge is that the landmark will be as influential in the coming years as it has been in the community and in people's lives in the past 100 years.

The original covenant read: "By vote the above named persons (some 13 in number) entered into Solemn Covenant to walk together, taking the Holy Scriptures as their guide, acknowledging the Doctrines and Order of the Presbyterian Church and promising to

The Presbyterian Church was organized November 13, 1876, by a committee of the Steubenville Presbytery, with the following original members: Adolphus W. Search and Mrs. Low M. Search, Jonathan and Rebecca Evans, Mrs. Emma Evans, George and Ruth Bagnall, Robert Y. Patterson, by certificate; and Philip Sheets, Mrs. Susan Sheets and Miss Lillie T. Bagnall on profession. For several years the congregation was irregularly supplied, and, in 1879, Rev. George W. Riggle took charge, and remained ten months. Rev. A. B. Wilson succeeded him, was regularly installed pastor, and continued a little longer than a year. After a vacancy of some time, Rev. David B. Rodgers, in the spring of 1883, assumed the pastoral relation, and still maintains it. George Bagnall and Robert Y. Patterson, the first Ruling Elders, were installed November 13, 1876. George W. Barnett and Philip Sheets were installed in the same official position January 22, 1879, and John Buck was elected March 17, 1880. The church edifice is a handsome and commodious brick structure, located on the west end of South Canal street. It was erected in 1878, at a cost of \$3,000. The membership of this congregation is now about sixty

A Baptist society had an existence here a few years ago, which was, however, of brief duration. Samuel Mardis and Caleb Emerson were its main support.

HISTORY TOSC CO 615

The Presbyterian Church was the next church to be established. A committee of Steubenville Presbytery helped to form this church on November 13, 1876.

Original members were: Adolphus W. Search, Mrs. Low M. Search, Jonathan and Rebecca Evans, Mrs. Emma Evans, George and Ruth Bagnall, Robert Y. Patterson by certificate, Philip Sheets, Mrs. Susan Sheets, and Miss Lillie T. Bagnall.

George Bagnall and Robert Y. Patterson were installed as the first ruling Elders.

The church building was erected in 1878 on the site where it still stands on Canal Street.

Reverend George W. Riggle was the first pastor to serve the church. The present pastor is Reverend Charles Lee.

The church just the week of November 15th celebrated its Centennial Anniversary.



In 1908 the Trinity Baptist Church was organized under the supervision of Mr. Lowery. He also helped with financial aid to establish this church. Mr. Lowery was known by his nickname "Big Ginnie". The church site was located on Clow Avenue (which had been named for the Clow Pipe Company and the Clow family).

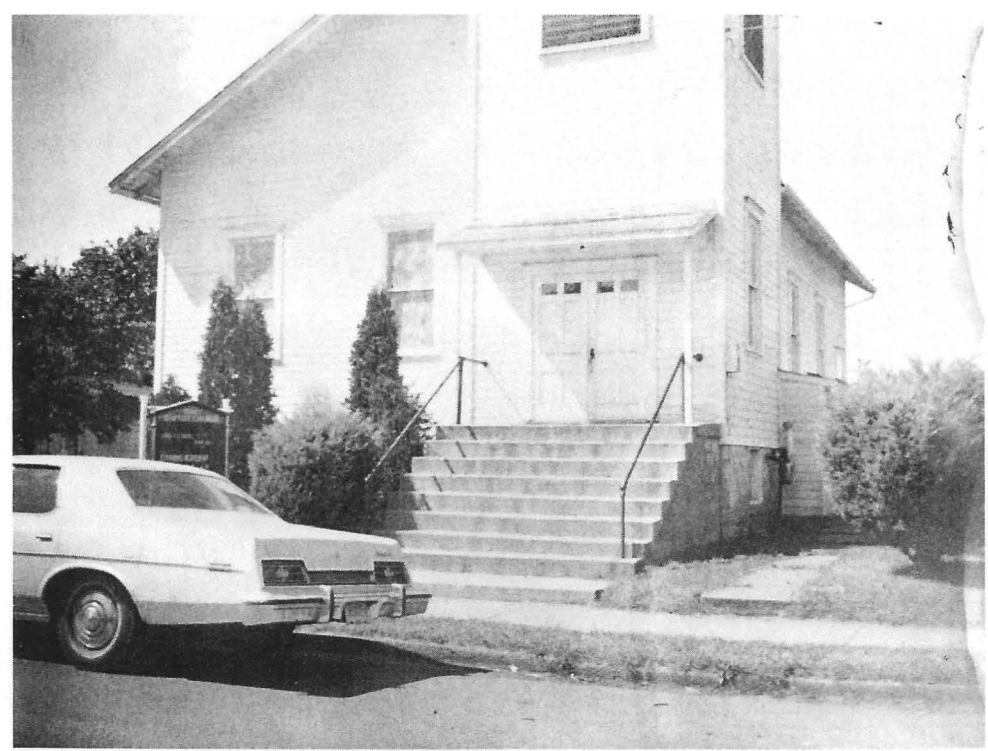
During the year of 1923, the church was completely destroyed by fire. Until a new building could be erected, the Clow Company allowed the Trinity Baptist congregation to use its office building for services. This building is located on State Street at Clow Avenue.

In 1925 the present church building was erected by the Clow Company for the members. Most of the members were employees of Clows. The church members paid the Clow Company for the building.

An interesting note is that the first chairs used in this church were from the "Old Opera House".

The first minister which served this church was and the present minister is Reverend Sherrell.

In the late 1960's, the name Clow Avenue was changed to Martin Luther King Drive at the request of the residents in this area. This was to honor the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. who had been assassinated earlier in the 1960's.



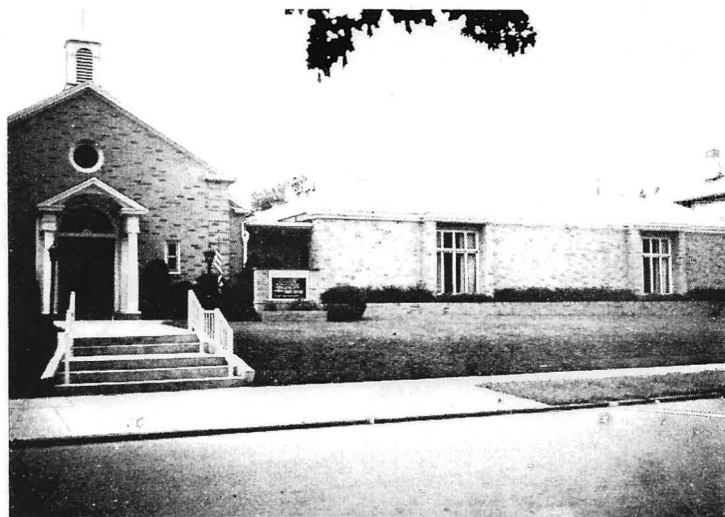
In 1917 it became apparent that a Catholic Church was needed in the area. The year 1917 saw the founding of the St. Francis De Sales Catholic Church which began in the summer of 1917. This was done by Father Zuber from Coshocton, Ohio.

At that time Father Zuber conducted a poll and found that 70 persons of the Catholic faith resided in Newcomerstown.

A storeroom on the corner of Chestnut and State Streets was bought and then converted for use as a church. In May of 1918 the first Mass was celebrated by the congregation and Father Zuber.

Later the Lanning house on Goodrich Street was used for the services. Then in 1938 the church site that we know today was dedicated and the church built. On June 8, 1969 the fellowship hall was added to the original building making it the edifice that we have today.

The present minister is Monsignor A.L. Freund.



Church celebrates 75th anniversary

Members of St. Francis deSales Church, 440 S. River St., Newcomerstown, will celebrate the parish's 75th anniversary at the 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, May 23.

Former pastors Father John Kempf and Father Robert Manning will join the present pastor, Father Michael Hanrahan, in the celebrated Mass. Parish students from

grades 5-12 will participate in the Mass by combining the old and the new in song. Following the Mass there will be a reception in the parish hall.

The parish council is inviting everyone in the community to join in the Mass and reception.

In the summer of 1917, Bishop James J. Hartley of Columbus sent

Father Arthur Zuber, assistant to Rev. J.J. Slattery of Sacred Heart Church in Coshocton to Newcomerstown to take a census of Catholic families. In March of the following year, a lot and grocery store at the corner of E. State Street and Chestnut Street were purchased and the store was converted into a church, complete with a cross added to the

top. On May 18, 1918, the church was blessed and the first Mass was offered by Father Zuber.

In 1919, the mission parish of St. Francis deSales was turned over to Father Slattery to the Capuchin Fathers of Dover, who served until the summer of 1921 when Bishop Hartley appointed Father C.F. Powers as the first resident pastor. The parish purchased its present property on S. River Street in September, 1921. The purchase of the former R.L. Shoemaker home became both church and rectory, later being used as the high school annex. This structure has since been demolished.

On Oct. 19, 1937, Father Hugh J. Spires broke ground for the present church which was dedicated on March 15, 1938. The present parish hall, which is widely used by the community, was dedicated in 1969.

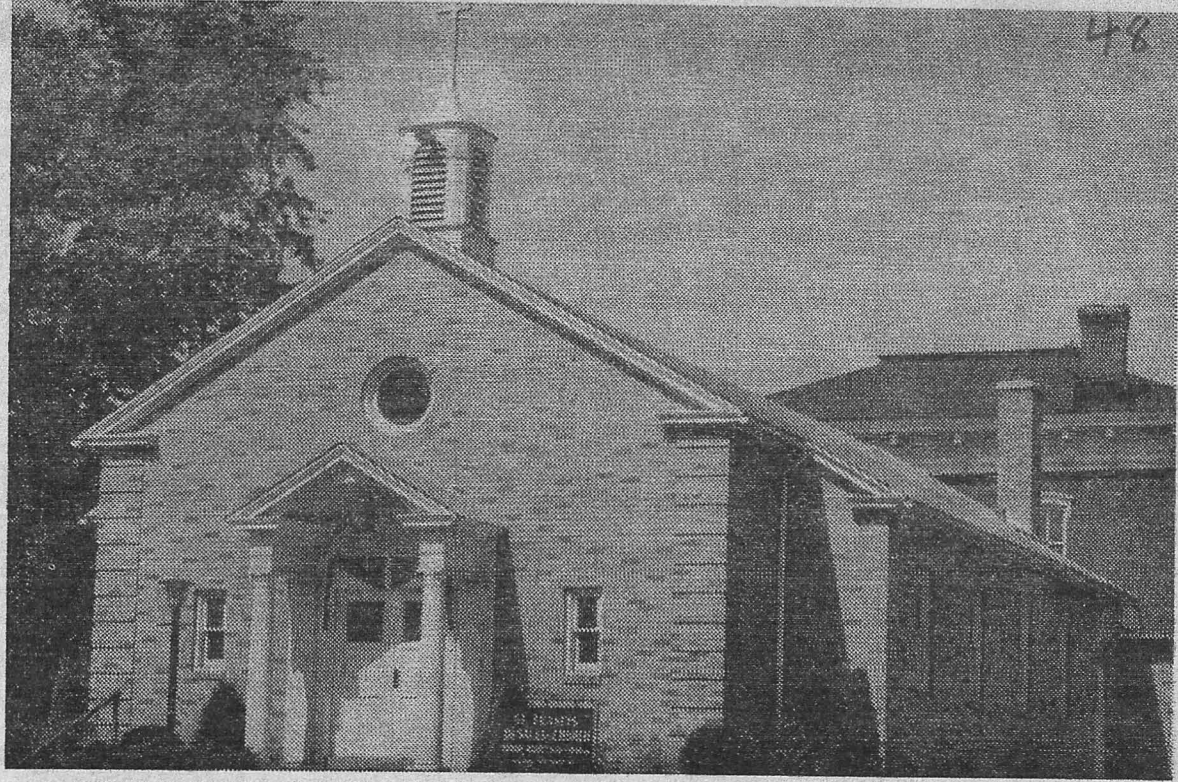
Serving as pastors during the 75 years were Fathers C.J. Powers, Francis Trettle, Anthony Schlemitzauer, Joseph A. Humma, Lawrence Riley, Hugh J. Spires, Edmund McCormick, Joseph Buzek, Michael Tabit, Robert Schuer, Edmund McNulty, John Kempf, Patrick Byrne, Ambrose Freund, Robert Manning and the present pastor, Michael Hanrahan.

During the reception, guests may view displays of historical documents and artifacts of parish history.



ST. FRANCIS DeSALES CHURCH

47



St. Francis de Sales Church

Church Observes 25th Anniversary Of Building Here

(Continued from page 1)

ish of Saint Francis de Sales over to the Capuchin Fathers in Dover. They served the parish until the summer of 1921 when Bishop Hartley appointed Rev. Father C. F. Powers as its first resident pastor. He offered his First Mass on July 10th.

THE ORIGINAL property was sold and the site on which the present church now stands was purchased from James M. and Emma Lanning. The property was formerly owned by Rankin L. Shoemaker and J. W. Casingham. A church was furnished on the first floor of the house and pastor resided on the second floor. Later it was sold to the Board of Education.

On October 19, 1937, Rev. Fr. Hugh J. Spires broke ground for the present church. On Tuesday, March 15, 1938 Father Spires offered the First Mass.

Renovation of the interior of the church was begun by the Rev. Fr. Edmund McNulty, who was assigned in 1962 to form a new parish, Saint Leonard, in Heath, Ohio. All the work was done by the parishoners. The work was completed under the present pastor Rev. Fr. John D. Kempf.



RIVER ST.

To Dedicate New Church

JUNE, 1943



Rev. and Mrs. Earl B. Johnson and Son

The congregation of the new Assembly of God church on College street will move into its new house of worship on Sunday, June 14. It was announced this week by Rev. and Mrs. Earl B. Johnson, pastors.

Among out-of-town representatives will be those from Cambridge, Bylesville, Zanesville, Coshocton, Ulrichsville, New Philadelphia, East Liverpool, Brewster, Marietta, Dover, Lewisville, Scio, Steubenville, Brinkhaven, Blue Rock, Martins Ferry, Shanesville, Tippecanoe and Massillon.

The church started at a revival meeting on July 3, 1938 in the store-room of Mrs. Sadie Shryock on W. Canal street. Bruce Kimbal was the first evangelist.

Interest spread and crowds grew until it was necessary to obtain a larger room—in the Fountain Hotel building. The organization was then called the Fall Gospel Mission.

In November of 1939 G. F. Lewis of Youngstown, district superintendent, directed the organization of the church under the Assemblies of God, with headquarters in Springfield, Mo.

Some 250 persons have been converted and most of them baptised, the pastors reported. Three of them are already preaching the Gospel.

There will be a special program on June 14 and the public has been invited. Evangelist Fannie Lawrence will speak at 10 a. m. There will be a ministers' meeting at 1 p. m. and Evangelist and Mrs. Robert Hancock of North Carolina will have charge of the afternoon service. At 7:45 District Supt. G. F. Lewis will speak and have charge of the dedication service.

Evangelist and Mrs. Johnson, local pastors, expressed their thanks to the people of Newcomerstown and every one who helped in any way.

Nazarene Church To Start Building

The ground breaking ceremony for the construction of a new sanctuary of the Church of the Nazarene will be held Sunday at 11 a. m. The new building will be erected east of the present church.

Trustees of the church have petitioned the common pleas court for permission to encumber church property with a \$25,000 mortgage to raise funds to build the new church.

JUNE 1954

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the officers and members of The Church of The Nazarene of Newcomerstown, Ohio, Inc., and to all others whom it may concern, that on the 29th day of May, 1954, the trustees of The Church of The Nazarene of Newcomerstown, Ohio, Inc. filed in the Court of Common Pleas of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in Case Number 31787, their certain Petition praying the Court for an order authorizing it to mortgage the following described real estate for not more than \$25,000.00, and authority to pay four percent (4%) on \$17,500.00 and five percent (5%) interest on \$7500.00 per annum on said indebtedness until the sum is fully paid:

Situated in the Village of Newcomerstown, County of Tuscarawas and State of Ohio, and bounded and described as follows:

Known as and being the north half of Lots No. 33 and 35 and two and one-half (2½) feet off the west side of the north half of Lot 31 in West Newcomerstown Addition to the said Village as entered and numbered upon the recorded plat of the said Addition.

The same being now known as Lots No. 67, 69 and 65 as the same were renumbered in the year 1937.

The above description of the premises desired to be mortgaged and it is now occupied by The Church of The Nazarene of Newcomerstown, Ohio, Inc.

Said Petition and cause will be heard on the 5th day of July, 1954, or as soon thereafter as

suits the convenience of the Court.

THE TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE OF NEWCOMERTOWN, OHIO, INC.

Homer Craig
Harry Angle
Ronald Bartholow
Clyde Thompson
John Hall

Vernon Lee, Attorney

june 3, 10, 17, 24

50

NEWCOMERS

17 JUNE 1954

Establi

VOL. 56, No. 41

Newcomerstown, Ohio,



GROUND-BREAKING ceremony for the Church of the Nazarene's new church building, which was held June 6, is pictured above. The structure is expected to be completed Nov. 1. —Lenzo Photo

Ground Broken for \$40,000 Building by Nazarene Church

The ground-breaking ceremony was held by the congregation of the Church of the Nazarene for their new church at the corner of Goodrich and Neighbor st. on Sunday, June 6.

Rev. Donald Carrico, pastor, offered prayer and spoke on the "Purpose in Building" in the dedication of the ground. He also read the scripture and introduced Mayor Lorin Gadd, who commended the church for its progress and work in the community and their vision of building.

Turning the first spadeful of earth were Mrs. Ida Booth, Andrew Wilkin and Burt Snell.

Prayer was offered for the protection of the workers and the Sunday school superintendent, Homer Snell, gave the benediction. The program closed by the group singing the Doxology.

The new building will cost \$40,000 and will have a seating capacity of 440 and the Sunday school 550.

Work has already started and the contractor is expected to have it completed by November 1st.

The Church of the Nazarene was established on May 26, 1935. This group first met in the Duff Hall on River Street. It had a Charter Membership of 13. Later the group bought a church building in Plainfield, Ohio. They had this building torn down and moved to the corner of Neighbor Street and River Street Extension.

In 1943 a new church was built on the same site. It was dedicated on May 2, 1943.

As the membership enlarged the need for a new and larger building became evident. On June 1, 1954, the contract was signed for a new edifice. In the year 1965 a new addition was added to the church after having acquired more land that adjoins the church land.

After the new addition had been built connecting the church and the addition we have the Nazarene Church as we know it today.

The present pastor is Reverend Ray Hassinger.



The Assembly of God Church was started in Newcomerstown in 1937 by Reverend Barney Johnson. The church originated in Springfield, Missouri and had spread throughout the United States.

In Newcomerstown, the group first met in a storeroom. In 1940 the congregation acquired some land on College Street and had the church building erected on this property.

In 1960 it became necessary to remodel the building and in 1963 the church was incorporated. Again in 1974, the building was enlarged by the addition of the Fellowship Hall which was added to the church building itself.

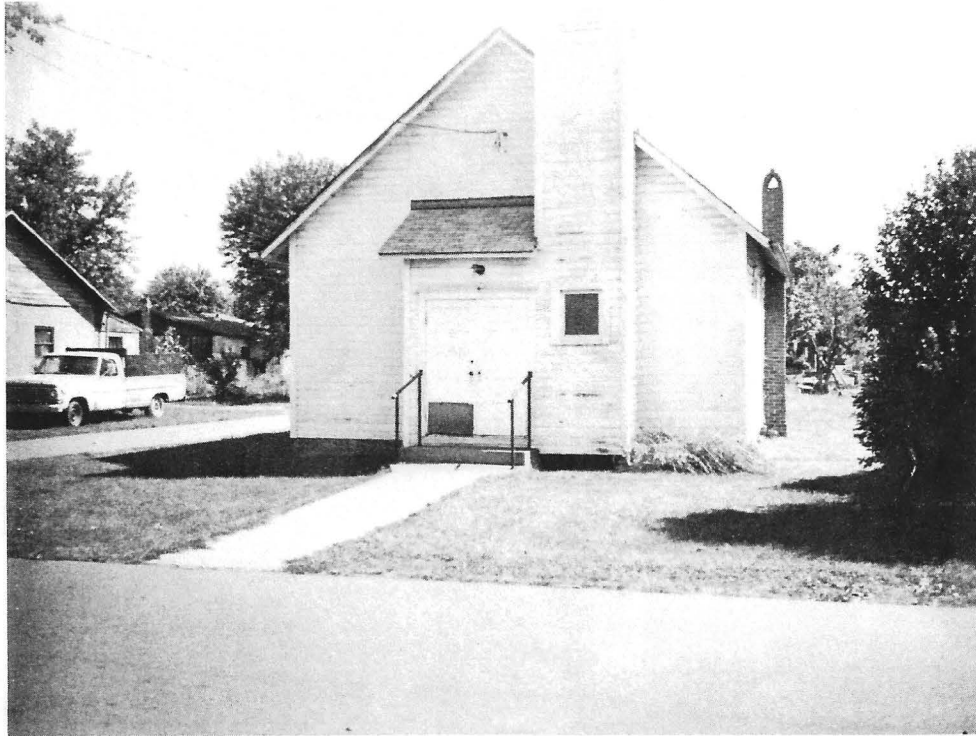


In 1920 we saw the founding of the St. Paul's A.M.E. Church. These initials stand for the African Methodist Church.

The site of this church was chosen and the ground purchased from the James B. Clow and Sons Company.

The building is located on what is now called Martin Luther King Drive.

The first minister to serve this church was Reverend Harriston.



The year 1963 saw the beginning of the fifteenth church in the community. This new church organization which was formed was called the Baptist Chapel Mission.

The group first met in the Powell Building on West State Street. In 1965 it was incorporated and moved to the Leading Building on Main Street. (This is presently Dr. Schrickel's Office). At that time the name we know the church by today "Valley View Baptist Church" was also changed from the Baptist Chapel Mission.

In 1967, the Greyhound Post House became available and the congregation decided to purchase this building. This church is located on Pilling Street just south of the Route 258 viaduct.

The building has had some remodeling done and the congregation has enlarged over the years. The first pastor was Reverend Jimmy Robbins, who has since started another church in Port Washington, Ohio.

The present minister is Reverend Leslie Hicks.



V

The Four Square Gospel Church was the next church to began worship services in Newcomerstown. This church began in the year 1932. It was situated in an upstairs room in a building on River Street.

Later the group moved to 101 Canal Street, the Ortt Building and then to the Hartly lot just off State Street.

The present church was built in 1937. It is located on West Street. In 1962 the congregation saw the need to update the church. The building was remodeled and redeccorated to better served the needs of the congregation.



Oxford Township Churches

Baptist - Birds Run Baptist Church was organized in 1845 in Guernsey Co. In 1853 was moved to Oxford Township. A new frame building was erected in 1870

Baptist - Pleasant View Baptist Church. It was built of planks in 1899 on Church Rd. Everal's Chapel in Everal. First in Tuscarawas County Oxford Township. County line was moved, it was then in Coshocton County Oxford Township

Hartwood Church, Nondenominational Community Church on Hartwood Rd. formally had been a Methodist Church.

Lutheran - German Lutheran Church. It was organized in Guernsey Co. around 1820 to 1825. It was built of logs. They moved to the southwest part of Oxford Township on Cadiz Rd. They erected a building there in 1868. It was built of planks and had three windows on each side. In 1897 they built a new building and it became St. Jacob's Lutheran Church on Cadiz Rd., which is now named Church Rd. Later it became a church called Full Gospe Temple at 8188 Church Rd.

Methodist - Early's Methodist Episcopal Church and Cemetery, located on N. E. corner of Early Cemetery Rd. and Zion Rd. It was founded by John Early who died in 1853. It was first a log meeting house, then a frame building. See page 233

Methodist - Peoples Methodist Episcopal Church was organized about 1843. very soon after a building was built, a log house. In 1857, 1900 and 1967 it was destroyed by fire, a new building was built each time. In 1967, the name was changed to Peoples Community Church. It is located on Peoples Church Rd.

Methodist - Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, built of logs, at the present site of Zion Cemetery.

Peoli Methodist Church was built in the 1830s. Peoli was called Newtown when the building was built.

United Brethren Centenary Church was organized about 1855, when the first church structure was built. A new building was built Oct. 23, 1873. Located on Centenary Rd.

Monroe Township Churches - Guernsey County

Birmingham Methodist Church was built in 1839. It was a stone structure in Birmingham (then known as Milnersburg). It relocated to a frame building that was erected in 1871.

Clear Fork Regular Baptist Church. It started in 1822 and for some 20 years they met in a log meeting house in Birmingham. A new frame building was built about 1 1/4 miles downstream and was used for 36 years. The present church building was built in 1880. It is located on Broadhead Rd. near Birmingham. Now it is called Clear Fork Baptist Church.

Irish Ridge Church or Hopewell Church, built about 1830, it was built of logs and near this place two other churches were successively erected, the present one in 1889. It is of the Methodist Protestant denomination. Later called United Methodist Church.

Wheeling Township Churches - Guernsey County

Bethel Church of Christ. It is located on Bethel Rd. just south of the Guernsey Co. line.

Birds Run Community Church was organized in 1898 as The Bridgeville Methodist Episcopal Church. Then it became the United Methodist Church, Then it became the Birds Run Community Church. It is located in Birds Run.

Guernsey United Methodist Church, In the 1830s, a log structure located north of Guernsey, at the corner of Co. Rd. 33 and township Rd. 382 (Zion Road) near the Guernsey Cemetery. The existing building was built in 1893 in Guernsey.

Township Churches

St. Jacob's Lutheran Church

As far as can be determined, the early history of St. Jacob's church began with the settlement of some German families about a mile south of the present church in the early 1800s. Why these families settled in the hills instead of the Tuscarawas river valley is possibly explained by the fact that hill country was free from plague and malaria that struck the people in the valley.

The German Lutheran Church was built around 1820 to 1825. It was organized in Gurnsey Co. and built of logs. When this church became too small the congregation decided to move it from Union Hill to another location on a better road and nearer the Lutheran community. They moved in 1868. This new site was on the old Coshocton- Cadiz road leading to Pittsburg. Now called Church Rd.

That made three churches in this Community, the Zion M. E. Church, built of logs on the present site of the Zion Cemetery; the Pleasant View Baptist Church, built of planks, on Church Rd. and the Lutheran Church.

Over this road, cattle, sheep, horses, hogs and even turkeys were driven to the eastern markets. This road was used because it avoided the necessity of crossing the Tuscarawas river.

The new church was constructed of planks, had three windows on each side and the pulpit was high and enclosed. There were two rows of seats with benches 10 feet long. It was built in 1868.

A new church building was built in 1897. Joseph Loader directed the building of this church. It had four windows on each side.

The land for the new church was donated by Jacob Boltz and the cemetery land was donated by Jacob Miller. The Church was called St. Jacob's in memory of the two men.

The bell for the church was purchased from the MP church at Wolf for \$100. The church property includes the church, the cemetery and two acres of ground, and is pleasantly situated on top of the hill. The church still has its German Bible, the language taught in the Sunday school in the early days of the church, and a pipe organ, which is still in the church but used.

The organization of the church went into effect May 23, 1897. On Oct. 20 of that year they joined the East Ohio synod and formed a charge with St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Newcomerstown.

The congregation of St. Jacob's Lutheran church will officially become members of St. Paul's Lutheran church. The congregation of St. Paul's accepted the property of St. Jacob's church, south of Newcomerstown, on May 2, 1958.

A German Lutheran Church stands in the southwest quarter of Section 16, in the southwestern part of the township, on the farm now owned by Jacob Boltz. The society was organized in Guernsey County; but removed to this township, and erected the present building in 1868. History of Tuscarawas County 1884. - Oxford Township Map 1908

A German Lutheran Church stands just this side of the county line in the southeastern part of the township. It is a small frame building built about ten years ago. The congregation is very limited in point of number and belongs principally to Tuscarawas County.

History of Coshocton County 1881 - Coshocton Co. Oxford Township Map 1872

The Bloody Bible

One of the most famous legends of Tuscarawas Valley history involves the Bloody Bible, which today can be found at the Newcomerstown Olde Main Street Museum. However, it had a long journey and interesting story before arrival there for safekeeping.

The story centers around John Early, who grew up in Harrison County, lived a happy life, and enjoyed the music of the violin, which he played very well. After meeting a Methodist circuit rider, John Early was converted to Christianity and gave up his violin playing as "the devil was in it." At that point, he moved just south of Newcomerstown to a beautiful log house.

Traveling Methodist preachers were welcome at his home, and eventually John donated land to have a Methodist Episcopal Church built on the boundary line of Tuscarawas and Guernsey County. There was also room for a church cemetery. In 1853, when Early died, he was one of the first people buried in the cemetery on the west side of the meeting house. His tombstone can still be found there today.

The story of the Bloody Bible begins before the start of the Civil War and after the death of John Early. When members of Early's Church came to the log meeting house in early May to their usual Sabbath School, prayer, and class services, what they found when they opened the door was forever impressed on their minds.

Sometime since the previous Sabbath, a terrible deed had been done. Someone decided to mock God by offering a lamb as sacrifice upon the alter of the church. Then they sprinkled the pages of the Bible with the blood of the lamb causing blood to drip down the alter and cover the floor. The lamb was still there beside the Bible when they entered.

It was later discovered that the deed was done by three young men called "Sons of Belial" who met at Whiskey Springs. They liked to play tricks on neighbors and for some reason especially the Early family. His cornfield had been destroyed, a new plow wecked, and horses tied to the edge of a cliff so they fell to their death. They later told people they had stolen the sacrificed lame that was a pet of a young crippled boy in the Early family.

When the young boys did this terrible deed, one young man shouted for John Early to rise from his grave. A pillar of fire arose in the door of the church and swept down the aisle. One of the boys was not able to see or speak, had to be carried to his home a mile away, and was in a stupor for much of his life. The others could barely stand to live with the guilt. But no charges were filed as the church people agreed, "Vengeance is mine saith the Lord."

The story was first written by Solomon Mercer in the Daily Jeffersonian on April 20, 1899. He had a personal interest in the story as his father, James Mercer, lived in the northwestern part of Guernsey County in Wheeling Township. His neighbor was John Early.

Mercer remembered this tale well as he was there when it happened. Everyone was headed to Sunday School that morning in their best church dress. When they entered the church, the smell of the killed lamb was so strong that no services were held there that day. Mercer even remembers his father and another family member carrying the lamb between two sticks out the church door.

For many years, Jim Rogers of Orrville kept the Bible in his home under glass in a special table he had built. He had received guardianship of the Bible from his wife's aunt. At the age of 92, Jim wasn't well and asked the Newcomerstown Museum if they would display the Bible there. It was added to their collection in June of 2020 after being gone from Newcomerstown for 150 years.



EVERAL CHAPEL



PEOLI METHODIST CHURCH

Everal's History

Everal School Built 1845

Church Services Started 1846



*Everal Chapel
Built 1868*



Chapel

Continued from Page 1A

Dakin said he also was exploring the possibility of the chapel being declared a historical site.

The chapel was built in 1868, but its history stretches to 1830 when John and Ann Everal immigrated to the United States from England. In the 1840s, they donated a portion of land for a schoolhouse and church.

A dedicated house of worship was erected in 1868, and the original schoolhouse was torn down in the middle of the 20th century.

The church was originally under the Evangelical United Brethren and later became part of the United Methodist denomination. The church building was given a steeple and moved onto a basement foundation in 1928.

"I didn't attend church there, but it's a place near and dear to my heart," Dakin said. "Dan said to me a couple weeks ago: 'If we don't ask what can be done, we're going to regret when we look out across that field and there's no building there.'"

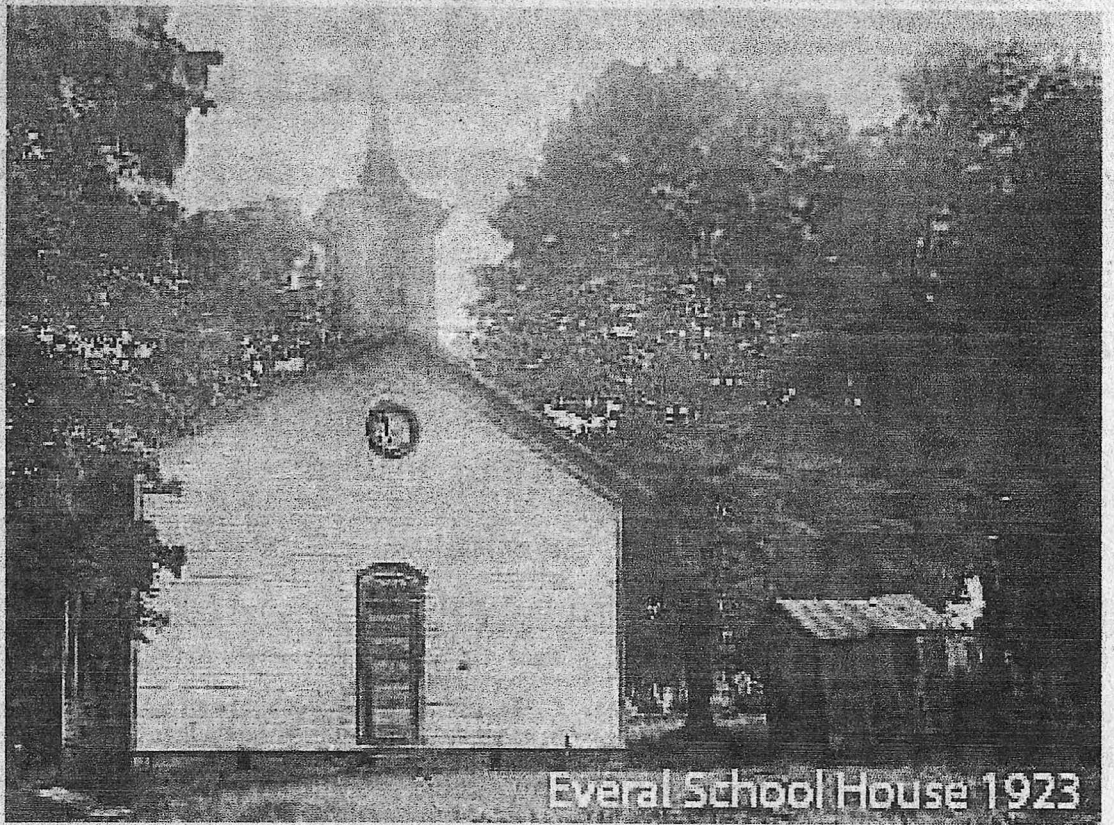
A deadline by the diocese hasn't been established for the society to take over the building, said Pastor Eric Miller. However, if they are unable to do so in a reasonable amount of time he said the chapel would be demolished.

A cemetery on the land is targeted to revert to Oxford Township for continued care. A state mandate has townships responsible for taking over any abandoned cemeteries.

The Norma Martin Preservation Fund was established in 1979 to maintain the cemetery, and the money would go to the township for cemetery use only. Funding is for the cemetery only and not the chapel.

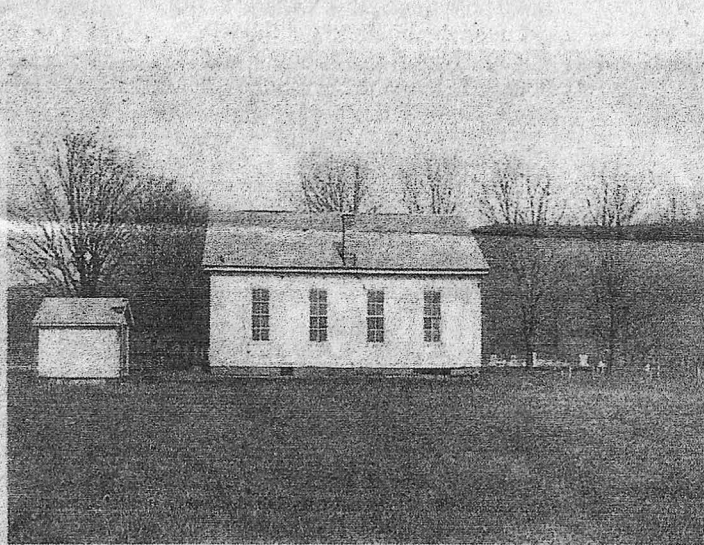
Discussion was held at a recent community meeting with about 30 attendees that the Everal's Chapel society could take on the cemetery too, depending on how successful it is with first acquiring the church.

Oxford Township trustees said taking on upkeep of the



SHAWN DAKIN/SUBMITTED PHOTO

Everal's School is seen in 1923; it was torn down later in the century. Before having a steeple added in 1928, it looked more like a church than Everal's Chapel, which stood on the same property. Worship services ended at the church building in November, and it's in danger of being torn down. A preservation society is being formed to prevent the demolition of the church and turn into a historical site and community building.



SHAWN DAKIN/SUBMITTED PHOTO

Everal's Chapel is pictured as it looked in 1923. A steeple was added and the building was moved onto a basement foundation in 1928. Worship services ended in November and the building in danger of demolition. A preservation society is being formed to prevent the demolition of the church and turn into a historical site and community building.

cemetery would not be an issue, but they had been advised by counsel to not buy the building

because of the cost of purchase and maintenance involved.

Dakin said the society would

like to see the church used for nondenominational church services, family reunions, weddings and receptions and as a general community building. Fees from rental and dues from society members, hopefully, would be the bulk of needed revenue.

Dakin said he has someone that would donate slate for repairing the roof, which hopefully would drop the estimate for that project. Miller said \$5,000 to handle legal fees was a rough figure and that the UMC diocese might be willing to sell for a lesser amount or somehow work with the society.

"What we're trying to do is make it as simple as possible for these guys," Miller said of the UMC working with the society. "What it comes down to is the United Methodist Church doesn't like to see abandoned properties."

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1960

Hartwood Church Destroyed by Fire Friday Morning

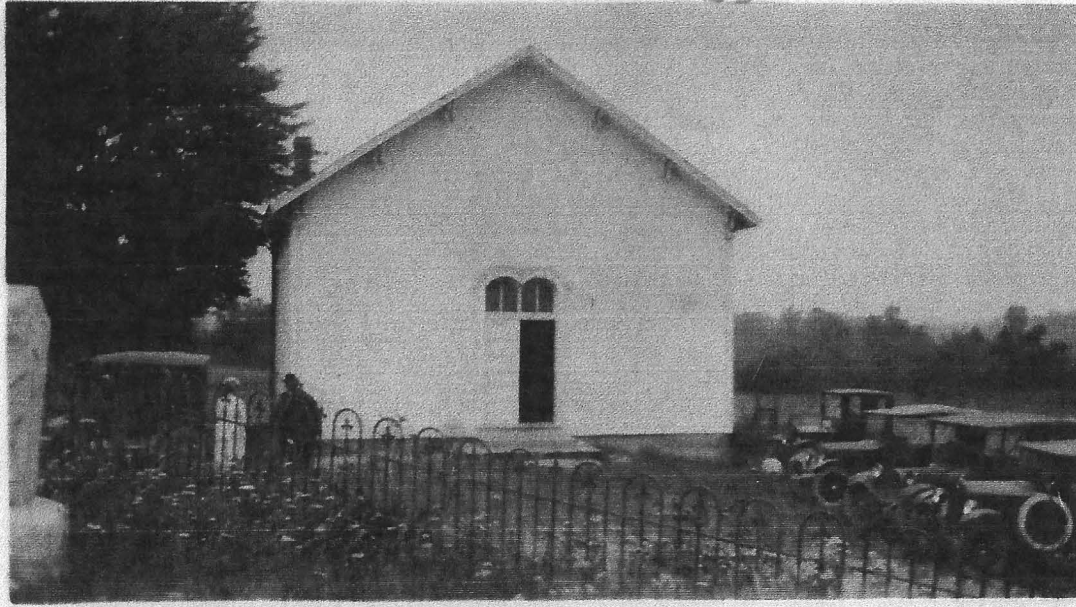
Hartwood Methodist church, located eight miles southeast of Newcomerstown, was completely destroyed by fire of unknown origin early Friday morning.

Port Washington firemen were called to the scene around 4 a. m. by a nearby resident who noticed the blaze but the fire was out of control by the time firemen arrived.

According to Lester Helter, assistant chief of the Port Wash-

ington Fire Department, cause of the blaze is unknown. Investigation will continue. Loss was at least partially covered by insurance, he said.

The all-wooden building was located between Route 21 and County Road 5.



HARTWOOD CHURCH



Wolf Salem United Methodist Church

*Peace I leave with
you,
my peace I give unto
you.*

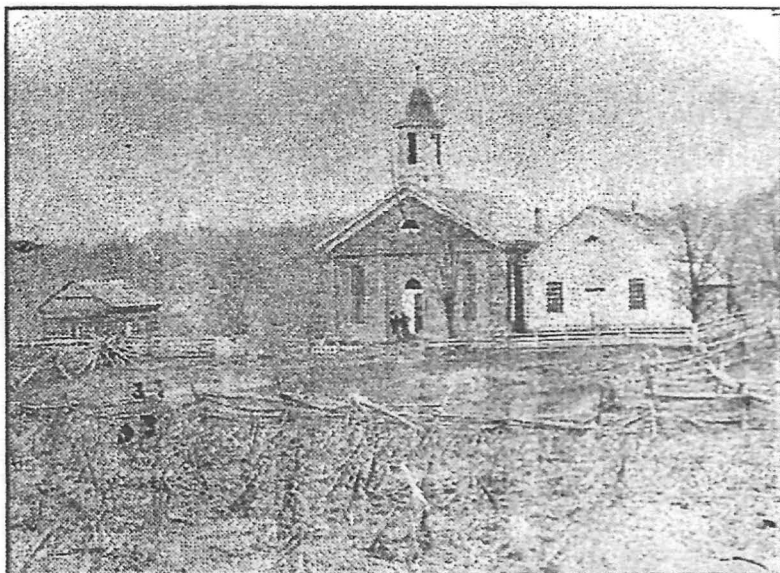
John 14:27



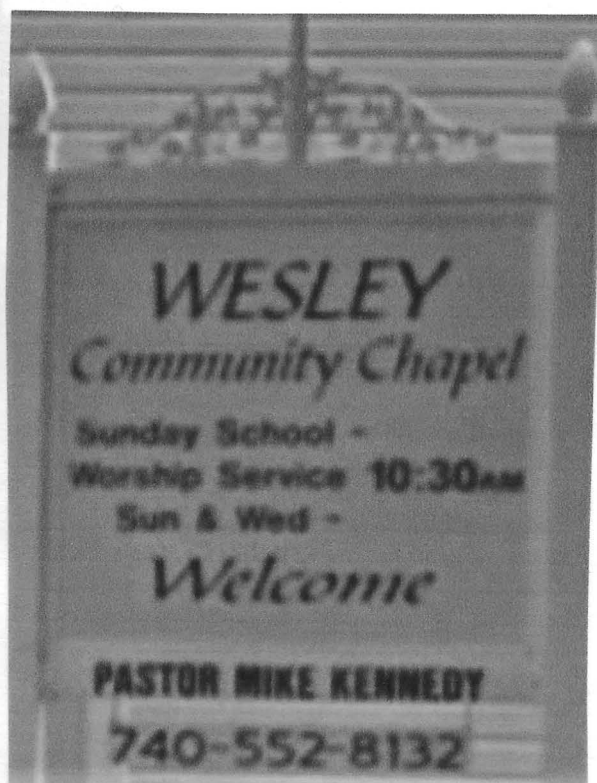
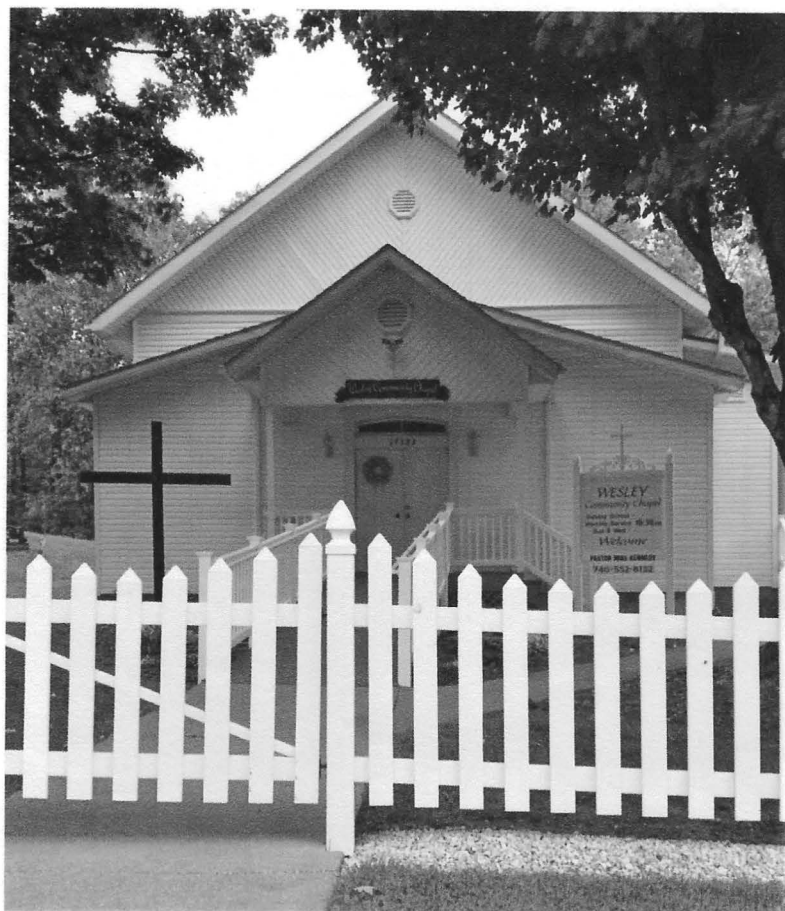
BETHEL CHURCH OF CHRIST WHEELING TWP. GUERNSEY CO.



WOLFE METHODIST CHURCH



(above) The Jerusalem Church in Stonecreek. The log building was put up in 1815 at a cost of \$300. The frame house was built in 1842 for \$700. The brick church was erected in 1877 at a cost of \$2,000.

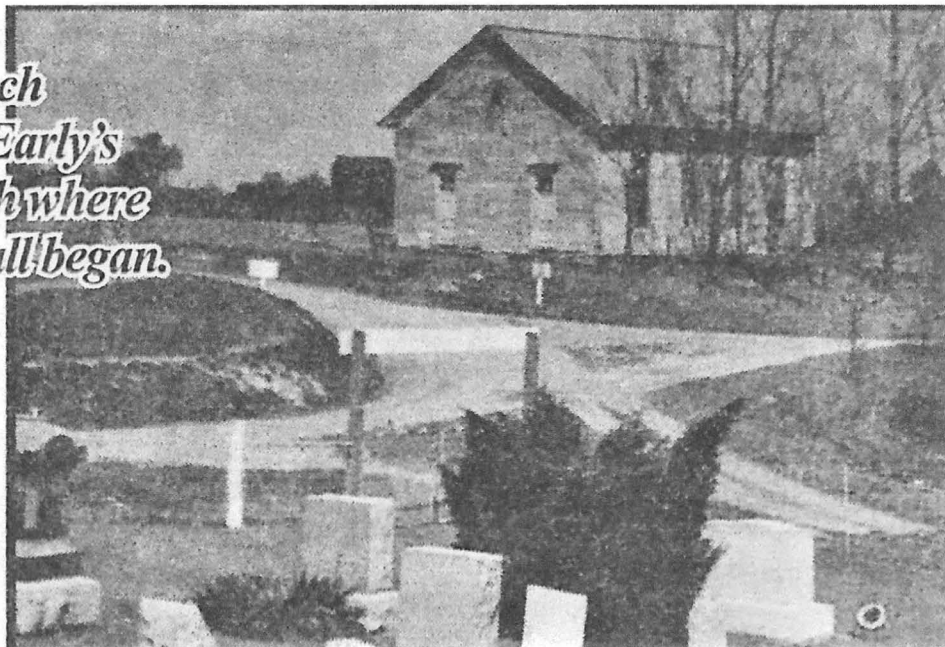


CHAPEL RD.



EARLY CEMETERY RD.—EARLY'S CHURCH
METHODIST EPISCOPAL

*This church
replaced Early's
log church where
the story all began.*



History of Early's Church

MITCH WISE
NEWCOMERSTOWN NEWS

John Early played a fiddle for country-dances until he was converted to the Christian faith. Thereafter the fiddle was a tool of the devil and Early traded the frolicking country music for songs from the Methodist hymn-book.

Early was born in 1780 and raised in the hills of Harrison County. It would be in those hills that he would hear the gospel and surrender his life to the One that gave it to him. In 1844, at the age of 64, he moved to Guernsey County with his wife Catharine. The couple had purchased a property near the Tuscarawas County line and built an eighteen by twenty-four foot log cabin. The cabin would be the Earlys' home and also served as a meetinghouse for worshipers of the faith. As time went on, Early's congregation grew and a twenty-five foot by thirty-foot log church was built.

John Early died in June of 1853 and was buried in the church cemetery beside the only other grave at the time, that of his recently departed sister.

The death of John Early did not stop the members of the church and the gospel meetings continued. The congregation met regularly, worshiping the Lord and preaching the word to the ruthless frontier folk in that area.

But there are those for whom the preaching of truth has no meaning. The demon of alcohol had visited a local group of men and those men, known to many in that area as the "Sons of Belial," invited that demonic being into their hearts and minds. To them the gospel that John Early had preached was foolishness.

Early had left behind some family. In the early 1860's it was known that a descendent of John Early, a young crippled boy, lived near the church. Clinton Early was described as "a poor little fellow, crippled in the legs and couldn't walk, but just crawled around the yard and played with his pet lamb."

That poor lamb would play a part in one of the most hideous sacrileges of that day or any day since. One May night in 1863 or 64 the Sons of Belial, actually a drunken father and his two sons, stole the young lad's lamb and carried it toward the church. The doors of the church were not built for keeping people out so it was no

problem for the heathens to break in. The room was divided by a center aisle and at the end of it was an altar and pulpit made from rough cut lumber. Upon the altar was a large Bible, opened for public viewing and full of the words for which the Sons of Belial had no understanding.

The lamb was carried down the aisle and laid across the altar on top of the Holy Book. A knife was used to cut the throat of the young lamb. The blood soaked the pages of the Bible but one verse still shone through the crimson stain. "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

The youngest of the brothers, drunken with the wildness of the deed, stood upon the altar and shouted with his loudest voice, "John Early, come forth from your grave!"

If not Early, the Lord himself may have answered the call of that unfortunate son. The men saw a brightness appear, and they turned to see a pillar of fire in the center aisle, advancing toward them.

The men screamed and ran for the door. The youngest son was dumbstruck and permanently blinded. He could not speak and had to be carried home. He died a few years later in the county infirmary. The father drank himself to death and died a violent death at the hands of those demons that had controlled his life. The other son tried to escape his past by leaving the community, but was later arrested for murder and died in prison.

The congregation was content that God would serve his own justice and it seems He did just that. The lamb was removed from the church and services resumed within a few weeks.

The church was replaced by a second in 1874. Today a corner stands on the site of the second church. There is no trace of the first church, which was located just inside the gates of Early's Cemetery. John Early and his wife Catherine are buried at the Cemetery. Early's tombstone has been broken in two, perhaps the work of another that would dare to follow in the footsteps of the "Sons of Belial."

The "Sons of Belial" are long gone and so are the wooden structures. But the bloodstained bible is still in existence today, which proves that God's word does endure. God is not mocked.

a story of sacrilege



Mitch Wise/Newcomerstown News

Early's first church was replaced by a second in 1874. Today a corncrib stands on the site of the second church. There is no trace of the first church, which was located just inside the gates of Early's Cemetery. John Early's tombstone has been broken in two, perhaps the work of another that would dare to follow in the footsteps of the "Sons of Belial." At the right is the tombstone of John Early, who died in June of 1853 and was buried in the church cemetery beside the only other grave at the time, that of his recently departed sister. This photo shows the headstone of John Early and his wife Catharine. John Early's stone has been broken in two.



Early's Church Bible still remains in existence

WILLIAM CASTEEL
NEWCOMERSTOWN BUREAU

GUERNSEY — Through a little perseverance, the locally famed Early's Church Bible has been located following its last known public appearance 47 years ago.

After a bit of "detective work" it was found that the Bible is currently in the possession of an individual that is a relative of the last person known to have the Bible 47 years ago. For the sake of the individual's privacy, the current owner's name will not be revealed. The owner reports that over the past several years various individuals that have researched the Bible's infamous background have attempted to claim ownership on the Bible in recent years stat-

ing it is actually property of the Methodist Church and the church's national affiliates since Early's Church was a Methodist denomination (these mentioned individuals are not associated with the local Christ United Methodist Church, or any of the other local Methodist churches). The owner reports having received numerous harassing phone calls, letters, and unwelcome visits, literally to the owner's front door, with each of these callers, writers, or visitor's intentions being to remove the Bible from the current owner. The owner also reports that since the Bible has been desecrated it is also of prime interest to satanic based cults. The owner said having received contact from several such individuals requesting to purchase the Bible for use in

black magic or satanic rituals.

According to an article printed in the *Newcomerstown News* in August 1964, the Early's Church Bible was



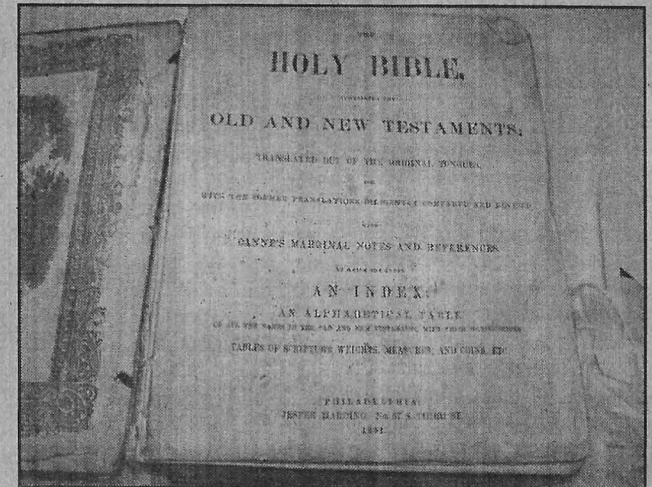
The worn leather cover of the Early's Church Bible is very fragile but remains intact.

briefly on display in the *Newcomerstown News* office window as part of an exhibit

for the town's Sesquicentennial and has not been viewed by the public since that time.

In November 2010, members of the Newcomerstown Historical Society were privileged to be able to see and photograph the Bible. The owner reports that the Bible was given to the owner's relative by an original Early's Church member prior to the church being dismantled many years ago. It has remained in the current owner's family since that time. The owner reports the individuals that have attempted to lay claim on the Bible have no affiliation with any of the original church congregation. The current owner said the Bible will be passed on to the owner's children and later on to the grandchildren.

The owner states having



While the Bible has no inscriptions to indicate that it belonged to Early's Church, the second page of the Early's Bible shows that the Bible was printed in 1851. The date correlates closely with the historical information that the event at Early's took place sometime around the Civil War.

every intention "to keep the Bible in the family along with its historical accounts so that the local folk lore can be handed down for many generations to come."

The desecration of Early's Church remains local legend

WILLIAM CASTEEL
NEWCOMERSTOWN BUREAU

GUERNSEY — Its been nearly 150 years since local residents first heard of the desecration that occurred at Early's Church and the Sons of Belial being responsible for it. But the story continues to live on through the folklore that seems to be passed through each generation of local residents.

The accounts of the incident appeared in news print as far back as 1899, being recalled by Solomon Mercer. He and his family had resided near the Early family, and the structure that was first known as the Early's Meeting House — later as Early's Church. In subsequent years, efforts were made to change the church's name to Zion Methodist Church, but somehow the name of Early's Church sustained, and remained so until the church closed its doors nearly a century later.

The founder of Early's Church, John Early Sr. and his wife, Catherine, moved to Guernsey County in 1844, having previously resided in Harrison County. Shortly after arriving in Guernsey County, the Early's purchased land situated just north of the

Tuscarawas County boundary line on which they built their log home, then later provided one acre for a 25- by 30-foot meeting house (church) and a family cemetery. Early, a devout Methodist minister, later died in June 1853 and was interred in the family cemetery that was situated on the west side of the meeting house (church). Early was the second family member to be buried in the cemetery following a sister who had died several years prior.

Legend said on a beautiful Sabbath (Sunday) morning in May, sometime in the early 1860s, the church's members were preparing to enter the structure for their weekly worship when a horrible deed was revealed. There on the church's alter lay a slain lamb with the open Bible underneath and it was severely splashed with the slain lamb's blood. Needless to say, the members did not have their worship service that week due to the stench of the dead lamb. Instead, they spent the remainder of the day cleaning the church and airing it out so that services could resume the following week. Mercer recalls watching his father remove the dead lamb's body from the church that day, a sight which he said still remained a vivid memory many years later. The

church members continued to restore order to their house of worship and held services the following Sunday as if nothing unusual had occurred.

Shortly after the incident, church members learned that a local group of three men known as the Sons of Belial were responsible for the deceitful act. The Sons of Belial were known to frequent a place south of Newcomerstown known as Whiskey Springs. There, they would while away the hours gambling, playing cards and plotting mischief on the neighboring residents of the area, of main interest was the John Early family. They reportedly had destroyed the Early family's corn field, wrecked a new plow that had only recently been purchased and later tied a team of the Early family's horses so near the edge of a steep embankment that the poor creatures fell over the edge to their death. The Sons of Belial also later reportedly were attributed to the murder of a local school teacher with the last name of Hevelow. It was said that the teacher was doubtlessly murdered for his meager pay that he had collected earlier that day. He was supposedly returning home from Coshocton that same day when he suddenly

disappeared, never to be seen again. At that time, the main road between Coshocton and Newcomerstown, which was known as Cadiz Road, passed by the area of Whiskey Springs. Years later on May 28, 1859, a skeleton was plowed up in a field south of Newcomerstown. Mrs. Dugen, the sister of the missing teacher, immediately was sent for and positively identified the skeleton as that of her missing brother (by the appearance of the teeth).

However, the Sons of Belial gained their greatest infamy through the despicable act that occurred at Early's Church several years later. The story states that the group of men — all drunken from a night of consuming alcohol — stopped by the Early family's farm and stole a pet lamb of a crippled child, a relative of John Early's. They then proceeded to the church, busting down the door. They placed the lamb on the open Bible which lay on the alter, then slit the poor creature's throat with a pocket knife, it's blood spilling over the pages of the Bible. One of the men approached the pulpit and in a loud voice calling out "John Early, come forth from your grave!" Information gathered from the church's records indicate that at that moment, a

surge of fire rolled through the church's door, striking the man dumb and blind. He required to be carried from the church as he could neither stand, nor speak. Some of the church members spoke in favor of punishing the desecrators somehow, but one of the Early family relatives, who later became a leader of the Early's Church, advised the members to do nothing. He said the men had desecrated the house of God and would surely be given the wrath of punishment from powers that were greater than man could ever give. His advice was followed.

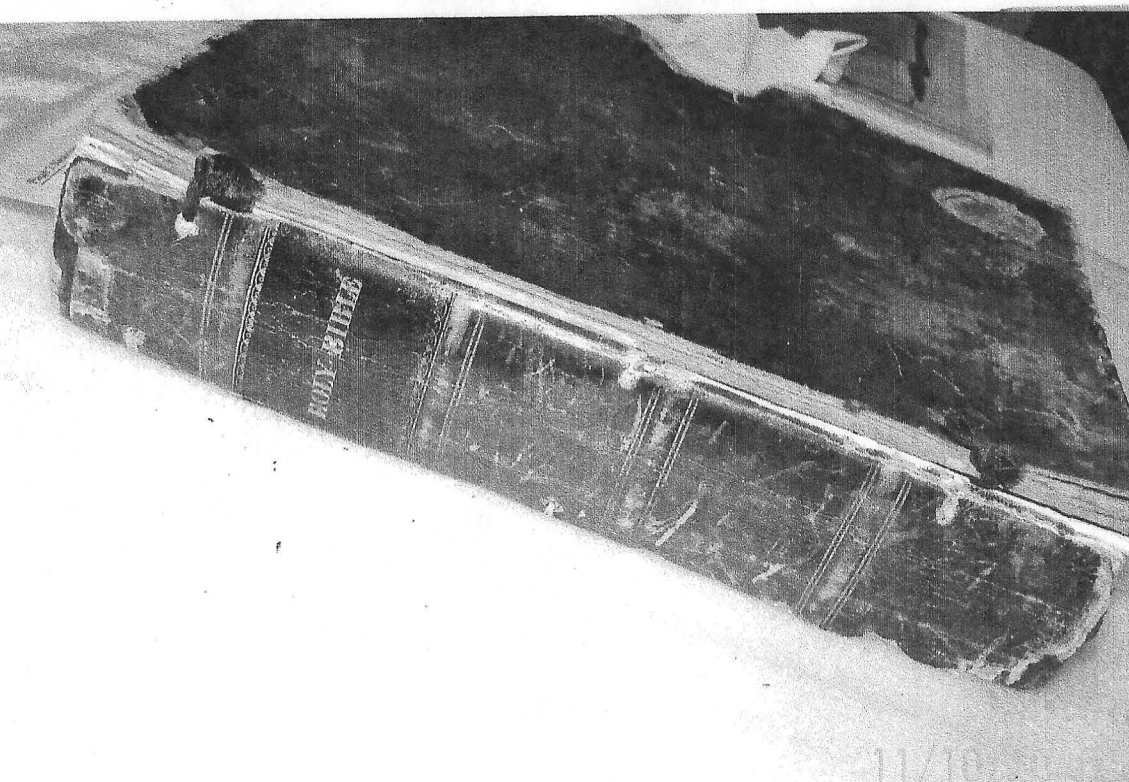
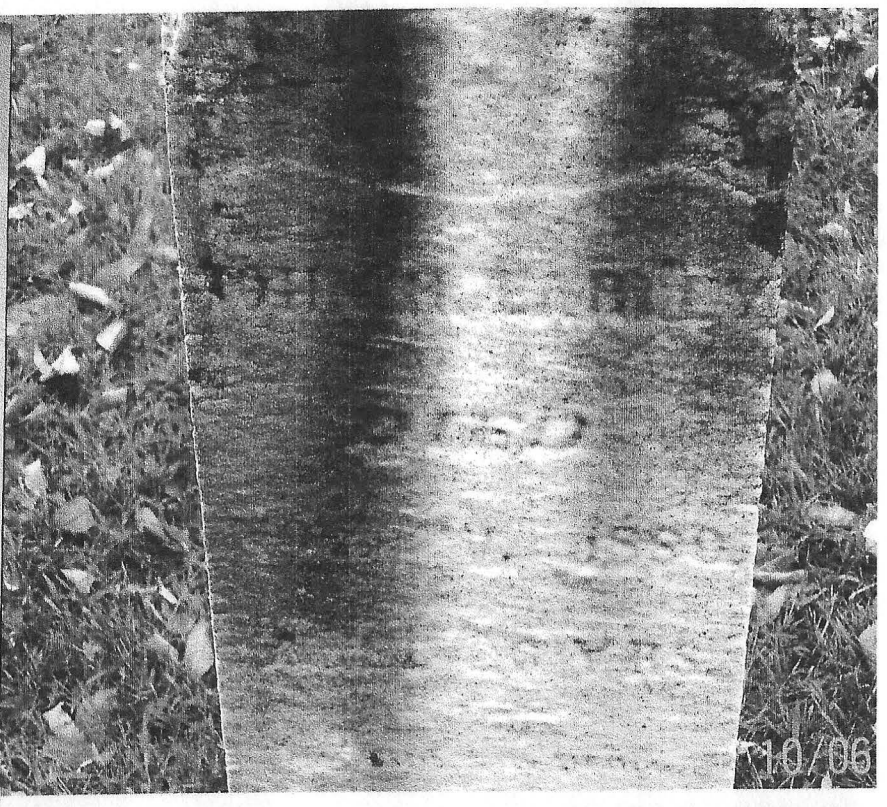
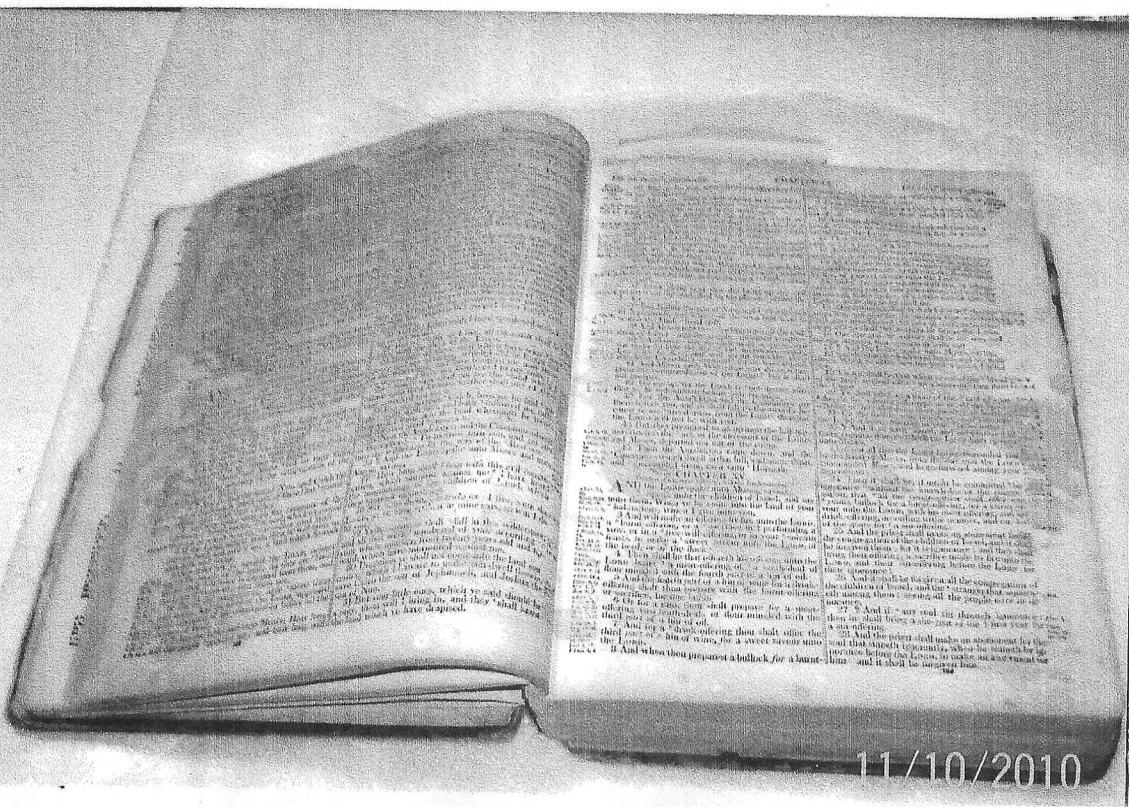
The story said all three of the Sons of Belial died without hope. The youngest man of the trio died stone blind in an infirmary, while another died such a painful death that he kicked down his own bed as he lay dying. The remaining man, supposedly, later died a peculiar death years later.

The original log church (which stood where the current cemetery is located now) was torn down in 1874. A new white painted, clapboard church was built earlier that same year just to the north of the cemetery near the Tuscarawas boundary line. The church remained active for many years, later merging with the two local Methodist

churches in Newcomerstown. The building and surrounding property, except for the cemetery was later sold and eventually became the property of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Russell. The aging structure fell into ruin, collapsing to the ground, according to a feature that appeared in the June 20, 1984, edition of *The Newcomerstown News*.

Accounts of Mercer's story was also featured in a book written by a retired Methodist minister Lonzo Green titled, "Tales of the Buckeye Hills." The original Early's church's blood stained Bible was later in the possession of a local Newcomerstown resident Chester Herbert and was briefly on display to the public in *The Newcomerstown News* office's window during the August 1964 Sesquicentennial celebration. Its whereabouts now are unknown.

A little known, interesting fact about the Early's church Bible, according to Green's feature was that on the page that was open in the Bible and became stained with the lamb's blood was this verse, "Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."



in Congress, To Be 75 Tuesday

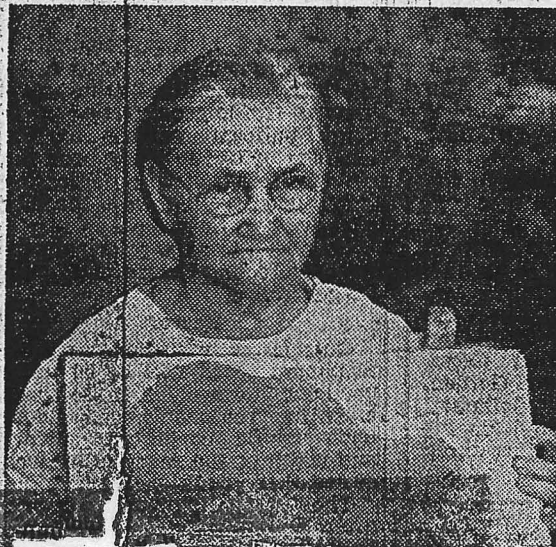
Blood-Smeared Bible Recalls 'Pillar of Fire' That Blinded Its Desecrators 80 Years Ago

Proof of God's Vengeance Seen in Incident.

By Charles W. Phillips

NEWCOMERSTOWN, OHIO, AUG. 30—It was a bright Sunday morning in May and the followers of Early's church, near the border line between Tuscarawas and Guernsey counties in eastern Ohio, were dressed in their "go-to-meeting" clothes, ready for Sunday school.

The vanguard of the little group pushed back the ponderous door of the log structure and walked in. Together they emitted a waxy



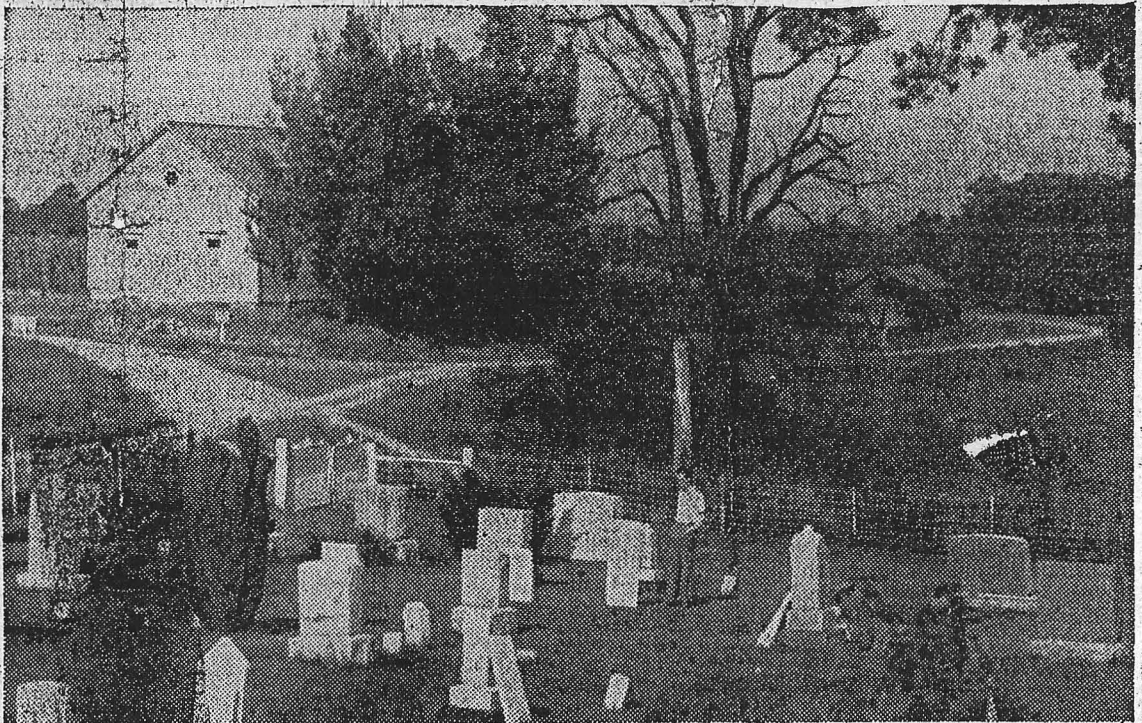
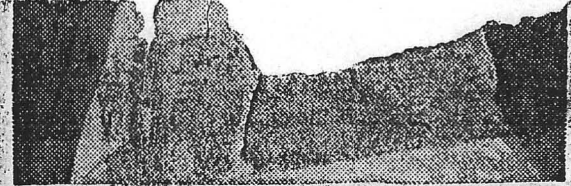
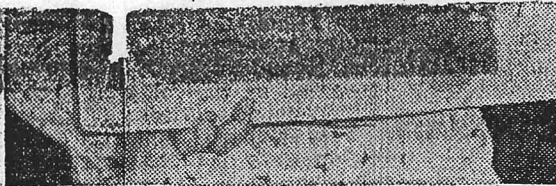
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TODAY, this blood-stained Bible is in the possession of Mrs. Jacob Herbert of Newcomerstown. To aged residents who remember the story of the "pillar of fire" which avenged the desecration of John Early's Bible one night in the lonesome Guernsey county hills nearly 80 years ago, it stands as silent testimony that "God is not mocked" and that His vengeance can be swift and terrible.

"It was the wrath of God that struck them," said Mrs. Frank Castor as she rocked in her old-fashioned chair on the porch of her home here and recalled the incident. "The men who did that act were just plain wicked."

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are clearly visible. At upper right is Mrs. Frank Castor, 85-year-old widow who recalls the desecration incident.

Early church cemetery and the new church which replaced the old log cabin house of worship. The man in the photo is looking at Pastor John Early's grave

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A grove of poplars atop the highest knoll was chosen for the site. Soon axes flashed in the sunlight. Finally the beams shuffled the feet of the first congregation.

MRS. CASTOR clearly recalls the log cabin house of worship. Its sturdy clay-filled walls turned aside the mournful hill-top winds and kept out the rains of many years. Rough-hewn lumber flooring formed its single aisle which divided the 25 by 30 foot room into two equal parts. The seats, Mrs. Castor recalled, were split logs with pegs driven into them for support. A pot-bellied stove warmed the interior.

"I was about eight years old when that terrible thing happened," the 85-year-old widow said. John Early had since died and his grave stood in the shadow of the church. By now the first scattered few worshippers had grown to a staunch group who attended services regularly.

THERE was, however, a group of men in the community who were referred to by the others as "Sons of Beliel." Not having opportunity, or possibly desire, to associate with the church members, they often ridiculed the religious habits of others.

In the words of Harvey Dull, 87, another long-time resident who remembers them, "They were as ornery as it was possible for human beings to be—up to that time."

Once they pulled up two rows of corn in a field just to have something to do. Another time they tied a horse close to the edge of a cliff. The horse finally slipped on the edge and fell to its death, as the men calculated it would.

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Suddenly the men stood transfixed. Before the altar a "pillar of fire" glowed in brilliance until it blinded the eyes of the cringing desecrators. They threw up their arms in wild terror. Screams forced their way from the fear-grappled throats of the older men.

But the young man who had shouted the challenge was struck numb. He could neither stand nor speak and had to be carried to his home, states a church record.

The men's night of hilarity had turned into one of terror.

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The other desecrator, with some companions, soon left the neighborhood. Two of them were later imprisoned for murder. "News came of the death of all of them," states a church chronicler, "and they all died without hope."

A NEW church replaced John Early's first house of worship, but the original name, Early's church, has been retained. The log building has long been removed from its high knoll and a frame structure stands across the road in Tuscarawas county. The original cemetery remains and the grave of Pastor Early, the second to be buried there, stands well tended with its plain head stone and weather-beaten inscription.

Only a few residents of Newcomerstown can remember the blood-stained Bible act. Among them are Mrs. Castor, Mr. Dull and Marion Mercer, a former mayor of Newcomerstown.

Early church cemetery and the new church which replaced the old log cabin house of worship. The man in the photo is looking at Pastor John Early's grave marker.

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"Be not deceived, God is not mocked; for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap."

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In the church the intruders carried the bleating animal along the aisle to the altar built by Pastor Early. There lay the Bible, open and waiting for the Sunday morning service.

Then the "sacrifice" began. With little compulsion they slashed the lamb's throat. Blood spread slowly across the Bible.

Not content with this, they

A BOOKLET WHICH SHEDS LIGHT ON

BLOOD-SMEARED BIBLE RECALLS "PILLAR OF FIRE"

THAT BLINDED ITS DESECRATORS 80 YEARS AGO

Newcomerstown, Ohio Aug. 30--It was a bright Sunday morning in May and the followers of Early's church near the border line between Tuscarawas and Guernsey counties in eastern Ohio, were dressed in their "go-to-meeting" clothes, ready for Sunday school. The vanguard of the little group pushed back the ponderous door of the log structure and walked in. Together they emitted a gasp. Beside the altar Bible lay a dead lamb, its blood had been smeared over the pages and had dripped down the altar on to the floor. Horrified at the sight of the mock sacrifice, the congregation had to abandon its services--the stench was too strong.

Today, this blood-stained Bible is in the possession of Mrs. Jacob Herbert of Newcomerstown. To aged residents who remember the story of the "pillar of fire" which avenged the desecration of John Early's Bible one night in the lonesome Guernsey county hills nearly 80 years ago, it stands as silent testimony that "God is not mocked" and that His vengeance can be swift and terrible. "It was the wrath of God that struck them," said Mrs. Frank Castor as she rocked in her Old-Fashioned chair on the porch of her home here and recalled the incident. "The men who did that act were just plain wicked."

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There was, however, a group of men in the community who were referred to by the others as "Sons of Beliel". Not having opportunity, or possibly desire, to associate with the church members, they often ridiculed the religious habits of others. In the words of Harvey Dull, 87, another long-time resident who remembers, them, "They

were as ornery as it was possible for human beings to be--up to that time." One time they pulled up two rows of corn in a field just to have something to do. Another time they tied a horse close to the edge of a cliff. The horse finally slipped on the edge and fell to its death, as the men calculated it would.

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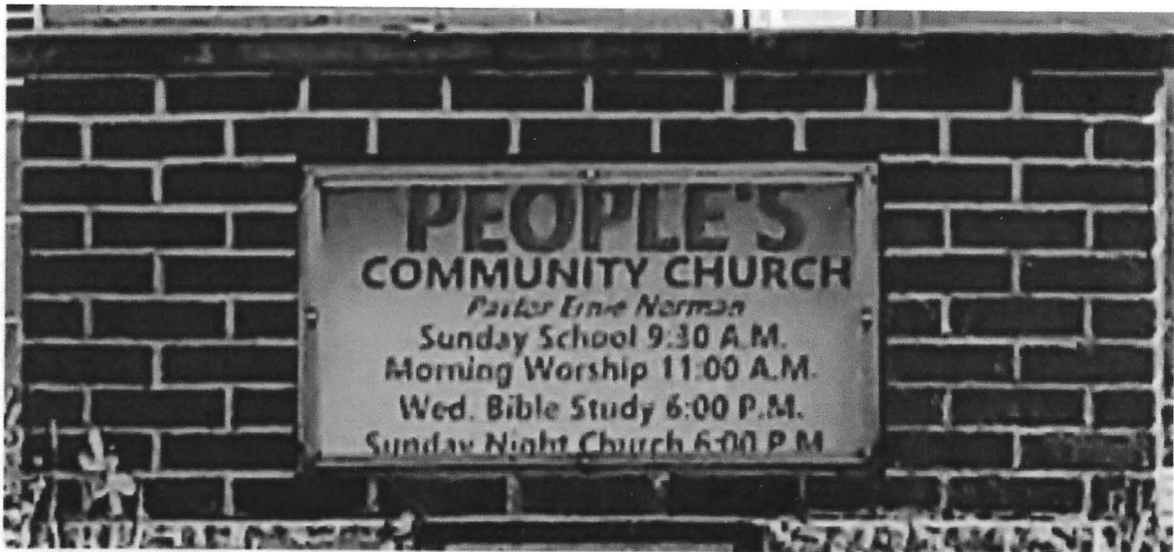
The son of one of the other two men was not to be a second in evil deeds. After the desecration according to a church record, he mounted the pulpit and in a loud voice challenged John Early to arise from his grave outside. Suddenly the men stood transfixed. Before the altar a "pillar of fire" grew in brilliance until it blinded the eyes of the cringing desecrators. They threw up their arms in wild terror. Screams forced their way from fear-grinned throats of the older men. But the young man who had shouted the challenge was struck numb. "He could neither stand nor speak and had to be carried to his home," states a church record. The men's night of hilarity had turned into one of terror.

"That wasn't the end of their troubles, either," Mrs. Castor recalled. The young man went blind a few months later and in a few years died in an infirmary." The father, described as a man of more than ordinary intelligence, had once been a member of the church but "he loved his cups." "He fell victim to the cups too," said Mrs. Castor, "dying so hard that he could hardly be held in bed." The other desecrator with some companions, soon left the neighborhood. Two of them were later imprisoned for murder. "News come of the death of all of them," states a church chronicler, "and they all died without hope."

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BUILT 1967



History of St. Jacob's Lutheran Church Given

The congregation of St. Jacob's Lutheran church, 75 members, will officially become members of St. Paul's Lutheran church this morning during the worship service.

Dr. Herbert Veler, president of the Ohio synod, will preach.

The congregation of St. Paul's accepted the property of St. Jacob's church, south of Newcomerstown, on May 2, 1958. This action was followed by many business transactions to make the merger possible on this date.

As far as can be determined, the early history of St. Jacob's church began with the settlement of some German families about a mile south of the present church in the early 1800's. Why these families settled in the hills instead of the Tuscarawas river valley is possibly explained by the fact that the hill country was free from plague and malaria that struck the people in the valley.

This community at that time had three churches, the Zion ME church, built of logs on the presite of the Zion cemetery; the Pleasant View Baptist church, built of planks, and the Lutheran church, also a log structure.

This Lutheran church was built around 1820 to 1825. When this church became too small the congregation decided to move it from Union hill to another location on a better road and nearer the Lutheran community. This new site was

on the old Coshocton-Oadiz road leading to Pittsburgh.

Over this road, cattle, sheep, horses, hogs and even turkeys were driven to the eastern markets. This road was used because it avoided the necessity of crossing the Tuscarawas river.

The new church was constructed of planks, had three windows on each side and the pulpit was high and enclosed. There were two rows of seats with benches 10 feet long. The entire cost of the new building was \$1,207.05. Of this amount, \$907 was pledged by the members and on the day of the dedication of the church the balance was donated, making the church debt free. Rev. G. C. Smith of New Philadelphia preached the dedication sermon and Rev. L. A. Bush was the pastor of the church.

Joseph Loader directed the building of this church. The organization of the church went into effect May 23, 1897, with 25 charter members. Councilmen were Charles Smith, William Schlupp, Christian Neiderhauser, George Loader and William Herbert. Charles Rothenstein and John Hackenbracht were elected trustees. On Oct. 20 of that year they joined the East Ohio synod and formed a charge with St. Paul's in Newcomerstown.

The land for the new church was donated by Jacob Boltz and the cemetery land was donated by Jacob Miller. The church was call-

ed St. Jacob's in memory of the two men.

Members at the time included the Hackenbrachts, Filmans, Rothensteins, Schlupps, Arts, Neiderhausers, Millers, Boltz Wolffs, Shafers, Harbolds Ophiles Denzers, Schwabs Coles and Widders.

The bell for the new church was purchased from the MP church at Wolf for \$100. The pastor at that time was paid \$75 a year.

From the time of becoming a charge with the Newcomerstown church, they had the same pastor who served the county charge on Sunday afternoons.

The church property includes the church, the cemetery and two acres of ground, and is pleasantly situated on top of the hill. The church has been kept in excellent condition by the work of the Ladies Aid society. The cemetery is also kept up and a provision to continue the care of both has been made. The Ladies Aid Society will also continue to function.

The church still has its German Bible, the language taught in the Sunday school in the early days of the church, and a pipe organ, which is still in the church but not used.

The program this morning will also include a dedication service for the new Fellowship hall of St. Paul's. A congregational dinner will be served in the hall at noon for all members and friends of the church.



WAS ST. JACOB'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
NOW FULL GOSPEL TEMPLE



ST. JACOB'S LUTHERAN CHURCH SOUTH OF NEWCOMERSTOWN



PLEASANT VIEW BAPTIST CHURCH

1899

80

Glasgow

Glasgow

Today one must almost hunt for Glasgow. Scarcely a dozen houses remain of the 200 dwellings, the two churches, the three general stores and the eight saloons. The road, branching off Route 16, three miles east of Newcomerstown.

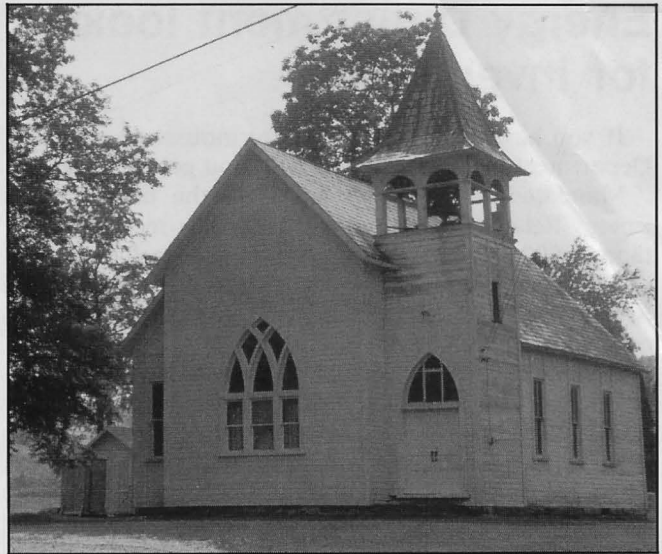
The Country Church

The Birds Run Community Church was organized in 1898 as The Bridgeville Methodist Episcopal Church.

When the Methodist Church merged and became the United Methodist, it became the Birds Run Community Church, owned and operated by the people of the Birds Run community.

Today the congregation has an average attendance of 30 to 40. There are Bible studies, Sunday school classes for all ages and a choir.

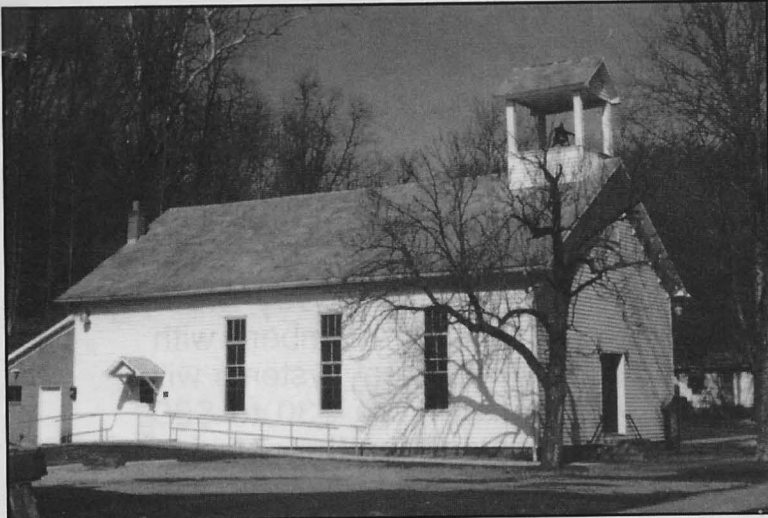
The pastor is Jim Lee and the music ministry is coordinated by Mrs. Michelle Lee.



The Birds Run Community Church is located in Birds Run, Wheeling Township, Guernsey County.

IRISH RIDGE METHODIST CHURCH
CLARY ROAD





The Birmingham United Methodist Church is in Monroe Township, Guernsey County, in the Village of Birmingham.

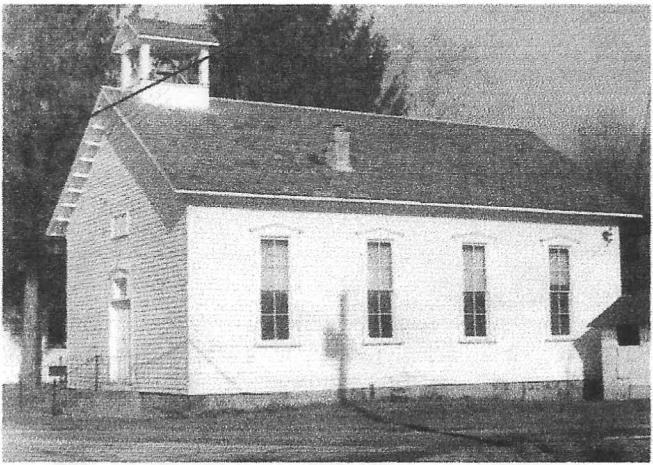
The Country Church

The first Birmingham Methodist Church was built in 1839. It was a stone structure in the northeast section of Birmingham (then known as Milnersburg).

The original structure was used as a church for 32 years. In 1871, a plot of land was purchased from Robert and Rachel Daugherty for \$150 to relocate the church. The present frame structure was erected on that site by R. V. Daugherty & Son during that year.

During the years 1973-1978, the interior was completely renovated and a frame addition was added. Over the years the church has been remodeled to meet the standards of the times.

Today there are 52 members, church services and Sunday school are held weekly. The pastor is the Rev. Gene Miller.



Guernsey United Methodist Church.

The country church . . .

The Guernsey United Methodist Church was organized in the 1830s and was known as the Birds Run Bible Society. It also was referred to as a Methodist Protestant Church. At the time of its organization, the church was a log structure located north of Guernsey, at the corner of County Road 33 (North Eighth Street Road) and Township Road 382 (Zion Road) near the Guernsey Cemetery.

The existing building was built in 1893 in Guernsey. In 1935 a flood caused three feet of water to enter the church sanctuary, destroying the books, pews and the organ.

There are now 15 members of the Guernsey United Methodist Church and the lay minister is Gary Marlatt of Newcomerstown.



BIRD RUN
BAPTIST CHURCH
GUERNSEY CO.
1870

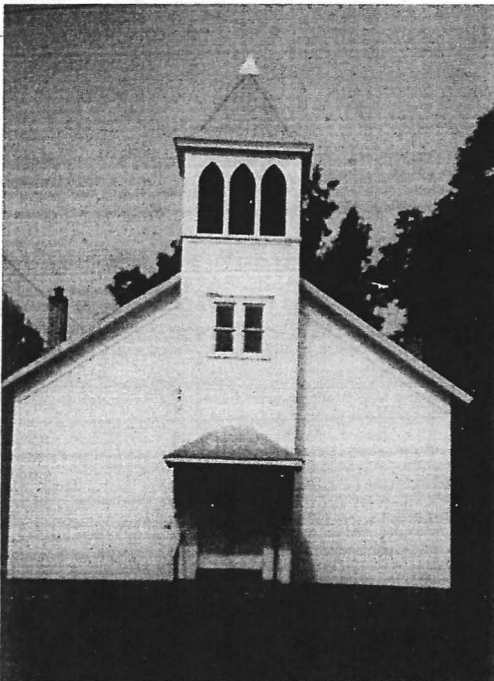
part of the building and moved the rest of it to the present site. It was partially remodeled then. In 1962 it was completely remodeled. In 1969 the parsonage on McKinley Avenue was sold and the present parsonage was built.

The church gives to World Missions. In 1951 they began with a contribution of \$400 and now it is over \$10,000 annually. The minister at present is Rev. O.E. Ghere and he has worked here for thirty-seven years. Their son is a chaplain for the Army in Honolulu, Hawaii. Their daughter's husband is a pastor for the church in Corona, California.

Over the years many pastors have fed the flock in this area. They are Rev. and Mrs. Floyd Brock, Rev. and Mrs. Clare Borman, Rev. Maybelle Reel, Rev. and Mrs. Eugene Robertson, Rev. and Mrs. Alvin Crawford, Rev. Virginia Willheight, Rev. and Mrs. Richardson, Rev. and Mrs. W. Trowbridge, Rev. and Mrs. Russell Menges and Rev. and Mrs. O.E. Ghere. - Submitted by Rev. O.E. Ghere; Written by Doris Baker

Full Gospel Temple Church

The Full Gospel Temple Church was set in order in July, 1974. It meets in the former St. Jacobs Lutheran Church building on township road 107 south of Newcomerstown. The present minister is Roger Bourne who has been with the congregation since 1974. From 1978-1980 a building program was initiated to modernize the building inside and out. The original bell is still intact and rings each church service to let the countryside know it is time for worship. There is a baptismal service held at a river or lake, usually once a year. The church has picnics on the holidays of Memorial Day, Fourth of July, and Labor Day. Regular worship services are held Sunday morning. Evangelistic services are held Sunday and Thursday evenings.

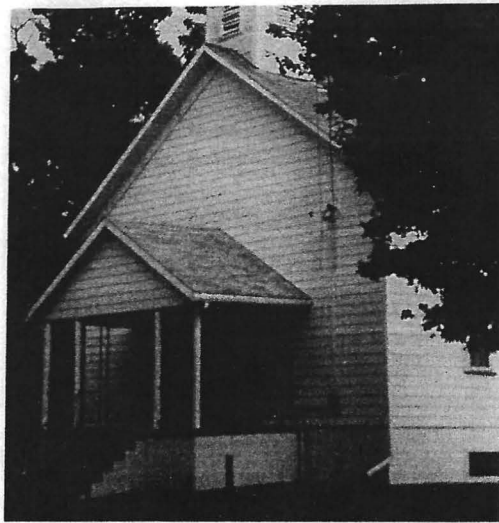


King's United Methodist Church

Jessie Gardner is the superintendent of the Sunday School. The present families that attend are those of Roger Bourne, Tom Bourne, Frank Bliss, Gary Davis, Burris Gardner, Jessie Gardner, Lewis Little, Tom Marcincavage, Ike Meek, Ruth Murphy, Cecil Phillips, Dora Ann Quillen, Howard Ross, Jessie Thompson, Olive Williams, and Earl Wines. - Submitted by Roger Bourne; Written by Doris Baker

Kings United Methodist Church

Kings United Methodist Church is located close to the center of Oxford Township, Tuscarawas County on Township Road 107. This church was organized about 1855 when the first structure was built. The present edi-



Newcomerstown Church of Christ

Full Gospel Temple Church

fice stands on the site of the old church building which was destroyed by fire. It was opened October 23, 1873 with Rev. C. Titus as its first pastor.

The sale of .75 acre from Daniel Anderson to United Brethren Church was made on November 1, 1860. In November, 1923, the church trustees bought from Virgil Stocker an additional 1.93 acre adjacent to the original tract to be used as an addition to the cemetery and as a community and picnic ground. In 1931 a .17 acre piece of ground located below the township road was sold to a Mr. Cramlet.

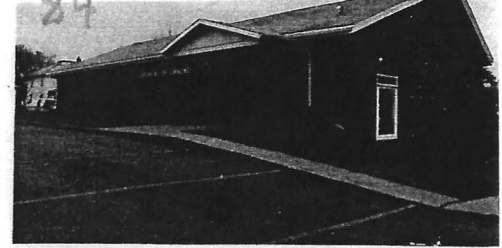
According to the original deed, it appears that the church was first named Mount Pleasant. In 1884 it was known as the United Brethren Centenary Church. In the 1920's the name was changed from Centenary to Kings United Brethren Church. In 1946, with the union of two denominations (United Brethren and the Evangelical Church), the name was changed to Kings Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1964 the church was officially incorporated. In 1968 our denomination merged with the Methodist Church and our name was changed again, this time to the present one of Kings United Methodist Church.

Celebrations in 1953 and 1973 were held for a homecoming and centennial, respectively, for the local church. Both were well attended.

Records indicate the following men served Kings Church from 1884 to the present: W.O. Siffert, 1884-1888; M.L. Oliver, 1888-1894; R. Watson 1894-1897; G.W. Grubbs, 1897-1902; M.L. Oliver, 1902-1904; W.A. Hevlow, 1904-1907; J.S. Jones, 1907-1909; A.E. Grubbs 1909-1910; T.J. Roby, 1910-1912; J.S. Jones, 1912-1913; E.R. Bennet, 1913-1914; A.F. Waterman 1914-1916; M.L. Oliver, 1916-1923; M.W. Rafeld 1923-1927; G. Van Tillbrough and C.F. Thompson 1927-1928; W.W. Frank, 1928; T.J. Robey 1928-1931; F.W. Langell, 1931-1935; S.W. Ellis 1935-1939; H.H. Davis 1939-1944; L.N. Carmony, 1944-1947; J.J. Wagner, 1947-1951; P.E. Wright, 1951-1954; Ernest Howell, 1954-1956; Alva Knoll, 1956-1958; George Smith 1958-1961; Joseph Miller, 1961-1963; Kenneth Reese, 1963-1964; Paul Baxter, Sr., 1964-1967; Roy Maneely, 1967-1969; Ralph Dennis, 1969-1972; John W. Wright, 1972-1976; Dean McElroy, 1976-1983 and Lee E. Fetters, 1983 to present. - Submitted by Mary Welch; Written by Doris Baker

Newcomerstown Church of Christ

The congregation of the Church of Christ in Newcomerstown had its beginning in the late 1890's when Christians met in homes in the area. As early as 1850, members were meeting in homes along Buckhorn Creek just north of the village. A record of the local congregation meeting was kept when the Yankee Ridge Church assisted the members under the evangelism of I.H. Pennell of Malta, Ohio. The church began meeting in the town hall on Church Street in 1901. The men who assisted most in the establishment of this congregation were



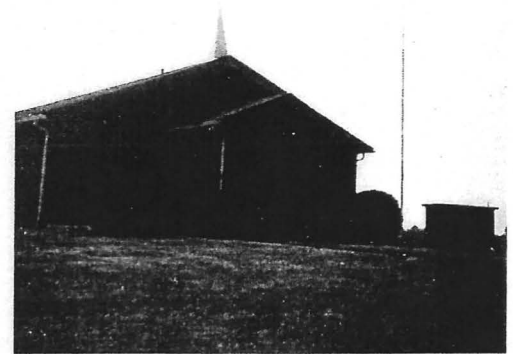
Peoples Community Church

the late Mitchell Atkinson, Amos Lynch and Harvey M. Eagon. Soon, a move was made to the Haver Building and later, to the McCulley Building for a meeting place. Services were held there until the erection of a building on the corner of State Street and McKinley Avenue in 1908. At that time, there was a membership of about forty. The congregation worshipped there for fifty-three years and then built the present place of worship in 1961. At present, there are approximately 140 members.

In 1923, J.H. Hines began his work as the first located evangelist with the congregation. Since that time, such men as Oliver Johnson, (1926), Ben S. Thisselle (1926-1931), Horace E. Taylor (1937), Lewis F. Mills (1940), Carl Finley (1940), Kenneth Adams (1942-1944), Ralph Bankes (1944-1946), Lawrence Stein (1946-1948), Wellington Gallagher (1948-1951), Fred Cline (1951-1955), David Reppart (1956-1964), Larry Arnold (1964-1969), Flavil Miller (1969-1973) and Gale Yoho (1974-to date) have worked with the local congregation.

Peoples Community Church

On February 18, 1839, William I. and Anna Maria Peoples deeded ground for the purpose of building a House of Worship for members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Also included in this deed was ground to be used for the burial of their dead. The trustees at that time were Asbury Jones, John C. Evans, William Carter, Thomas Carter, John Jones, Joseph Smith, Amos Simpkins, Elija Gilpen and William Peoples. The church was organized in about 1843 and very soon thereafter a log meeting house was erected. It was called the Peoples Methodist Episcopal Church.



Peoples Community Church

In 1857 this church was destroyed by fire, and the same year a new one was built in a different location. The membership at this time was about 100 and Rev. L. Timberlake was the minister. On October 19, 1889 an additional plot of ground was donated by John Booth for burial purposes. This is known as the new part of the cemetery.

In 1900 this second church was burned and services were held in the Booth Schoolhouse until agreement could be made to build another one. The new church was constructed on the same foundation during the summer and fall of 1901. This was accomplished through the cooperation of everyone in the community, and under the supervision of John Harding, who also furnished the lumber. This new church was re-organized on April 6, 1902. At this time the minister was Rev. Schiltz. The officers were Superintendent — Lonnie H. Meek, Assistant Superintendent — Charles Coutts, Secretary — Clara

Birmingham

Church celebr

GERALDINE OHDE

BIRMINGHAM CORRESPONDENT

BIRMINGHAM — Clear Fork Baptist Church will celebrate its 175th anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 10, with special speakers, special music, food and fellowship.

The church is located on Broadhead Road just off Freedom Road near Birmingham, nestled in a valley amid the rolling hills of northeast Guernsey County.

The celebration will start with a baptismal service to be held at 9:30 a.m. at a pond on the farm of David and Carol Beal. There will be no Sunday School and the morning worship will begin at the church at 10:30 a.m., featuring special music by the Clear Fork Baptist Choir. The morning speaker will be Dr. C. Jeff Wood, executive minister of the American Baptist Churches of Ohio from Granville.

A basket dinner will be held at approximately 12:30 p.m. followed at 2 p.m. by another service. Area residents who have been members of the church for 50 years or more will be honored. The afternoon speaker will be Rev. William Humphrey, who pastored Clear Fork Baptist Church from 1957 to 1961, along with the Old Cambridge Baptist Church.

The Rev. James Ohde, the current pastor for almost 15 years, invites area residents and former members to attend the day's activities.

The Clear Fork Baptist Church was first established during the early settlement of Monroe Township in Guernsey County. On April 20, 1822, a small and struggling congregation met as the Clear Fork Regular Baptist Church, under the leadership of Elder Benjamin Stone, a Baptist minister from Redstone Baptist Association of Pennsylvania. For some 20 years, the congregation worshiped in a plain log meeting house in Birmingham before moving downstream about 1¼ miles and building a new frame building, which remained in use for 36 years.

In the 1830's, a church was constituted at Newtown (now Peoli), with most of the membership coming from the Clear Fork area. This reduced the size of the Clear Fork Church and its financial income.

In 1851, Rev. T. Jones became pastor, remaining for 21 years. During this time, he baptized 229 persons and 74 persons were received by letter, making 303 members added to the church.

The present house of worship was built in 1880 and dedicated debt-free. Just two years later, however, church records were destroyed in a fire during the spring of 1882. George T. Jones was appointed chairman of a history committee and by August the group had compiled a church history, as best they could.

A church covenant, constitution and by-laws were adopted on Nov. 4, 1882. Over the next 60 years, a variety of improvements were made. An organ was purchased in 1902, followed by a piano in 1917. A new fence was also built around the front of the Clear Fork Baptist Cemetery. The present parsonage site was purchased in 1923. In 1924, a steel ceiling was installed in the church. The present parsonage was built in the 1940's.

In the early 1950's, members discussed building Sunday School rooms, but because of the proposed Salt Fork Dam and the possibility of flooding, nothing was done. Around 1960, a furnace room was built on the back of the church and an oil furnace was installed. In the 1960's, after Salt Fork Dam was built and there wasn't any increase in flooding, the congregation decided to add six Sunday School rooms and a foyer.

In 1982, the congregation built a "Fellowship Building." The addition of

10
Aug. 6, 1997

ates anniversary



PASTORAL SCENE

The Clear Fork Baptist Church near Birmingham will have activities celebrating its 175th anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 10. Photograph by Mrs. Geraldine Ohde.

the Fellowship Building opened the door for many community activities to be held there. Food commodities are distributed, the 50 Plus Club meets there, and, from time to time, the Rural Neighbors Club and the Birmingham Homemakers use the facilities. For many years, the Clear Fork Baptist Church has sponsored the Birmingham Cub Scout Pack and Boy Scout Troop. Clear Fork Baptist Church and the Birmingham United Methodist Church also take turns hosting the Birmingham Community Vacation Bible School. The church also uses the Fellowship Building for their mother/daughter banquet, annual homemade ice cream social, an annual "Harvest Supper" and other events.

Families from Clear Fork Baptist Church were instrumental in starting the Old Cambridge Baptist Church. In 1907, the Clear Fork Baptist Church was a member of the Northern Baptist Convention, which is now known as the American Baptist Churches of Ohio. The church is a member of the Cambridge Baptist Association.

"Clear Fork Baptist Church is a small rural church that God has used as a light house for the community," said Rev. and Mrs. Ohde. "With God's help and guidance, Clear Fork Baptist Church will continue to serve Him, lead others to His Kingdom and continue to support missions, locally and overseas."

KINGS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Kings United Methodist Church is located close to the center of Oxford Township, Tuscarawas County, Ohio on Township Road #107. The land for Kings Church and Schoolhouse was originally part of the Homestead of Richard and Mary King. According to History of Tuscarawas County Ohio Illustrated 1884 by Warner, Beers & Co., Chicago, "this church was organized about 1855 when the first structure was built. The present edifice, 32 x 36 feet in size, stands on the site of the old church building that was destroyed by fire. It was opened October 23, 1873 with Rev. C. Titus as its first pastor".

Sale of $\frac{3}{4}$ acre from Daniel Anderson to United Brethren Church was recorded in Tuscarawas County Court House on November 1, 1860 (Deeds — Vol 43, Page 470). This deed reads, in part, as follows: "Know all men by these presents, that we Daniel Anderson and Margaret his wife of the County of Tuscarawas in the State of Ohio, in consideration of the sum of Twenty Five Dollars in kind paid by Benjamin Betts, Wm N. Anderson & Daniel Anderson Trustees of the United Brethren Church at Mount Pleasant of the County of Tuscarawas and State of Ohio have bargained and sold."

In November 1923 the church trustees bought from Virgil Stocker an additional 1.93 acre adjacent to the $\frac{3}{4}$ acre church property to be used as an addition to the cemetery and as a community and picnic ground (Deeds — Vol 195, Page 176). In 1931 a .17 acre piece of ground located below the township road was sold to Cramlet (Deeds — Vol 213, Page 548). The church presently owns 2.51 acres. According to the original deed, it appears that the church was first named Mount Pleasant. In 1884 it was known as The United Brethren Centenary Church. In the 1920's the name was changed from Centenary to Kings United Brethren Church. In 1946, with the union of two denominations (United Brethren and the Evangelical Church), the name was changed to Kings Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1964 the church was officially incorporated. In 1968 our denomination merged with the Methodist Church and our name was changed again, this time to the present one of Kings United Methodist Church.

Kings Church has been traced back through conference records to 1884. At that time it became an appointment on the newly founded Centenary Circuit, Muskingum Conference

Kings UMC





ROUTE 36 EAST OF NEWCOMERSTOWN

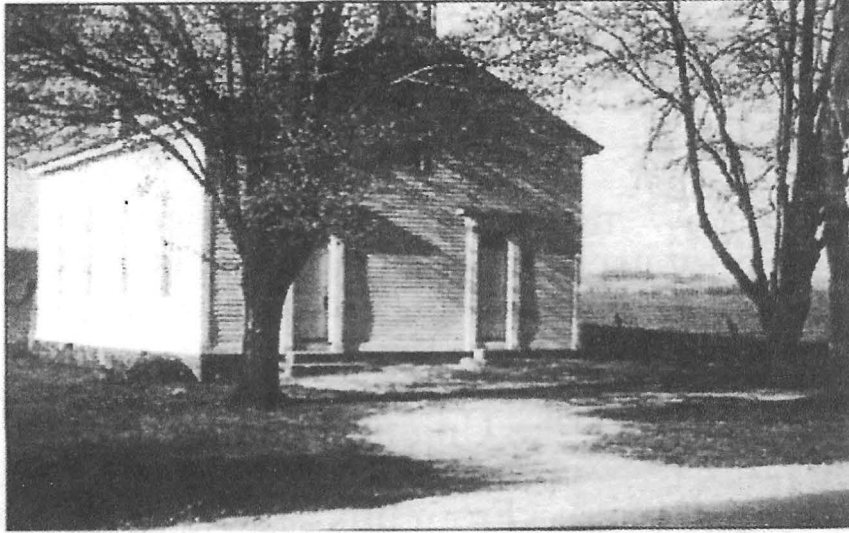


JULY 1958

1958
KINGS Church and School House
KINGS RIDGE RD.

ISLETA METHODIST CHURCH

90



The original configuration of the "Little White Church"
1858 to 1940

Isleta Methodist Church

The United Methodist Protestant Society was organized around 1830 or 1832 by Joel Dalby in Moses Morgan's barn, on the south side of CR 9 just west of its intersection with TR 257, where the first several meetings were held. After the organization, meetings were conducted in nearby Union schoolhouse. In 1840 a great revival was held on White Eyes plains.

Some of the charter members were the Moses Mongans, the Joseph Mulvanes, the John Stouts, the John Mulvanes, the George Leighningers, Catherine Fletcher, Joseph Evans and Jenkins Whiteside. Some of the first preachers were Mr. Baker, Thrapp, Stephens, Hamilton and Hissey.

In 1858 the present site was donated by Henry and William Wolfe and the Little White Church was built by Lewis Combs, carpenter. The high ceilinged, rectangular structure was heated with two pot-bellied stoves, one on either side of the room. The altar was at the north end and twin entrance doors at the south. In 1909 the church was remodeled, a bell installed and the name changed to the Isleta Methodist Protestant Church.

In 1946-47 a basement, coal furnace and kitchen were installed. In 1958 four new Sunday School rooms and a parlor were added to the north and west sides and a new kitchen, oil-fired furnace and restrooms installed in the basement. The main entrance was moved to the north end of the church and the alter to the south. In 1985 the stained-glass windows, which had been purchased from the Newcomerstown College Street Methodist Church after it was damaged by a tornado and torn down during the 1950s, and a ramp for the handicapped were installed.

SITE OF PLEASANT HILL CHURCH



26

Newcomerstown Schools

The first school in the pioneer history of the township was taught by Jacob Miller, son-in-law of Nicholas Neighbor in 1818 at his cabin north of the river, near the county line.

Another school was said to be taught by Seth Hart in the two room cabin of the Stoffer family father east along the river in the area of Pilling St.

Two small school houses were in the present limits of Newcomerstown, the first school was a log school house, which also served as a community center, built about 1820 on the south side of the old Pioneer Cemetery on Bridge St. on an acre of land provided by Andrew Creter for half to be a burial ground on the north side and a school on the south. Another school was on the lot west of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Between the years of 1825 and 1850 several other small school houses were constructed in and around the village. The Dame School, a private kindergarten on Neighbor St. In 1846. Maria Pilling attended school in town, located about where the Presbyterian Church is now.

The parents paid individually for their childs tuition but only the most elementary instruction was available. The three "Rs" were the only studies followed and text books consisted of whatever literature the pioneers brought with them on their journey westward. The Bible was one of the mainstays of the reading class.

The Union School Building built on College St. was constructed in 1856. It was a two-story frame building topped with a bell tower. The two rooms on the first floor were used for the lower grades, those on the second floor for the higher grades. Two rooms were added in 1880. Also in 1880 a class of five students received certificates for completing a two-year teachers' course. It was later replaced by the East School on the same site in 1898. The four upper rooms were used as the High School, The first floor rooms were used for grades one to six. Since there was no auditorium in the Union School or the new East School building, commencements for the graduating classes were held in other buildings, The first graduating class was held in the Presbyterian Church on Friday June 2, 1882. Also used for 1883 & 1884 graduation classes. After that until 1924, when the High School on State St. was built, the stage of the Opera House was used for graduation exercises.

The East School was damaged in 1955 by a tornato and replaced soon after that with a new building.

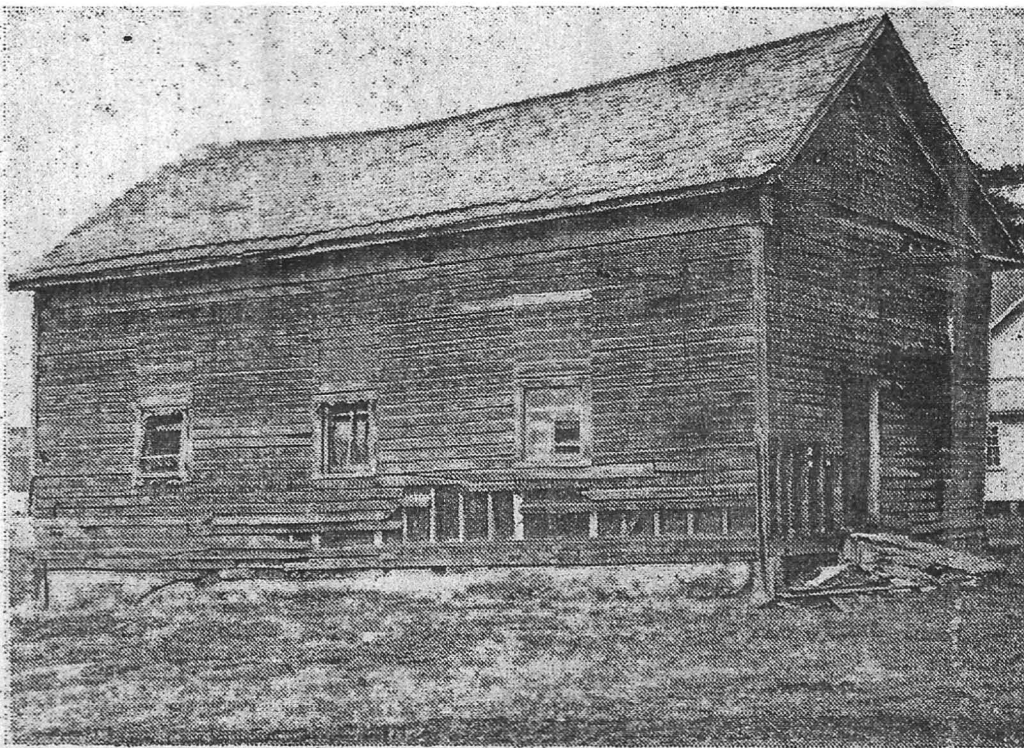
Newcomerstown West School was built in 1899 on the S. E. corner of State and River St. It was later called the Maplewood Elementary School. it was torn down about 1955. In 1957 a new West Elementary was built on Beaver St. A new High School was built in 1924 on the S. W. corner of State and River St. In 1968 a new High School was built again on Beaver St. and the High School on State St. became the Middle School.

In 1951 kindergarten classes were held in the school's annex which was located behind the State St. High School in a brick house built by John Miskimen in the 1860s In 1934 there was a Kindergarten School on the first floor behind the Post Office at 116 W. Main St.

WPA Nursery School 118 1/2 W. Main St. 1939

There was a Kindergarten School on Goodrich St. in 1954

Stocker Ridge School in Oxford Township, N. W. corner of Stocker Ridge Rd. and Dunlap Creek Rd. closed in 1954, students then come to Newcomerstown.



STARK PATENT SCHOOL — This building was used as a farm shed for many years looked very different from the time when children of the neighborhood flocked to its doors. The tree in the

E. STATE RD.



104 E. CANAL ST. 110 118

*SCHOOL WOOD'S BLDG.
110 E. CANAL ST.*

Our readers say:

History of Stark Patent Rd.

To the Editor:

Joe Mizer's interesting article about rural road names in the March 24 *Times-Reporter* asked, "What could be behind the naming of Stark Patent Rd. in Oxford Township?"

That road name and the words Stark Patent on a barn on Mrs. Carl Kaiser's farm near I-77 are all that are left to commemorate Oxford Township's very real connection with the Revolutionary War.

In 1801 a grant, or patent as it was called then, was issued by President Thomas Jefferson to Brig. Gen. John Stark for eight lots, along with two to his son, Lt. Archibald Stark, for their military service. Together they comprised 1,000 acres in the northeastern part of the township.

Unfortunately for Gen. Stark, an exhortation he made to his hastily assembled New Hampshire militiamen just before the Battle of Bennington in 1777 resulted in his wife being much longer remembered. "There are your enemies, the Redcoats and Tories," he shouted. "We must beat them back or tonight Molly Stark sleeps a widow!"

The tract, which began at the west boundary of land presently owned by Roger and Angeline George, extends up the Tuscarawas River valley beyond I-77 and northward into the hills, and never was occupied or perhaps even visited by any of the Stark family. The area's most infamous early resident was John Funston, murderer of the "post boy." On Dec. 30, 1825, after he had been convicted and hanged at New Philadelphia, his squatter family claimed the body, took it home and buried it somewhere in the Stark Patent hills.

The property remained intact until 1850 when a right of way was granted for the Steubenville and Indiana (now Conrail) Railroad. After that, farmers soon began buying the land and established a Stark Patent School. The building stood on the north side of E. State Rd., midway in what is now Booth Acres.

Children of the area attended that school until about 1900 when the district became part of Newcomerstown Exempted Village School District. In those days prior to yellow school buses, they rode in a big, black, mud-splattered hack drawn by a team of horses.

It is important to caution, in closing, that the county's rural residents who cherish their local history pay very close attention now to the names which may be arbitrarily posted on their roads by well-meaning but often poorly informed public officials. If protests are not lodged promptly, names of historical significance may be forever lost.

Lois Zimmer Craig,
Newcomerstown



COLLEGE ST.



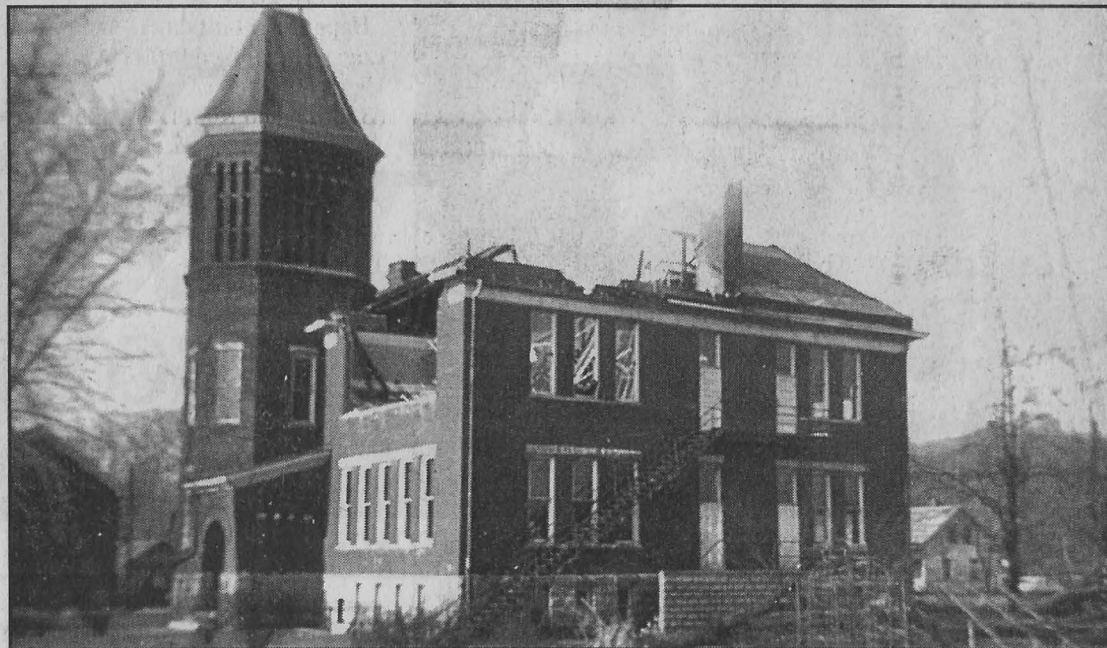
MAPLEWOOD



ELEMENTARY & HIGH SCHOOL
COLLEGE ST.

Postcard 1909

BUILT
1898



The tornado that ripped through Newcomerstown 50 years ago in the early morning hours of March 11, 1955, caused major damage to the old East School building. Shown above, the building sustained roof and upper level destruction and was later razed and a new school constructed on the same S. College St. site. The new building opened in 1957.



This picture postcard, courtesy of Joanie Berger of Newcomerstown, shows Newcomerstown High School long ago. A postmark date of Jan. 23, 1913, at 4 p.m. was stamped on the postcard, mailed for one cent.

Postcard c1910



The old Maplewood School that stood at the corner of State and River streets in Newcomerstown until it was razed in the 1950s

BUILT 1899

BUILT 1899

NEWCOMERSTOWN HIGH SCHOOL S.W. CORNER OF STATE AND RIVER ST.



BUILT IN 1923



S.W. CORNER OF STATE & RIVER ST.



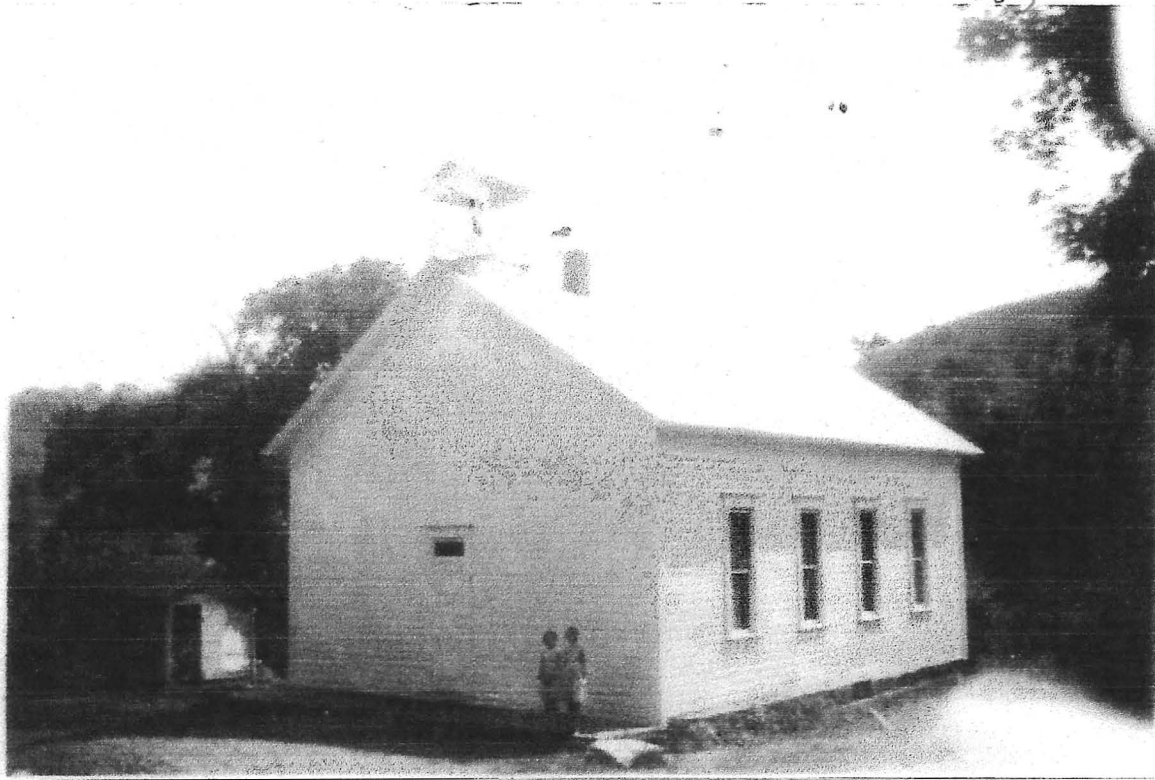
659 S. BEAVER ST. HIGH SCHOOL



WEST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL 517 S. BEAVER ST.



Newcomerstown East Elementary School
137 S. COLLEGE ST.



THE POST BOY SCHOOL

The Post Boy School was located in the little community of Post Boy on Tuscarawas County Road 3 - also known as Post Boy Road. The building was dismantled and the land where the school once stood is now owned by Clara Morrison.

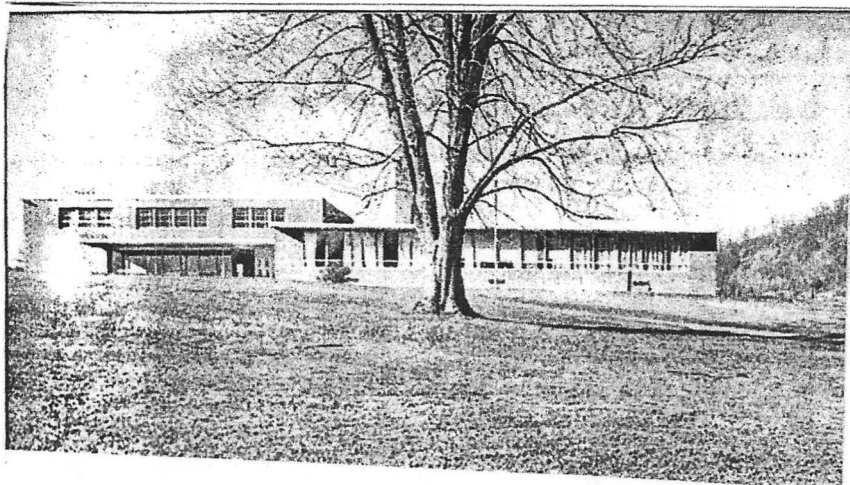
The school closed at the end of the 1944-45 school term and students were taken to Stocker School. Mrs. Lois Miller was the last teacher.

JAN 25
2006

Memory Lane

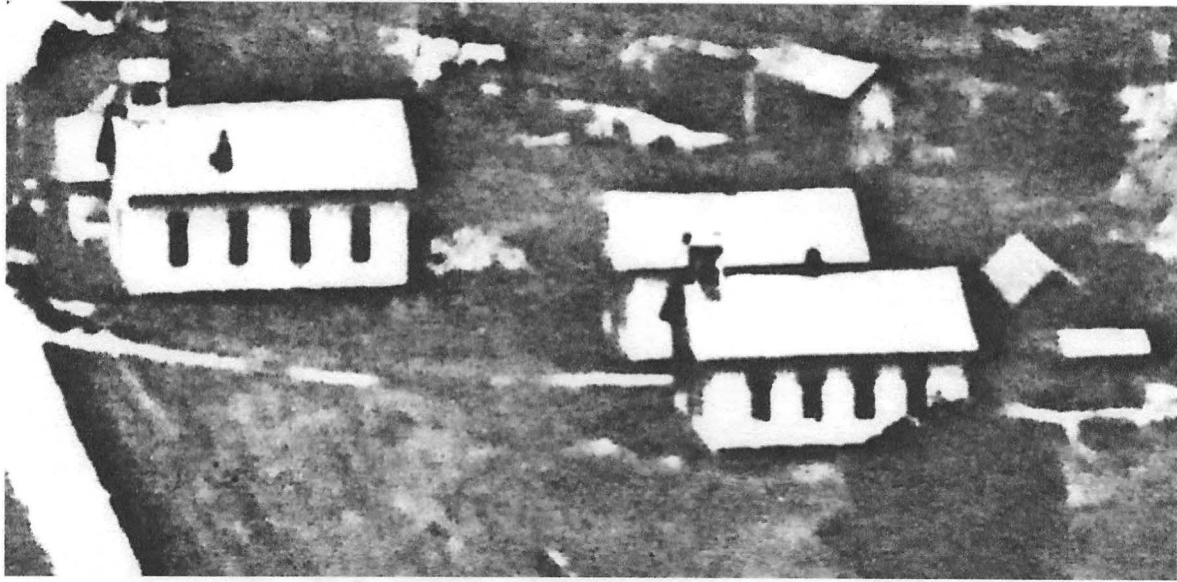


Students attending the Post Boy School in 1942-43 are shown in the above photo submitted by Reuben Etter, Post Boy Rd., Newcomerstown. Pictured are, front row (left to right) Shirley Walters, Reuben Etter and Roland Walters, and back row, Earl Etter, Barbara Walters, Wayne Addy, Eugene Addy, John Morrison, Joann Walters, and the teacher, Mrs. Miller.



WHEELING
ELEMENTARY
SCHOOL
GUERNSEY
1956

United Methodist Church also known as the Birds Run Bible Society,
log structure north of Guernsey at the corner County Road 33
(North Eighth St Road) and Township Road 382 (Zion Rd.) near the
Guernsey Cemetery. The existing building was built in 1893 in Guernsey



GUERNSEY METHODIST CHURCH AND SCHOOL



1958
School House

KINGS



THE KINGS SCHOOL

The Kings School is located on Oxford Township Road 107 also known as Kings Ridge Road. The building is still standing and is owned by the Kings Community Church which is adjacent to the school site. It is used for the annual reunions of the Oxford Township Schools.

The school closed at the end of the 1947-48 school term, and students were taken to Newcomerstown.

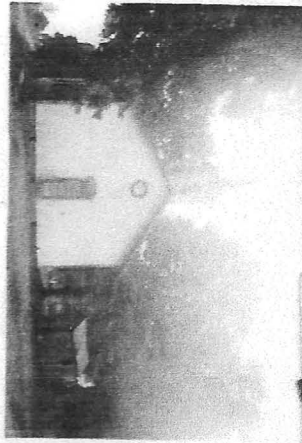
106



KINGS SCHOOL KINGS RIDGE RD.

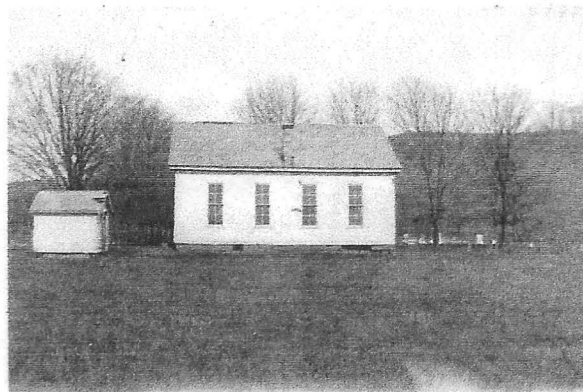


Everal School



OLD SCHOOL HOUSE

*Everal Church in 1923
Before the steeple was built*



In 1939, Anderson schoolhouse, which had been vacated, was moved to Guernsey and attached to the existing school house. Birds Run School was closed in 1950 so many of its students were transferred to Guernsey School, making it necessary to use the township house as a school room, too. The old coal house, and two outhouses are still standing today.

In 1956 the new school, called Wheeling Elementary School, opened and had all eight grades until 1972. Although Head Start classes took place in this building until 1982, today this building is used as a Community Center. A place for square dances, friends of the community club and Boy Scout meetings or Halloween parties. Area residents use the building for family reunions, weddings, graduation and birthday parties.

Glasgow

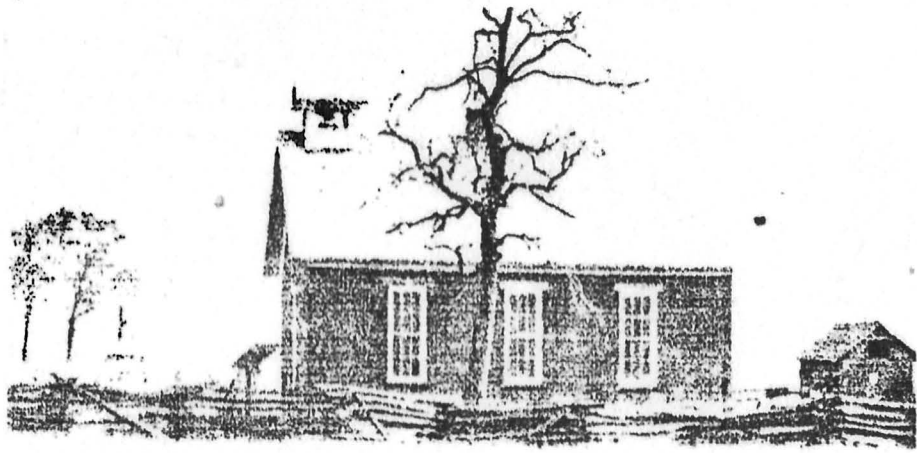
Today one must almost hunt for Glasgow. Scarcely a dozen houses remain of the 200 dwellings, the two churches, the three general stores and the eight saloons. The road, branching off Route 16, three miles east of Newcomerstown.

Birds Run, Ohio

On February 5, 1848, Washington Shoff platted a town on Wills Creek which he named Bridgeville. It is now known as Birds Run. For many years it was an important community center. In the village in 1943 there was a Methodist Episcopal and a Baptist Church. There was a general store run by L. D. Carruthers. There was a telegraph office and a train depot. There was a high school but only for the 9th and 10th grades.

After this most young people rode the train into Cambridge to finish their education. It cost them about \$6.00 per month train fare to ride to Cambridge.

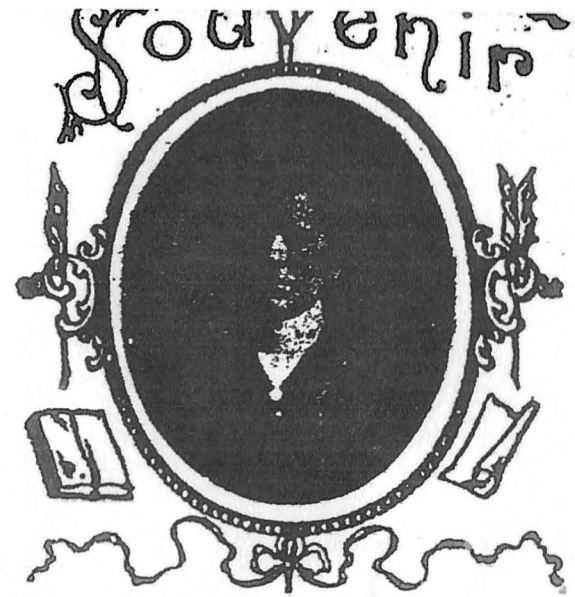
There was also a two story grange hall. Ice Cream socials were held in there. Forney and



Irish Ridge School (brick), Monroe Township



Irish Ridge School 1895 — Mrs. Clara DeVault of 20585 Wayland Drive, Southfield, Mich., furnished the picture of Irish Ridge School taken about 1895. Jasper Neel was the teacher. First row, 1 to r, Mary Coutts, Florence Neel, Lousi Little, Clement Eckelberry, Fred Braniger, Ernest Hursey, Orville Kimble, Emmett Hazlett. Second row, Charlie Braniger, Hugh Lytell, Joe Lytell, Lonnie Little, Alta Eckelberry, Clara Hazlett. Third row, Lola Little, Joseph Kennedy, Maggie Middleton, Nelta Neel, Manada Braniger, Elizabeth Little, William Eckelberry. Fourth row, William Kennedy, Mabel Frame, Lanie Coutts, Cora Neel, David Lee Fisher, Wood Kimble. Top row, Jasper Neel (teacher), and Faran Coutts.



Milnersville School,
Dist. No. 5, Monroe Tp.,
Guernsey Co., Ohio.

SEPT. 19, 1904-- MARCH 17, 1905.

Presented by
MARY UMSTOTT, Teacher.

SCHOOL OFFICERS

111

The Clear Fork one-room school was built on land granted to the Monroe Township Board of Education by the late George M. Aikin, with the provision that the land revert to him or to whoever owned the adjoining property when the school was no longer to be in operation.

Clear Fork School was located about midway between Odell and Birmingham, and just north of it was the Clear Fork United Presbyterian Church which no longer exists and the Clear Fork Baptist Church is approximately one-half mile to the east. The school and the churches were named after the Clear Fork Creek which flows through the valley nearby.

I, Kenneth Aikin, son of George M. Aikin, was a student for eight years at this school, as were my older sister and brother. I also returned to the school in 1931 as a 19-year old teacher and I have many fond recollections of my experiences as a pupil and a teacher there.

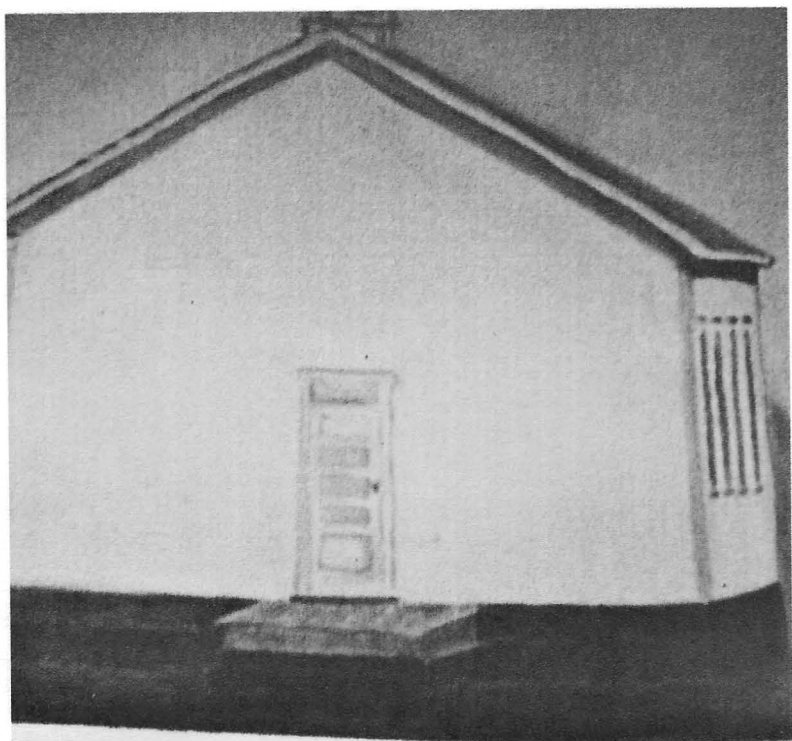
Many teachers were a part of Clear Fork School, many of whom I did not know or remember, but I will name the ones who were my teachers during my time as a pupil. They are: Hattie Bell Montgomery, Mabel Aikin Neel (my sister), Pearl Gibson Scott, Edna Cowden, and M.G. Fisher.

The school was closed in the 1940s and the building moved away, so nothing remains except the many pleasant and happy memories shared by former pupils and teachers.

Kenneth Aikin



STOCKER RIDGE SCHOOL



STOCKER SCHOOL

THE STOCKER SCHOOL

The Stocker School was located on Tuscarawas County Road 4 near the Arch Bridge over I-77. The road is known as Stocker Ridge Road.

In 1948 this school was made into a 3 room school. The school closed at the end of the 1953-54 school term and the pupils were transported to Newcomerstown. The building was then used as a community center where square dances and other types of entertainment were held.

Stocker School became a consolidated school in 1948. Some of the other schools closed that year, and those students were sent to Stocker School. Two extra rooms were built on at that time. The name was changed to Oxford School. Esta Hart taught the first three grades, Clara Beal taught 4th and 5th, Harry McFadden taught 6th, 7th, and 8th grades.

THE MUDSOCK (Bernice, Albany) SCHOOL (District No. 2)

On June 30, 1890 Thomas and Phoebe Grewell sold a parcel of land to the board of education for the sum of \$100 for a location on which to build a schoolhouse.

The Mudsock School was located in the hamlet of Bernice on Route 21 south of Newcomerstown, Ohio.

The school closed at the end of the 1929-30 school term and the pupils were transferred to the Hartwood School, the eighth grade to Newcomerstown. Mary Frazier was the last teacher. The building was dismantled.

The last pupils to attend the Mudsock School, September 2, 1929 to April 18, 1930 were:

Thelma Shurtz (1st gr.), Frederick Raines (1st gr.), Dennis Craigo (2nd gr.), Norma Dorsey (2nd gr.), Mary Jane Craigo (3rd gr.), Earl Quillen (3rd gr.), Twila Raines (4th gr.), Merle Dorsey (5th gr.), June Kees (5th gr.), William Dorsey (6th gr.), Richard Stoffer (6th gr.), Willard Bond (7th gr.), Willis Craigo (7th gr.).

Eighth Grade to Newcomerstown: Geraldine Casteel, Lewis Craigo, Paul Curby, Robert Stoffer.

Some of the early teachers were: J.D. Murphy, Clara Blair, Alma Kees, Mary Frazier.



WOLF SCHOOL 1911-12

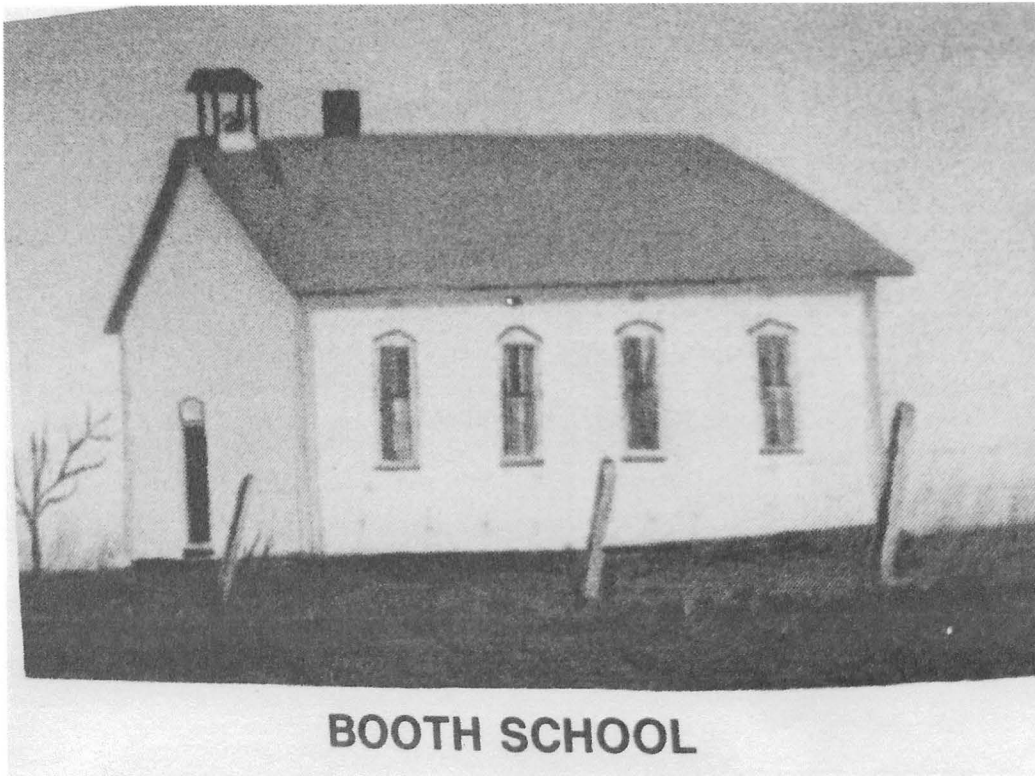
114

THE WOLF SCHOOL (District No. 2)

The land for the school was obtained from John Chapman and others on April 1, 1885. The new building was to be completed in 1901.

The schoolhouse was located across the railroad track, on the left side and contained two rooms with a moveable partition separating the rooms. The partition had felt sides and bottom to make it more sound-proof.

The duties of one of the early teachers in the high school called for him to supervise the Township Sub-district schools as well as perform his own janitorial work for a pay of \$65 per month. The school was closed in 1930 and the pupils were transferred to Newcomerstown. The building was sold and dismantled.

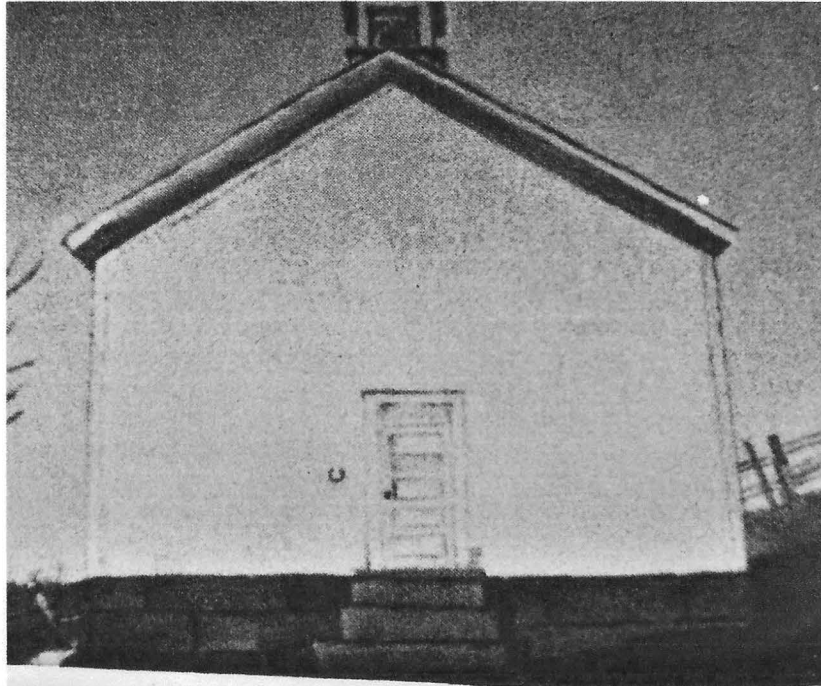


THE BOOTH SCHOOL

The old school building was located at the foot of Ella Fenstermaker's hill near the present I-77 overpass. The teachers were Ernest Hogue, Violet Black and Addison Hursey.

The new school was erected in 1889-90 on top of the hill at the intersection of County Road 3 and Township Road 4.

School was discontinued in May 1948. Clara Beal was the last teacher. The building was later sold to Merle Opphile who converted it into a dwelling.



PLEASANT VIEW SCHOOL

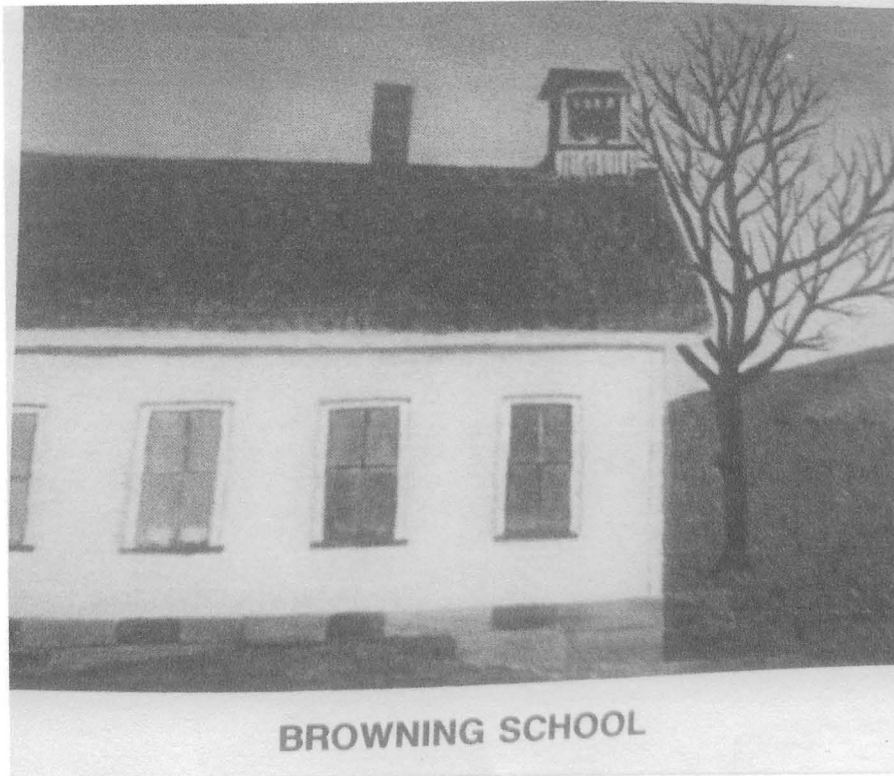
CHURCH ROAD TWP. RD. 107

THE PLEASANT VIEW SCHOOL

The Pleasant View School was located near the intersection of Oxford Township Roads 107 and 108. The road now bears the name Church Road.

The building is no longer standing. It is the site of two trailer homes. One half of the land is owned by Reagan Clark and the other half is owned by Edith Norman.

The school closed at the end of the 1945-46 school term. The building burned after being struck by lightning.



BROWNING SCHOOL

ROUTE 21 SOUTH OF NEWCOMERSTOWN

THE BROWNING SCHOOL

The Browning School was located on State Route 258, just east of the I-77 overpass. The building is still standing but it has been converted into a dwelling which is owned by Dwain Sanders.

The school closed at the end of the 1941-42 school term.



BROWNING SCHOOL



FRONT ROW (left to right) ...

GLASGOW SCHOOL ca. 1895

... by An

THE GLASGOW SCHOOL (District No. 10)

The school building was built as a Catholic Church and when hard times came it was furnished and used as a school. The school closed about 1921 and Mr. Riggle transported the students to Port Washington in an old Buick.

THE LICK RUN SCHOOL (District No.3)

On June 26, 1838, John Scott was paid \$5 for land on which to build a school.

The Lick Run School was located in the southwest part of Salem Township on County Road Property.

When Lick Run School closed, the building was sold, dismantled and erected on the Oliver



LICK RUN SCHOOL 1922

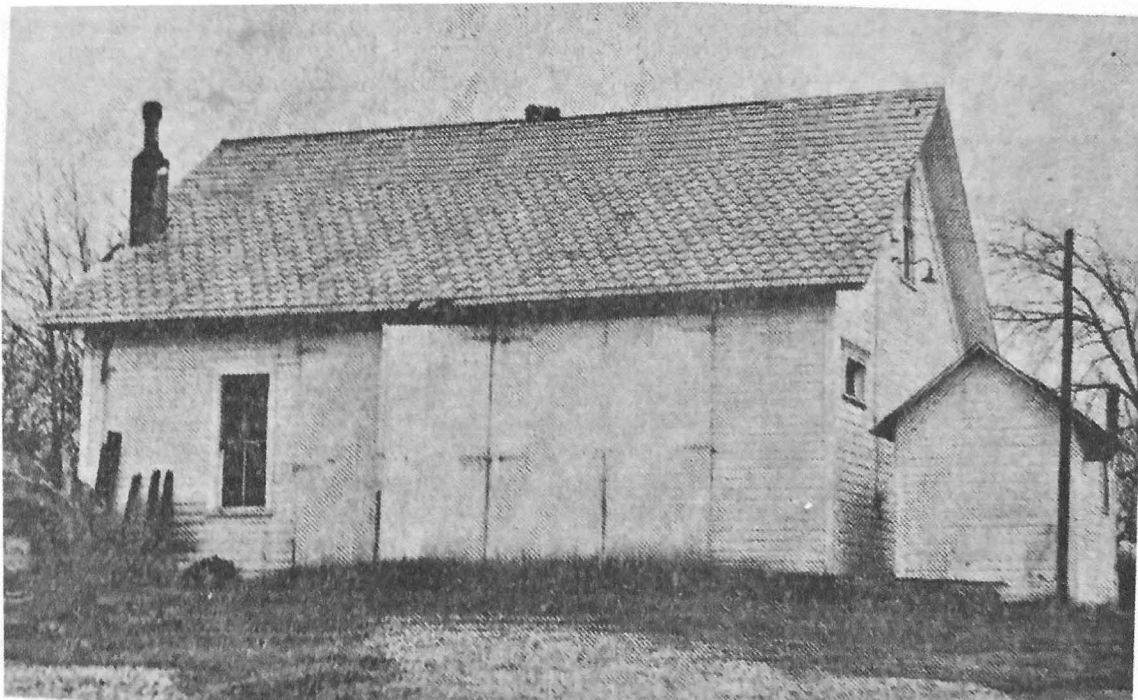


CENTENARY (Stocker) SCHOOL
 (No Information was available for this picture)

THE CENTENARY (STOCKER) SCHOOL (District No. 6)

On July 7, 1883 Andrew P. Stocker sold a parcel of land for a school site. A new building was erected, and completed on September 9, 1887 at a cost of \$784. The structure was 12 feet high, 36 feet long, and 26 feet wide. It was located on Salem Township Road 22 in the southeast corner of lot number 33. The old building was sold for \$19.50.

The school was closed in 1926 and the pupils were transported to Port Washington in a horsedrawn school bus.



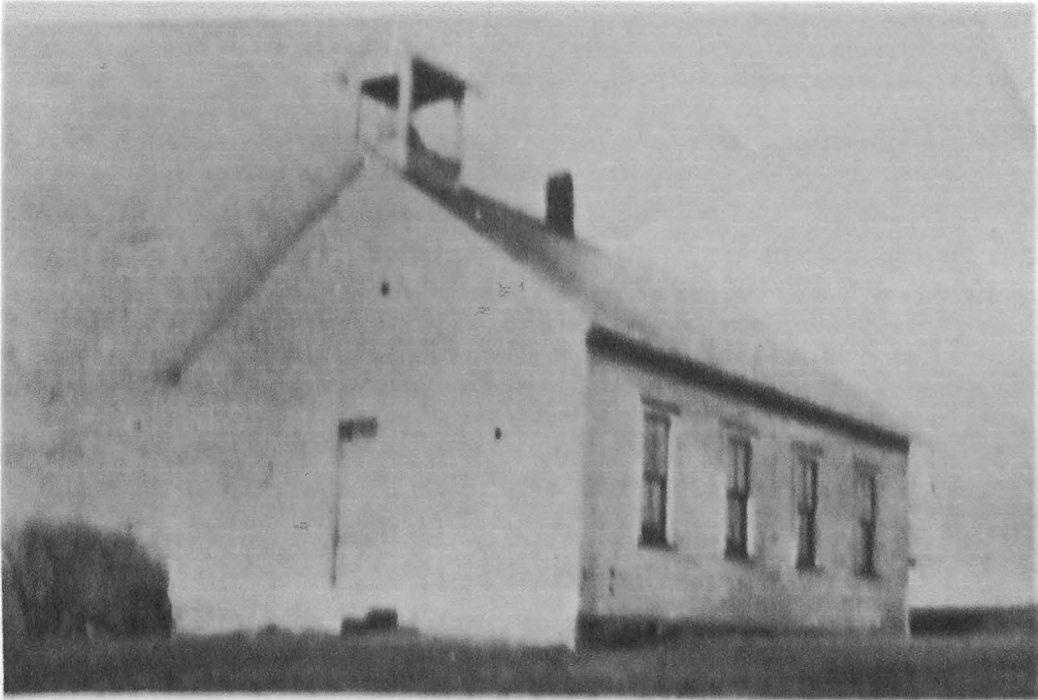
GILMORE SCHOOL

THE GILMORE SCHOOL (District No. 7)

On May 3, 1854, James Treacle, for \$11 sold land, lot 51, to the Board of Education on which to build a school building.

The board members were Brice Blair, John Woodard, Hugh Smith, James Finney, John Richards, John Murphy, and John Miller.

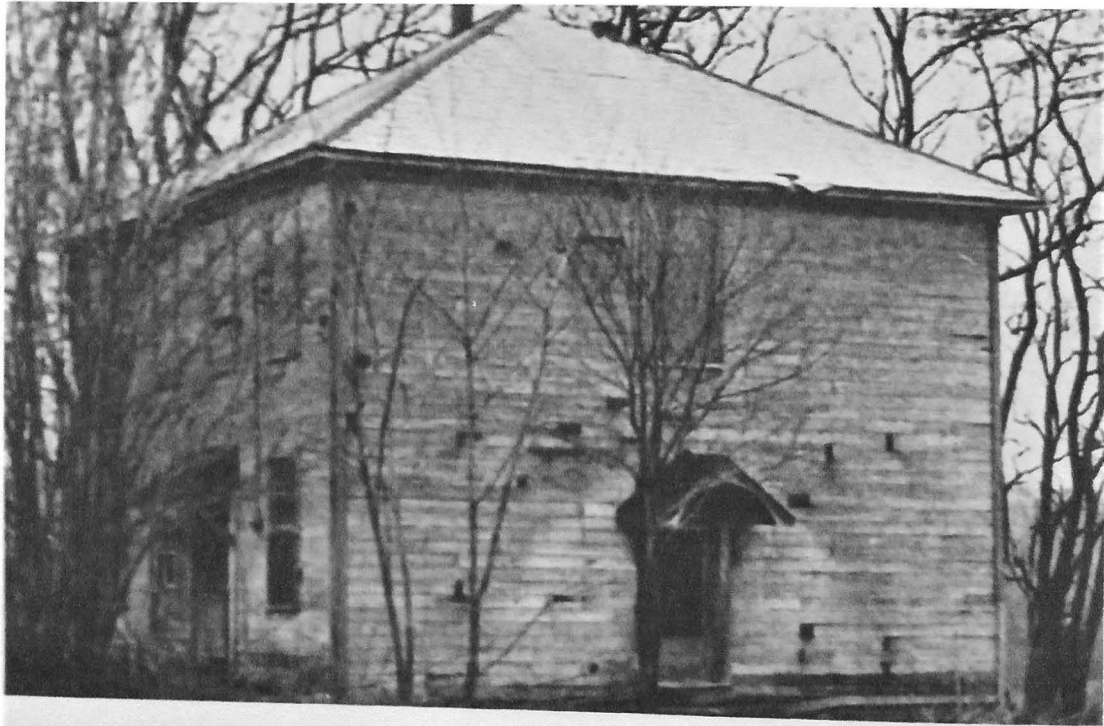
On April 16, 1885 lots 70-71 in Gilmore were sold by Abraham Schneider for \$100 to the Board of Education for a new school building.



HARTWOOD SCHOOL

THE HARTWOOD SCHOOL (District No. 3)

On November 13, 1841, the school directors bought a part of lot 18, range 2, township 5, quarter township 2, from Thornton McFee for a fee of \$20 and the right to use a spring for water on the west side forever. Later, May 27, 1901, James Hill sold 1.36 acres to the school for \$118.50. The school was located on Township road #126 near the Hartwood Church.



NEWTOWN SCHOOL

THE NEWTOWN (Peoli) SCHOOL (District No. 1)

On August 24, 1835 Johnathan Hoge, for a fee of two dollars, granted to the school directors, David Miller, Michael Tidrick, and John Hudson, a 99-year lease for a plot of land on which to build a schoolhouse. At the end of 99 years the land was to revert to the original farm.

The Newtown School was a two-room building which stood along Route #258 west of Newtown (Peoli) in the vicinity of the home of Denton T. (Cy) Young. This was the first recorded school district in Washington Township.

Some of the teachers were as follows: D.K. Taylor, Charles Hormell, Price Taylor, Clarence Hursey, Edna Cowden, Ruth Garwood, Mary Foster Wyrich, Mary Frazier Phillips.

THE KAIL SCHOOL (District No. 9)

Adam Kail sold the land for the school on April 12, 1852. In 1913 school was discontinued and the pupils transferred to the Wolf School.

Mr. A.C. Stocker purchased the school building on June 22, 1916.



KAIL SCHOOL



THE BUNKER HILL SCHOOL (District No. 11)

The Bunker Hill sub-district was established August 1894. A nearby hill was called "Bunker Hill", hence the name of the school. Jacob Porcher sold the land for \$75. Gutinsohn & Company of Gnadenhutzen was awarded the contract on his bid of \$640.50 to erect the building, using the same specifications as for the No. 6 building. He was awarded an additional contract to build a coal house and two privates at proper places in the school yard on his bid of \$5.

Martin L. Neff was the first teacher at Bunker Hill. He received \$1.80 per day which included the janitor work.

The school was closed at the end of the 1925-26 school term and the pupils were transferred to the Port Washington school. The building was sold to Herman Ruppenthal in May 1928. The schoolhouse is now a dwelling.

THE GLENWOOD SCHOOL (District No. 8)

On February 2, 1837 David Morris transferred land to the school directors for the first Glenwood School.

The following information is from an article in the Newcomerstown News, Wednesday, June 18, 1980. It was written by Iris Fruchey with information furnished by Marian Murphy.

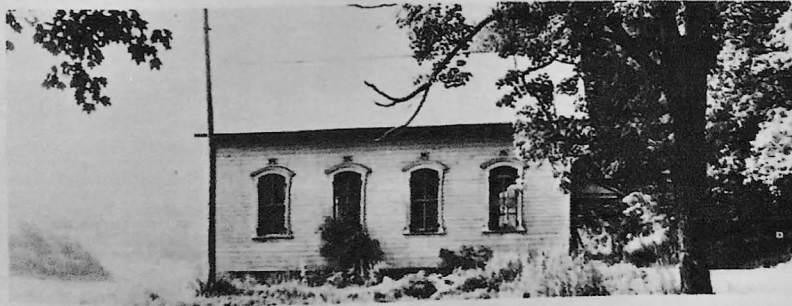
The Glenwood School was built in 1898 for the sum of \$659.65. It housed the first eight grades of children of the area farmers. An architectural oddity of the building was a small open slit above each window. It was felt then that fresh air was an absolute necessity for good health, so many schools were designed with these openings to let in fresh air. Of course, the air was coming in around windows and doors and in the winter, students often felt they had more fresh air than they could tolerate.

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Mrs. Claude Mizer (Jesse Mae Mizer) was one of the school's teachers. After her marriage, she and her husband built a house adjoining the school property and later "boarded" school teachers. (Editor's note - Jesse Mae celebrated her 100th birthday in August 1991.)

Wayne Mizer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Claude Mizer attended the school until he was a sixth grader in 1930. The school was then closed and pupils began attending the Newcomerstown schools. Wayne recalled that a young student nearly drowned near the school while playing hide and seek. The youth jumped into a stone culvert and a large stone fell on him, pinning him in the water. His cries brought the other children running and he was freed.

The old Glenwood School building which was located on County Road 19, collapsed and fell on June 3, 1980. A group of neighbors in the area formed a clean-up party and removed the rubble in a matter of a few hours. Now the Glenwood school is nothing more than a memory.



GLENWOOD SCHOOL



GLENWOOD SCHOOL

The Pleasant Valley School became a part of the Salem-Washington Local School District in 1949. In 1952 the school was consolidated into the new Washington Township School. Ruth Ripley and Esta Hart were the teachers at this time.



PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL

THE PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL (District No. 5)

On January 19, 1838, John Hudson and John McFadden on a 99-year lease transferred land to the school directors, J.M. Honnold and Jacob Miller, for school use.

On September 30, 1890, Thomas McFadden sold one acre of land for \$100 to the Board of Education: Henry Woodard, Josiah Murphy, McKenzie Young, John Peoples, David Peoples, Theodore Lanning and John P. Woodard.

The Pleasant Valley School operated until the district was annexed to Port Washington. Washington Township Grange purchased the school property and later sold an acre of the land to the Washington Township Trustees who built a Township Hall there. The schoolhouse is still standing (1992).

According to the "Goal" by the Gnadenhutzen School 1925, a subscription school was established at Pleasant Valley in 1825. In 1830 the township was organized into five districts. The first schoolhouse was built in district No. 5, known as Pleasant Valley. Neldrew Weeden was the first teacher. Some of the other early teachers were, Alfred Baldwin, H.M. Anderson, William Spooner, John W. Right, and Isaac Coutts. The salary paid these teachers reached as high as \$10 per month, for a twenty-six day month.

In 1852 the first log school building was replaced by a more modern frame building. In 1889 a resolution was passed by the Board of Education to establish a High School at Pleasant Valley. The first teacher in the high school was Lloyd Murphy.

Some of the early graduates of the high school were: Prof. H.L. Rietz, Dr. J.R. McFadden, Dr. B.L. George, Rev. O.M. Peoples, Rev. H.L. Peoples, and Dr. J.A. Hagan.



SANDS SCHOOL March 19, 1912 (Corday Latham, Teacher)

THE SANDS SCHOOL (District No. 4)

Andrew B. Sands on April 11, 1881, transferred land for the Sands School. The school was discontinued in 1920 and the pupils were assigned to the Glenwood School.

THE MANSFIELD HILL'S SCHOOL (District No. 1)

No specific location for this school has been found. In the History of Tuscarawas County by Mansfield 1884, p. 634, we find that a Virginian, Jesse Hill, came to the Tuscarawas Valley in 1806, and leased land in the southern part of the Salem Tract east of the river. In 1824 he purchased lot 13, east of the river where he lived until his death in 1844. Charles Hill, brother of Jesse came about the same time and leased lot 8.

On the basis of this information and the fact that in 1897 the Hill's school was discontinued and the pupils transferred to Glasgow, it is believed that the school was located in the southeastern part of the township.

Teachers were: J.H. Neff (1893-95); Lidia Helter (1895-96); Sarah Stocker (1896-97).

THE BETHEL SCHOOL (District No. 5)

The Bethel building was erected on land sold to the Board of Education by William Heister on June 14, 1881. It was located near the present Decker home on Tuscarawas County Road #21. The lot was near the cemetery.

The school was closed at the end of the 1926-27 school term and the pupils were transferred to Stone Creek. The land reverted to the Robert Dietrich property. Floyd Fillman purchased the building and moved it.

Board minutes of October 12, 1901 noted that Lewis Buss whitewashed the interior of the schoolhouse for \$3.00.

THE CAPPEL SCHOOL (District No. 4)

There was a school on the Henry Skaer farm a short distance west of Gilmore. This school was closed in 1904. On March 1, 1839, Mordicai Davidson sold one-half acre of land for a school building, Cappel 4, for \$5. NW $\frac{1}{4}$, 5th twp., R. 2, Military district.

THE HAUPERT SCHOOL (District No. 7)

The Hauptert School was located in the northeast corner of Salem Township on Township Road No. 262. The land site for the school was purchased from John Knight on May 11, 1846.

The school was closed in June 1917 and the pupils were assigned to Bunker Hill School and to Port Washington. On May 12, 1923 the Hauptert Schoolhouse was sold to Clyde Cramblet for \$105.00. The bell was sold to E.B. Schwab for \$3.00.