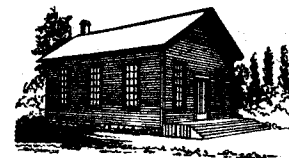




"Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history." — A. Lincoln

FLASHBACKS



Revealing glimpses of our creative past

Official newsletter of the
UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

Vol. VI No. 2

May, 1977

ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Conference Historical Society will again be at the supper hour on Friday, June 3, 1977, at 5:30 p.m. at Green Lake, in one of the small rooms off the Pillsbury Dining Hall. All members and interested people are invited.

MRS. NULTON SENDS TREASURES

Mrs. Ethel Nulton, the former editor of FLASHBACKS, who now lives at 919 North Street, Sun Prairie, is giving the ARCHIVES a collection of historic pamphlets and programs, among them one on the history of the Maiden Rock Methodist Church, 1858-1958, and one on the 120th anniversary of the Pepin United Methodist Church.

THE PILGRIMAGE

This year members and friends of the Conference Historical Society will go to Green Bay.

The pilgrimage will be on Saturday, October 8, from 1 to 4 p.m.. Meet at First United Methodist Church, 501 Howe Street, Green Bay.

This Green Bay church is the oldest continuous United Methodist congregation in Wisconsin, having been organized in July, 1832. In addition to this historic place, the group will visit the site of Fort Howard where the congregation first worshipped. On the return home a stop will be made at the Oneida United Methodist Church and at the "Smithfield" site.

People who come on the Pilgrimage October 8 may wish to come in the morning and visit Heritage Hill State Park that opens this year outside of Green Bay. The park has old buildings from Green Bay's cultural history (moved to one location).

* THE *
* PAST *
* LIVES *
* ON *
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* PRESENT *
* AND *
* FUTURE. *

A RARE PICTURE

While sorting and packing preparatory to moving, Mrs. Nulton came across a picture which belonged to her great aunt who was the last of a large family. From her mother's possessions, Mrs. Nulton received it in 1944. The back of the picture reads:

MISS G. BENEDICT

2nd licensed lady preacher
of the M. E. Church.

Taylor and Graham
Art Emporium
Elkhorn, Wis.

Mrs. Nulton guesses from the type of bonnet Miss Benedict is wearing that she preached in Elkhorn between 1845 and 1855.

The picture will be copied for the United Methodist Archives. Let's see if we can get the story to accompany it.

PARISH OF THE HILLS

In 1973 the church at Rewey, Wisconsin, was joined with Linden, Mineral Point, and Willow Springs to be called the PARISH OF THE HILLS.

The story of the Rewey Church written by Mrs. D. Thomas some years ago and taken from the collection of Mrs. Leonard Knebel goes back in memory to 1836 when the little group of early settlers had no regular services. They belonged to no formal circuit unless perchance the venerable Alfred Brunson who was at Prairie du Chien claimed them. Ministers from southern Wisconsin or northern Illinois, took care of them until in 1854 they became a part of the Montford circuit.

The history is beautifully illustrated and carries the account on down through the years including the early annual conferences, the ministers coming from the Platteville Church, and the building of the present church and parsonage.

Thank you, Mrs. Knebel.

FROM LOMIRA TO LUCERNE

(by Raymond M. Veh, Thiensville, Wis.)

Wisconsin United Methodists with an Evangelical United Brethren heritage gathered at Lomira, Wisconsin, September 11-12, 1976, for a bi-centennial camp celebration and home-coming. Services were held in Trinity United Methodist Church which is on the site of the church camp with a 123-year tradition. During the decades thousands of members of the denomination annually trekked here. The denomination's General Convention of Christian Education held here in 1916 brought representatives from across the nation and Canada to share in a week's program.

Saturday evening Rev. Paul Van Loon, Ostburg, Wis., opened the weekend program and celebration with a presentation of the American Faith and Patriotism in slides and song. A hymn sing concluded the program.

Sunday morning Rev. Milton W. Giese, former United Methodist state executive, presented a sermon on "Religion: Form or Force?". Sunday afternoon many shared in reminiscences of camps held on this site over the decades. Trinity Church parishioners presented a model on the camp ground of earlier days as part of the exhibits of pictures and memorabilia of early gatherings. At this time a memorial was unveiled for Rev. James Klein, a son of the congregation, now deceased, who sang in the Wisconsin Conference EUB quartet. The Trust Company quartet as it is now called was present to sing. The memorial will be a new pipe organ for the sanctuary.

Speaker at the evening service was the Rev. Dr. Raymond M. Veh, editor emeritus of the United Methodist Church, now residing in Thiensville, Wis., who was on the leadership roster of the Lomira Assembly several different years. His theme was "Memories of Tomorrow."

In 1952 the Wisconsin Conference decided to concentrate camp activities at a new site on Lake Lucerne, Wis., and the Lomira Camp was phased out. The Lucerne Camp is one of the vital centers now of the Wisconsin United Methodist Conference.

The State Historical Library is still an excellent source for both background and local history with more than a million items. The library also is valuable for its census reports of the state of Wisconsin going back to 1850. Only the 1890 one which was destroyed by fire is missing.

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