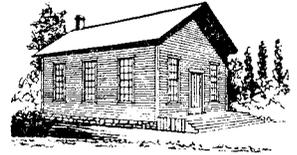




"Fellow-citizens, we cannot escape history." — A. Lincoln

FLASHBACKS



Revealing glimpses of our creative past

Official newsletter of the
UNITED METHODIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN

Vol. IV No. 3

September, 1975

1776 THE BICENTENNIAL 1976

The celebration of the Bicentennial is less than a year away. Programs are coming into action now.

One of our great heritages is **FREEDOM TO WORSHIP** according to the dictates of one's religious heritage and inner conscience. Has this changed in the past two hundred years. If not, let us

REJOICE.

Whether the church seeks to withdraw from society or not, it is a cultural part of living, individually and collectively. Let it seek not merely to conform, but to guide. Let the Bicentennial be a time of

SOUL SEARCHING.

2,500 COPIES SOLD
(more available)

In this comprehensive history **CROSS AND FLAME IN WISCONSIN**, there are 400 pages of historical narrative, significant pictures, a list of over 2,500 ministers who have served in the present or predecessor conferences.

The volume is sold at rock-bottom prices: \$4.00 for the hard over book; \$3.00 for the paperback

Send orders to: Service Department, 325 Emerald Terrace, Sun Prairie, Wisconsin 53590

DEPENDING UPON YOU

Dues paid regularly by the members constitute the only financial support of the United Methodist Historical Society of Wisconsin.

At its annual meeting in June, the Rev. Ethel Nulton, Waupaca, who has served with exceptional devotion and effectiveness since the society was formed, declined reelection due to health problems. In her place the Rev. Richard A. O'Neil was elected. Dues for renewal and new applications for membership should be sent to:

Rev. Richard O'Neil
111 Reagles St., Box 96
Arlington, Wisconsin 53911

Single membership, annual - \$2.00

Family, annual dues - \$3.00

Patron, annual dues - \$10.00

(this includes a subscription of **METHODIST HISTORY**, published quarterly by the general Commission on Archives and History.)

Life membership - \$50.00

Money collected by the society is used to publish its newsletter, finance its activities (such as the annual pilgrimage and at the present time is being drawn on to help finance a micro-film viewer for the conference archives housed in Evergreen Manor.

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CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Only six per cent of the population held church membership at the time of the Revolution. By 1850 it had reached only sixteen per cent. More Americans joined the Christian Church from that time until 1960 than in any other country in any period of history.

From statement of Dr. Starkhouse in "Keeping You Posted," News Service of the United Church of Christ, May, 1975.

MONROE SEEKS TO SAVE CHURCH BUILT IN 1869

Residents of Monroe, a Green County town of about 9,000 which claims to be the Swiss cheese capital of the United States have banded together to save a century old church.

The Monroe Arts and Activities Center, Inc. was formed some time ago when it was learned that the Old Methodist Church was to be sold.

The church is a stately edifice of yellow Milwaukee brick with a tall spire. It was designed by E. Townsend Mix, a famed architect of that period and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It is estimated that \$30,000 is needed. Mrs. Frank Stiles, founder of the MAAC, is leading the group in meeting the challenge.

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The Staver Church near Monroe, Wisconsin will celebrate its centennial this fall.

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Give CROSS AND FLAME as Christmas gifts to United Methodist friends.

If you do not have one, get one for yourself. You'll be glad you did!

WHAT TWO CHURCHES DID

There was a New England church in Revolutionary Days that kept the town's supply of gunpowder under the pulpit.

A Pennsylvania church once had the Liberty Bell under its flooring.

From A.D. of the United Church of Christ, September, 1975.

110th BIRTHDAY

The Dayton Corners Church in Richland County celebrated its 110th anniversary on August 3, 1975

In 1856 a class was organized in the home of Lorenzo Woodman, the Rev. John Walker being the minister. A church building was completed in 1865, the land given by James and Eliza Wheaton Hofius. The present building was erected in 1895.

TO CELEBRATE

One hundred twenty-five years of service will be celebrated by the Berlin United Methodist Church on Sunday, September 21. A full calendar of events is being prepared with Mrs. Ruth Stetter serving as chairperson.

The congregation began as an outpost of the Dartford (now Green Lake) mission in 1850. The Rev. S. D. Bassenger was the first pastor. Rev. Cletus Kramer is the present pastor.

* * * * *

Don't forget the Pilgrimage to Zion Chapel, Milwaukee, September 27, 1975 from 1 - 4 P.M..

ONE OF OURS

The life story of Caroline Peckham Iglehart is one of many happy experiences. A recent short visit with this still vivacious, enthusiastic woman in her mid-eighties mirrors some of the inner joys and satisfactions of the life of a missionary.

Caroline Peckham had a Methodist heritage. Her grandfather, Charles Wesley Peckham, came from Ohio to the tiny little settlement of Bloom City, Wisconsin, in the fall of 1856 where he endured the hardships of early pioneer living. In his young manhood he was united with the Evangelical Lutheran church, but upon coming to Wisconsin, he became a leading member of the little Methodist society of Bloom City. He fought in the Civil War, losing an arm in the service. His son, Luther Effenda Peckham, Carolyn's father, was born March 4, 1861, the day Abraham Lincoln was inaugurated for his first term as president.

Carolyn grew up in a ministerial home for Rev. Luther Peckham was admitted to the West Wisconsin Conference in 1892, when his daughter was about a year old.

A chronology of the life of Carolyn Peckham is long and exciting. The events cover her studies, her first trip to Japan in 1915 when it took twenty days by boat, her teaching at Kwassui High School and College in Nagasaki, Japan, her principalships at Kwassui and at Fukuoka JoGakuin, her work in organizing the Methodist work in Japan and serving as its treasurer, her presidency of the newly organized Kwassui Junior College, and her return to Japan in 1960 to serve three years as Acting Vice President of Financial Affairs of the International Christian University of Tokyo. There were times too in U.S.A. when she served as Office Manager of the Methodist headquarters in New York and earlier spent one year as treasurer pro-tem for the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society with offices at Baltimore and Philadelphia. There were times too when she took time out to help with the loving care of her parents.

Perhaps no missionary of the Methodist fold has received the honors that came to Carolyn Peckham. She was given the Imperial decoration of the Fourth Order of the Sacred Treasurers in 1953 and in 1957 the Fourth Order of the Sacred Crown. In one of her talks to church groups she told of seeing the Emperor for the first time. She waited three hours and then was not permitted to look upon his face as he was considered a divine being descended from the sun goddess.

The honor given Carolyn which she considered the most meaningful was that of Honorary Citizen of Nagasaki. She was the second person ever to receive it, the first a much beloved doctor who died from atomic disease.

Romance came to Miss Peckham in her later years, for in 1965 she married Charles Iglehart, a writer, a theological professor, a world leader in missions, a deeply spiritual man, and to her "a perfect husband." At Meese Manor, Dunedin, Florida, they lived a happy life until Mr. Iglehart's death in 1969.

In 1974 Carolyn Iglehart was privileged to visit Japan. Often a return to a place where one has poured out one's life is a disappointment, but to Mrs. Iglehart it appeared in many respects to be a joy. In visiting with Wisconsin friends, she told about chatting with one of her former maids. As she thought about it later, she realized that for two hours both of them had been conversing in the Japanese tongue.

"We live in the world when we love it" -Rabindranath Tagore

The story of United Methodism in Wisconsin through pictures and sound is under preparation by the Commission on Archives and History. The new filmstrip is a bicentennial project, and is scheduled to be available early in 1976.

One feature will be a group of Oneidas, members of the congregation formed by John Clark in September, 1832, singing hymns in their native tongue.

Slides of important highlights of our past are being sought to be incorporated in the project. Especially desirable are shots taken at the uniting conference held in the Lawrence University chapel in September, 1969; similar scenes from the simultaneous sessions of the three conferences held in June of the same year at Green Lake; and of the merging of the two E. U. B. conferences at Monroe in May, 1951.

Any who have such slides are urged to send them to Rev. William Blake, conference historian, 422 Webster St., Berlin, Wisconsin 54923. The utmost care will be taken with them, and they will be returned to the sender after being incorporated into the filmstrip.

The task force at work on this visual and audio bicentennial resource consists of William Blake, conference historian, Berlin; David Harsh, chairperson, Commission on Archives and History, Sturgeon Bay; Wayne D. Helmerich, Service Department, Sun Prairie; and Dr. Jack Stickels, Madison, who has demonstrated a real talent for this sort of production.

THREE NEW BOOKS

Three new books with short reviews in the HISTORIAN'S DIGEST of March, 1975:

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE METHODISTS, by Jesse Lee

This is a limited facsimile edition of the original history printed in 1810 ...

HANDS ON THE ARK, by Robert Sledge

This work describes the struggle for change in the Methodist Church, South, 1914 - 1939 ...

NINETEEN BISHOPS OF THE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH, by Bishop Paul W. Milhouse

These bishops served the E.U.B. church from the time of the union of the Evangelical church in 1946 to the time of the union with the Methodist church in 1968.