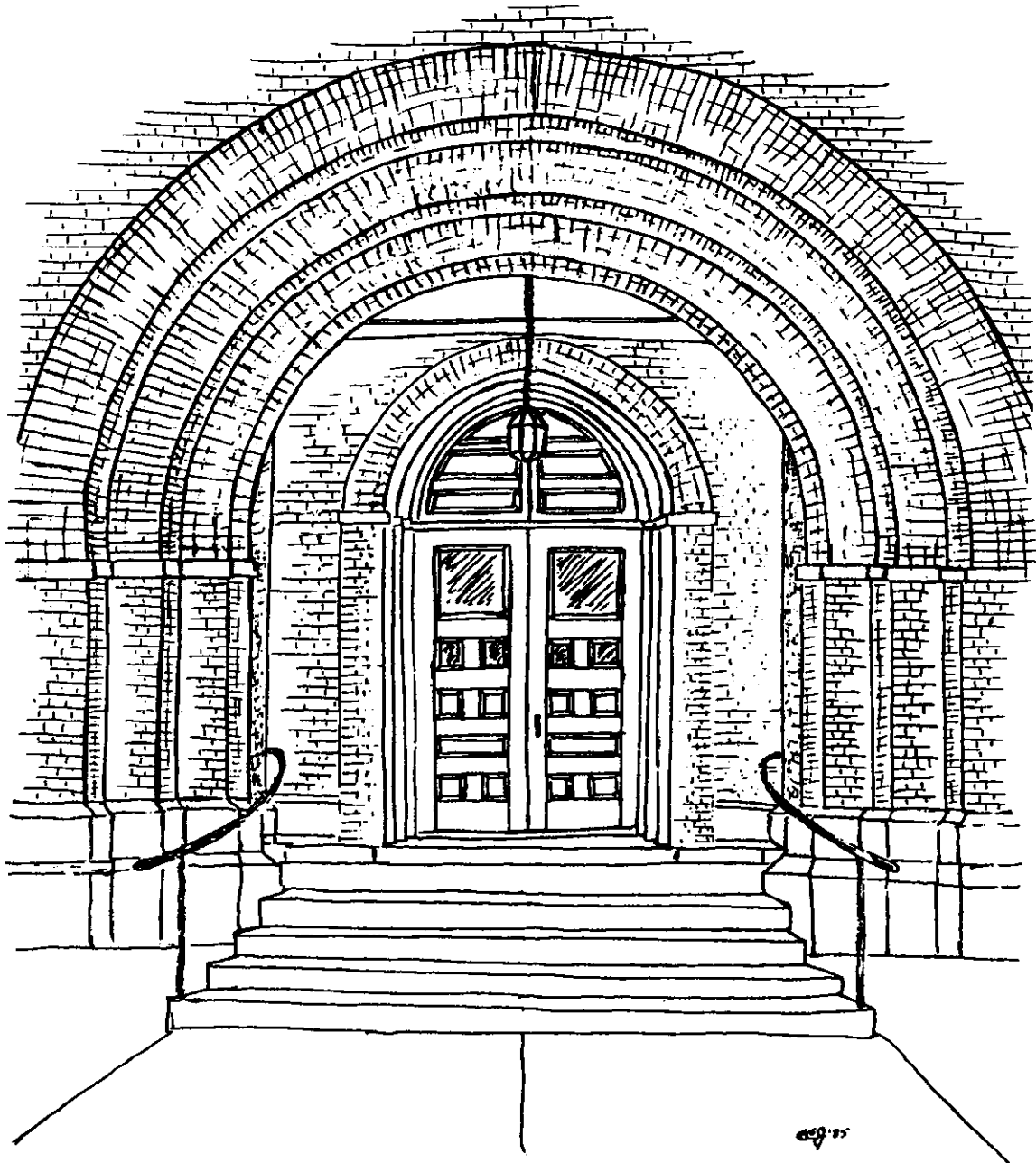


OPENING THE DOOR
TO
THE HISTORY OF
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



WATERTOWN, NEW YORK
1803 - 2003

OPENING THE DOOR
TO
THE HISTORY OF
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BY
MARY PEYTON SANFORD

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ESTABLISHED 1803

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P R E F A C E

What you are about to read is an outline history of the First Presbyterian Church of Watertown, NY. This history covers 200 years, from the founding of the church in 1803 through 2003, at which time our church staged a yearlong Bicentennial celebration. The sources of information for this outline history have been *Years of Faith* by Frederick H. Kimball, Session minutes, newsletters, church bulletins, annual reports, scrapbooks, newspaper clippings, church directories and the recollections of people who have been active in the church.

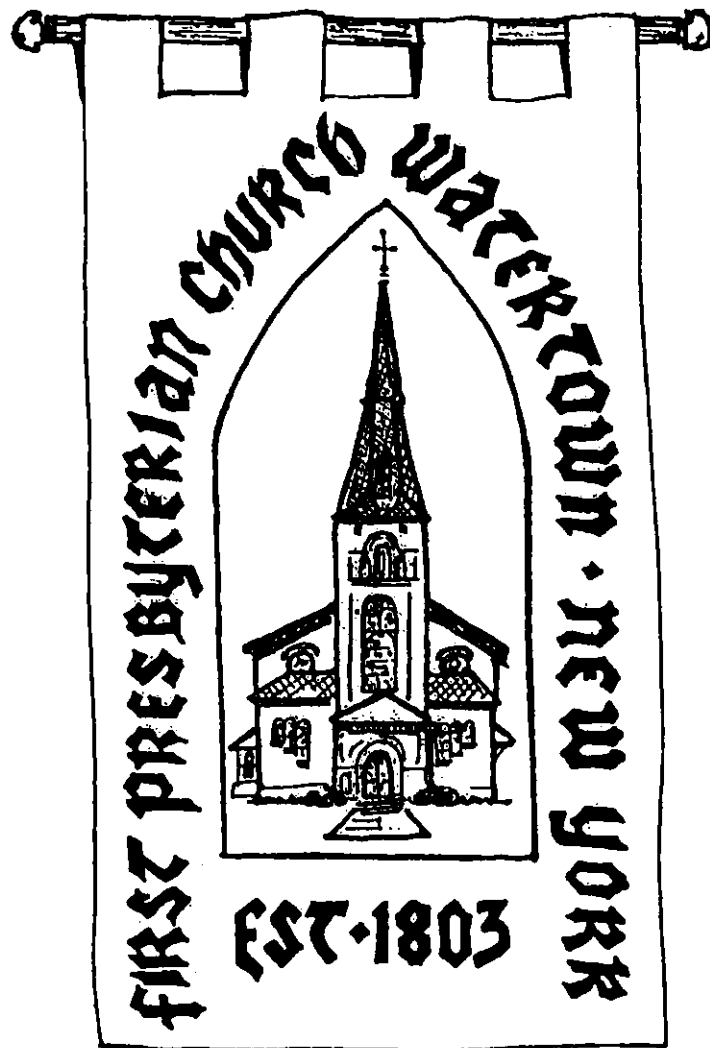
The first section covers the years 1803 to 1953 and consists of an outline of each of the chapters in *Years of Faith*. The second section deals with the "next 50 years," from 1953 through 2003. It describes each of the ministers who served during this period and the significant events and activities that took place during their ministries. The third section contains reports on pastoral housing, church officers, music in our church, Sunday School and Vacation Bible School, Lands End, local missions, the Radio Ministry, foreign missionary activities, the Women of the Church and a wealth of informational facts and figures.

This outline history summarizes the material found in *Years of Faith* and adds information concerning the people and activities of the church during the years 1953 through 2003. It in no way supplants the superb history of our church by Fred Kimball, which covers the church from 1803 through 1953 and is available in the church library.

Mary Sanford

June 2008

Cover drawing by Catherine C. Johnson



Artist

Mary Eager Koch

The banner was designed and created by Mary Eager Koch, daughter of Henry and Marilyn Eager. It was made for the 200 year anniversary of the first General Assembly meeting. The Presbytery of Northern New York celebrated this anniversary on June 4, 1989 in Potsdam, New York. All churches in the Presbytery were asked to provide a banner.

This banner was pictured in the 1995 Pictorial Directory and was chosen as the cover for the 2003 Directory for the Bicentennial Year of the First Presbyterian Church. It has also been rendered in black and white for church bulletin covers.

MINISTERS OF THE CHURCH

1.	Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle.....	1803-1814	12 years
2.	Rev. Daniel Banks	1815-1821	6 years
3.	Rev. George S. Boardman	1821-1837	16 years
4.	Rev. Isaac Brayton, D.D.	1837-1864	27 years
5.	Rev. John J. Porter, D.D.	1864-1882	18 years
6.	Rev. George B. Stevens, D.D.	1882-1886	4 years
7.	Rev. Allen Macy Dulles, D.D.	1887-1904	17 years
8.	Rev. Andrew M. Brodie, D.D.	1906-1912	6 years
9.	Rev. Darwin F. Pickard, D.D.	1912-1941	29 years
10.	Rev. Robert W. Youngs, D.D.	1941-1944	5 years
	(Navy Chaplain - 2 years)	1946-1949	
11.	Rev. Charles K. Imbrie.....	1945-1946	(interim) 1 year
12.	Rev. David B. Watermulder, D.D.	1950-1955	5 years
13.	Rev. Herbert S. Schroeder	1955-1960	5 years
14.	Rev. John B. Smiley	1961-1986	25 years
15.	Rev. Hugh D. Outterson	1986-1987	(interim) 1 year
16.	Rev. Brent J. Eelman, D. Min.	1988-1994	6 years
17.	Rev. C. Frederic Sanford	1995-1996	(interim) 1 year
18.	Rev. Lawrence S. Moir.....	1996-2000	4 years
19.	Rev. Gerald R. Platz	2000-2003	(interim) 3 years
20.	Rev. Fred G. Garry, D. Min.	2003-	

ASSISTANT / ASSOCIATE MINISTERS

1.	Rev. Thomas N. Kalshoven.....	1954-1956	2 years
2.	Rev. Fred W. Kelwig.....	1956-1960	4 years
3.	Rev. Wilfred B. Long	1960-1962	2 years
4.	Rev. William H. Stryker	1962-1966	4 years
5.	Rev. Arthur B. Goyette	1966-1969	3 years
6.	Rev. Scott C. Miller.....	1969-1972	3 years
7.	Rev. Ellison L. Elmer.....	1972-1989	17 years
8.	Rev. Robert A. Findlay.....	1990-1991	(interim) 1 year
9.	Rev. James C. Ramsey.....	1991-1996	5 years
10.	Rev. Susan Tague-Smith.....	1998-	



Bicentennial Committee Members

Doug & Mary Sanford - Co Chair
Jeffrey Barnard
Carl Bingle
Bill & Liz Bonisteel
Carole Brown
Elizabeth Brown
Sally Dickinson
Henry & Marilyn Eager
Phyllis Elmer
Rosalyn Farmer
Fern Foster
Lois Galloway
Judy George
Bob & Bunny Gorman
Maureen Gorman
Lou Green
Marian Hills
Joan Jones
Kevin Kieff
Dick & Debbie Lake
Beth Linderman
John & Gini McCreary
Peter & Laurel Pike
Donald & Betty Lou Riordan
Peter Salmon
Charles & Sonnie Scott
David & Jeanne Stanley
Fred & Nella Stone
John & Ann Sudduth
Bernie Taylor
Ellie VanEenaam
Peter VanEenaam
Bart & Ann VanSlyke
Tom & Mabel Walker
Louise Wisner

Pastors

Rev. Gerald Platz
Rev. Susan Tague-Smith

The Bicentennial Committee of the First Presbyterian Church met regularly during the year. We planned five major events for 2003, which will be our Bicentennial Year. These five events are:

May 4th - The Rev. Dr. Brent J Eelman will preach during the Sunday worship service. On Monday, May 5th, there will be a Bicentennial Musical Program entitled "Pipes of Jubilee at FPC."

June 1st - The Rev. John B. Smiley will preach during the Sunday worship service. On Tuesday, June 3rd, the exact day of our founding in 1803, there will be a Founders Day Dinner, at which time Jack Smiley will participate.

June 29th - Cardinal Avery Dulles, son of John Foster Dulles and grandson of the Rev. Dr. Allen Macy Dulles, will preach during the morning worship service

October 10th - The Rev. Dr. David Watermulder will participate in a Bicentennial Banquet. On Sunday, October 12th, Dr. Watermulder will preach during the worship service.

December 2nd - The Presbytery of Northern New York will meet at our church.

In addition, a TimeLine depicting the history of our church will be displayed in Fellowship Hall. There will be revolving displays of historical items. Scrapbooks containing precious newspaper articles and scrapbooks containing snapshots of church activities will be created. Many other artifacts and memorabilia will be organized and displayed. A souvenir plate, calendar and postcard have been designed, produced and offered for sale. A major musical program will be presented in May. At another time during the year, Joan Jones will be honored on the occasion of her 44th year as Director of Music. For this occasion Eleanor Fralick has written a poem entitled "A Prayer for Peace," which has been set to music by organist Carl A. Bingle.

Our Bicentennial Theme is:

Celebrate the Faith of Our Past

Strengthen the Faith of Our Present

Assure the Faith of Our Future

We do sincerely thank the members of the committee for their many excellent contributions during the year. Because of their efforts, 2003 will be a very special year for a very special church!

403 Washington Street, Watertown, New York 13601

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

B I C E N T E N N I A L

2 0 0 3

SPECIAL DATES IN HISTORY

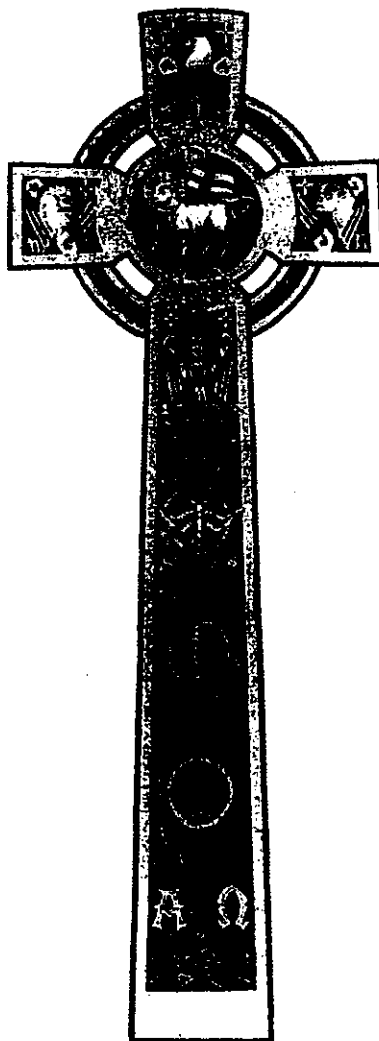
- 1803 June 3 - Church was founded in Caleb Burnham's new barn in the nearby village of Burrville
- 1811 - Separation of the Watertown group from the Burrville group
- 1814 May 25 - Church was leagally organized as the Watertown Ecclesiastical Society
- 1821 Jan 1 - Dedication of newly built two-story STONE CHURCH. It was the first house of worship in Watertown.
summer - First Sabbath School was organized in Northern NY.
- 1851 April 10 Dedication of new BRICK CHURCH, constructed on the site of the stone church.
- 1852 New chapel built as an addition to the church. (site of present Fellowship Hall)
- 1864 Chapel roof swept away during severe wind storm (soon restored)
- 1869 Fresco work done in sanctuary, also new carpets and new cushions.
- 1874 winter Steeple crashed to the ground during a violent wind storn.
- 1875 summer New steeple erected (same as today)
Chapel enlarged into 2 stories for Sunday School classes
- 1878 Oct Communion Table (now in chapel) and Baptismal Font given to church by widow of Judge Robert Lansing
- 1892 Church interior alterations:
New curved sycamore pews installed
Portico erected before front door
Additions made to narthex to provide stairs to the balcony
New organ installed behind the pulpit. It had 3 manuals with many great pipes arrayed in a line across the width of the chancel.
- 1893 Stained glass window, "Christ and the Doctors," was installed in the front of the brick portion of the steeple directly over the portico. This was a memorial gift from the widow of Dr. William V.V. Rosa.
- 1898 New study for the pastor

SPECIAL DATES IN HISTORY - continued

- 1910 Auditorium repainted & 8 Romanesque medallions, representing the celestial choir, were placed within arches of the nave.
Building was wired for electricity!
New windows were installed (same as today)
- 1927 Addition of a 2-story Educational Building, including a Pastor's Study, women's parlor, chapel, and many Sunday School classrooms.
The old chapel was converted into Fellowship Hall, and a stage was installed.
Sanctuary restored to 1851 appearance:
New straight pews installed
Organ was moved to north rear of stage and pipes were placed in 2 sound boxes on each side.
Choir stalls faced each other on the stage.
New Communion Table (memorial gift from the widow of Mrs. Robert Lansing, Jr.)
- 1928 Oct - Dedication of new Education Building and the restoration of the sanctuary completed for the 125th ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the church in Burrville in 1803
- 1941 Nov - Worship service broadcast on radio
- 1951 Redecorating done to mark 100th ANNIVERSARY of the church building:
Exterior of church painted
Interior of sanctuary redecorated with newly painted walls and new carpeting (memorial gift from Miss Emma S. Lansing)
A mosaic Celtic Cross, containing over 30,000 individual pieces of Venetian mosaic, was erected on the wall behind the communion table in chancel. (memorial gift from Miss Nellie B. Wilmot)
- 1952 Redecorating project for the chapel includes a new lectern and a new electronic organ (memorial gift from Mrs. J. Munson Gamble)
Steeple and steeple cross repaired and painted (gift from Josephine and Grace Bingham)
- 1951 - 1953 - Volunteers or "painting bees" from the Men's Council cleaned, painted and redecorated the Christian Education Building (6 assembly rooms, parlor, and 17 class rooms!)
- 1953 Oct - 150th ANNIVERSARY of the founding of First Presbyterian Church in Burrville

SPECIAL DATES IN HISTORY - continued

- 1988 Sanctuary painted and redecorated
- 1989 "Building on Years of Faith" fund-raising campaign for major construction in Fellowship Hall
- 1990 Sept 23 - Dedication of newly repaired and redecorated Fellowship Hall
- 2000 Nov 1-5 - CHURCH DAYS as a part of the Watertown Bicentennial Celebration
- 2001 **150th ANNIVERSARY** of the brick church building and
50th ANNIVERSARY of the Mosaic Celtic Cross
A brochure describing the symbols of the beautiful mosaic cross by well-known stained glass and mosaic designer, Katharine Lamb Tait, was produced and presented as a gift to the members of First Presbyterian Church by Dr. Douglas M. & Mary P. Sanford. Photos on the brochure were taken by Gary Burns.
- 2003 **BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION**



YEARS
of
FAITH

YEARS *of* FAITH

KIMBALL

A HISTORY OF THE FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

1803 - 1953

By FREDERICK H. KIMBALL



Chapter I
IN THE BEGINNING
1800 - 1803

1. Ox carts from New England and Mohawk arrived in the wilderness of Black River country
2. Families settle close to waterfalls, especially in Burrville and Watertown
3. Settlers build log cabins and barns and erect grist mills
4. Land is cultivated for farms
5. Villages and churches are established
 - A. Noadiah Hubbard was probably the first and settled in the town of Champion - 1797
 - B. Major pioneer builders arrive from New England in 1800. They had purchased land from Nicholas Low
 - Henry Coffeen
 - Zachariah Butterfield
 - Hart Massey (brought his family, consisting of his wife Lucy and 3 children from Vermont the following year, built a log house in Watertown at the entrance of the Paddock Arcade and held the first religious service in the village)
Hart Massey had signed an agreement with Nicholas Low, a land proprietor, to build a saw mill and a grist mill in Burrville during 1801. They were sold in 1802 to Captain John Burr and his sons. From this family the place obtained the name of Burrville.
 - C. The first regular religious organization in the county was formed in the town of Champion in June 1801 with a Reverend Bascomb of Chester, Massachusetts as their leader. Later, in 1807, Rev. Nathaniel Dutton became pastor of this group of Christians for many years.
 - D. During 1802 Rev. John Taylor, a graduate of Yale University made a missionary journey into northern New York from the Mohawk valley through Utica, Champion, Lowville, Turin, Boonville and Adams. He noted that a majority of these people were Presbyterians. He also observed that the town of Watertown was growing rapidly - to 150 families - and the people appear happy.
 - E. An able and energetic farmer, Caleb Burnham, finished building a large new barn in Burrville during May 1803. Meanwhile, a pioneer preacher to these parts from New England, Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle, asked farmer Burnham if he could use his barn to conduct worship services for a group of Christians. The 13 men and women did not realize that this was the beginning of the First Presbyterian Church of Watertown.

Extract from the records of the Congregational Church
in Watertown and Rutland:

"A congregational church was formed in the south
part of Watertown and Rutland in Jefferson County,
New York on the third day of June, 1803 under the
administration of The Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle."

FOUNDER'S DAY Information

Date - Friday, June 3, 1803
Place - Burrville, New York
 in Caleb Burnham's new barn
Pastor - Reverend Ebenezer Lazelle, a pioneer
 missionary from New England

Group of 13 present:

Mr. James Thompson
Mr. Gershom Tuttle
Mr. Thomas Sawyer
Mr. Hinman
Mr. Joel Goodale
Mr. Henry Jewit
Mrs. Martha Pettit
Mrs. Sarah Tuttle
Mrs. Susannah Sawyer
Mrs. Teruah Eno
Mrs. Cloe Bailey
Mrs. Hannah Eddy
Mrs. Sarah Taylor

Chapter II
THE PASTOR SAYS FAREWELL
1803 - 1814

A. TERRITORY SETTLED

1. Town of Watertown organized from town of Mexico in Oneida County - March 14, 1800
2. Jefferson County was named after President of the United States, Thomas Jefferson - March 28, 1805
Lewis County was named after the Governor of the state of New York, Morgan Lewis - March 28, 1805
- Both were created from Oneida County
3. Village of Watertown was designated as the Jefferson County Seat - 1805
 - growing population
 - stores
 - bridge spanning the Black River
 - hotel
 - paper mill (begun in 1908 by Gurdon Caswell) on the banks of the power-producing Black River came into the possession of Knowlton & Rice. This is the present site of Knowlton Brothers mill on Factory Street.

B. CHURCH DEVELOPED

1. Reverend Mr. Ebenezer Lazelle
 - first clergyman in town of Watertown
 - possessed great fortitude to face rugged pioneer life
 - a man of "great executive ability"
 - had a kindly nature "who went forth to preach the gospel in the wilderness like John the Baptist in Judea"
 - purchased 109 acres of land in 1800, built a log cabin and established his residence in Burrville
 - constructed a distillery in 1802 (Spirits were used for medicinal purposes then simply because no other medication was available)
 - led his group of Christians with regular worship services
 - a. in Caleb Burnham's new barn in 1803 until the barn was needed to store wheat during the winter
 - b. the ball-room in the house of Gershom Tuttle
 - c. Thomas Sawyer's wagon shop
 - d. various homes
 - founded a Congregational Church in Rodman in 1805 and apparently served both the Burrville and Rodman churches for some time
 - met with a newly formed Black River Association of Congregational Churches embracing Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence counties in 1807 at Champion
 - moved westward with wife Lucy in 1810 to Monroe County and became residents of Henrietta in 1819

2. Services continued to be held with preaching mostly by missionaries from nearby localities
3. At least two laymen brought the Gospel message to the Burrville Church
 - Nathan Strong from Whitestown, Oneida County. He also served as justice of the peace
 - Dr. Daniel Brainard read sermons to the Burrville congregation. He was also from Whitestown before he settled in Watertown and married Lorraine Hungerford in 1806. He along with Hart Massey and others made the weekly pilgrimage from Watertown to Burrville for Sunday services
4. Watertown Center considered for construction of a new church edifice in 1811
 - church membership had grown to 50
 - many Burrville business men were moving to Watertown along the banks of the Black River
 - formation of Religious Society of Watertown to proceed with erection of a church building in 1811

C. WAR OF 1812 involvement

1. Sackets Harbor became an important military post
2. General Jacob Brown of Brownville commanded the militia and men from all parts of Jefferson County responded
3. a newly constructed academy building on Washington Street (northeast of the Presbyterian Church site) was used as a barracks for a garrison of soldiers. Later it became a military hospital for sick and wounded soldiers from the post at Sackets Harbor
3. After the War of 1812, the church location question again came to the fore. It changed from Watertown Center to the village of Watertown where a large part of the congregation resided
4. Thus it came about that on May 25, 1814, the WATERTOWN ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY was organized
 - Trustees elected to the church corporation:
 - a. Hart Massey
 - b. Oren Stone
 - c. Jabez Foster (former Burrville storekeeper)
 - 36 members of the congregation pledged a total of \$350.00 for the support of the church and the preaching of the gospel

Chapter III
A CHURCH IS BUILT
1814 - 1821

A. Watertown Ecclesiastical Society

1. organized May 25, 1814
 - no church building
 - no pastor
 - congregational meetings held in
 - a. the brick Academy building
 - b. old court house
 - c. little school house on Public Square
 - d. homes of members
2. Annual Meeting on July 1815
 - moderator, William Huntington
 - clerk, Oren Stone
 - elected trustee, Jabez Foster
 - voted to call the society "The Congregational Society of Watertown" (the name was kept from 1815 to 1821 when the original name was again the official designation of the society)
 - added to the Board of Trustees
 - a. Thomas Sawyer
 - b. Theophilus Redfield
 - Burrville members may attend worship services at Watertown or the Congregational Church in Rutland
 - Rev. Daniel Banks, new pastor at Rutland Congregational Church, will be invited to become pastor on a half time basis in 1815
3. Reverend Mr. Daniel Banks
 - becomes half time pastor at both Rutland and Watertown (\$400.00 per year)
 - Ordination and Installation on October 25, 1815 at a meeting of the Black River Congregational Association
 - a. Rev. James Murdock of Martinsburg was moderator
 - b. Rev. Nathaniel Dutton of Champion was scribe
 - c. sermon by Rev. Isaac Clinton of Lowville
 - d. closing prayer by Rev. David Spear of Rodman
 - started a school for religious education in the Academy Building - 1815 to 1820
 - active in the Jefferson County Bible Society formed on January 29, 1817
 - a. president was Judge Ethel Bronson of Rutland
 - b. Rev. Banks was elected corresponding secretary
 - c. Timothy Burr became recording secretary
 - made extract from early church records dating back to 1803 (refer to first Session Book - 1803 to 1831)
 - the newly built Stone Church was dedicated by Rev. Banks on January 1, 1821
 - requested that the pastoral relation between the church and him be dissolved in February 1821
 - moved to Potsdam where he became pastor of a church and later principal of St. Lawrence Academy

Chapter IV
G R O W I N G A S P R E S B Y T E R I A N S
1 8 2 1

A. THE CHURCH

1. January 1, 1821 - The Stone Church was dedicated by Rev. Daniel Banks
2. middle of January, 1821 - special meeting called to "resolve that this church which had been Congregational become Presbyterian in its form of government."
3. first Elders under presbyterian jurisdiction elected:
 - William Brown
 - James Stone
 - Theophilus Redfield
 - Jeronimus VanNest
 - Job Sawyer
 - Hart Massey
 - William Huntington
 - Asaph Horton
 - Amasa Herrick
4. February 28, 1821 - church received by the Presbytery of St. Lawrence. Request had been made by Hart Massey, who had been chosen to attend the Presbytery meeting
5. May 13, 1821 - church was officially constituted under Presbyterian form of government by Rev. Noah M. Wells of Brownville
 - newly elected elders were given permission to discharge their Ecclesiastical duties
 - Rev. Banks remained in Watertown until late spring to preside over church meetings. On May 2nd a group of local residents became church members
6. May 31, 1821 - Reverend Mr. George S. Boardman was extended a call to the First Presbyterian Church pulpit at a salary of \$800.00 a year
 - call was accepted by late June
 - ordained and installed on July 26, 1821
 - recent graduate from the new Auburn Theological Seminary at Auburn, New York
 - Hart Massey was helpful as the loyal stated clerk of Session and carefully recorded the minutes in his bold handwriting
 - church membership in 1821 was 122
7. The interior of the Stone Church is described;
 - pulpit was perched high against the wall between the entrance doors with a flight of stairs on either side leading up to it
 - pews were high and square
 - choir sat in the gallery. Their leaders were Isaac Lee and Jabez Foster. They used a wooden pitch-pipe
 - a wood burning stove in the vestibule was used to warm the room. Several women brought a sheet-iron foot-stove

B. THE STONE CHURCH

1. financed by a building fund established in 1817 by the sale of pews, which began in 1820
2. construction proceeded for a meeting house built of native limestone in 1829 on Washington Street facing west
3. parcels of land had been purchased by:
 - Micah & Betsy Sterling
 - Jabez & Hannah Foster
 - Oren Stone
4. the building was described as an elaborate structure with two stories and an impressive dome-like tower over the entrance
5. total cost was \$13,000.00
 - building construction was \$9,000.00
 - furniture was additional
 - and a new Marklov Organ was installed in the balcony
6. The Stone Church was the first church constructed in Watertown! It was dedicated on January 1, 1821 by Rev. Daniel Banks

C. THE ACADEMY BUILDING

1. erected in 1811, before the War of 1812, by a group of citizens planning to have a village academy
2. served as a barracks for soldiers stationed in Watertown
3. later became a military hospital for sick and wounded soldiers from the post at Sackets Harbor
4. in 1815 the building was used for worship services and congregational meetings
(Rev. Banks was installed there on October 1815)
5. used as a school for Christian Education by pastor Daniel Banks from 1815 to 1820
6. during 1826 and 1827, the building was taken down and the bricks were used in construction of the Watertown Female Seminary on Clinton Street.
This was the first female seminary in the county
6. the old Academy lot was sold to First Presbyterian Church on January 13, 1831 by Micah & Betsy Sterling with a right of way reserved for a road from Washington Street.
This road was later named Academy Street

D. THE SABBATH SCHOOL

1. July 1821 - a Sabbath School was established by Oren Stone, trustee, in a room connected with his store on Stone Street
 - instructional classes were moved to room over the vestibule of the Stone Church
 - other classes used a portion of the galleries
 - 50 to 80 students were anxious to learn more about the Bible
 - Superintendent was Timothy Seward
 - teachers were Miss Harriet Stone, Mrs. Bradley and
Elvira Foster Smith

NOTE: by 1932 there were 19 teachers and 120 pupils enrolled with average attendance of 85

Chapter V
AN ERA OF DISCIPLINE
1822 - 1837

- A. Presbyterian discipline instituted in all seriousness during the 16 year pastorate of Rev. George Boardman
1. charges:
 - heresy
 - travel on the Sabbath
 - neighborhood quarrels
 - family differences
 - use of ardent spirits
 - unjustifiable absence from worship
 - slander
 - backsliding
 - disbelief in eternal damnation
 - disbelief in infant baptism
 - bigamy
 - complaints of minister not preaching the Gospel
 2. Committees of 2 or 3 elders appointed by the Session to investigate wrongdoings
 - those confronted were summoned to appear before the Session
 - a. to confess their guilt
 - b. indicate their penitence
 - c. ask forgiveness
 - should they fail to appear or refuse to repent
 - a. persons were excommunicated
 - b. suspended from the privileges and ordinances of the church until satisfactory evidence be given of repentance
 3. since that time in the church history, the church has been strict and very active in enforcing Presbyterian discipline
 - a candidate for admission to the church must pledge
 - a. to entirely abstain from the use of ardent spirits except for medicinal purposes
 - b. to abstain from attending Masonic lodges
 - c. others
 4. church had difficulty in meeting expenses
 - resolution to pay Jabez Foster \$40.00 rent annually for house occupied by Rev. Boardman
 - request to procure a chorister to lead the singing was defeated by the Session
 - other bills for maintenance

B. NEW CHURCHES FORMED

1. Organization of Second Presbyterian Church
by 33 persons requesting to be dismissed - 1829
 - the new church was erected on corner of Factory and
Mechanic Street - 1831
 - this congregation worshiped in this important residential
section of the village of Watertown for 31 years
 - NOTE - when this congregation moved to a new location
on Stone Street in 1864, it became the Stone Street
Presbyterian Church
2. In 1830, 20 members requested to be dismissed to form a
Congregational Church in Watertown.
This undertaking did not long continue
3. On February 4, 1834, The Session granted letters of
dismissal to 14 members so they might unite with others
in constituting a Congregational Church in Burrville.
Thus 31 years after the founding of the church in Burrville
a small group left the "mother church" to organize a new
one there. Caleb Burnham was one of the first deacons
in this new Congregational Church

The Reverend Mr. George Boardman accepted a call to the
pulpit of the Bethel Free Church in Rochester, New York
and dissolved pastoral relations with the Presbytery
on March 8, 1837

Chapter VI
NEW HOUSE OF WORSHIP
1837 - 1864

A. ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WATERTOWN ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY

1. June 26, 1837 - motion made by trustee Orville Hungerford to invite Rev. Isaac Brayton to become next pastor
2. it was voted to hold future annual meetings on the second Monday of July

B. The Reverend Isaac Brayton

1. recent graduate of Auburn Theological Seminary
2. accepted our call to become pastor at \$750.00 per annum
3. August 31, 1837 - ordained and installed by the Presbytery of St. Lawrence
 - Rev. George Boardman conducted the religious service and preached the sermon
 - attended by a large number of the congregation

C. Important Events

1. 1839 - began to tax holders of pews to make up a deficiency in the pastor's salary
2. 1840 - church repairs would be paid for by taxing the holders of pews in proportion to the amount of their respective pews
3. Rev. Brayton realized the importance of keeping careful records. He acted as his own clerk of Session and recorded the minutes in his fine, round handwriting
4. Rev. Brayton was concerned about spiritual well-being of members and asked the Session to set aside days of fasting and prayer
5. disciplinary measures were brought about by the Session for 20 years prior to the Civil War
6. 1843 - organ was placed in the church and was approved by the committee. It was to be used instead of the bass viol
7. 1846 - there were 309 members of the church - as the community grew, so did the church congregation
 - church expenses were met by sale of pews by auction
8. 1847 - Rev. Brayton received a call from the First Presbyterian Church in Rome, NY
 - Elders and Rev. Brayton considered the matter thoroughly
 - decision was made to remain in Watertown
9. Disastrous Fires in Watertown
 - a. 1848 - Knowlton & Rice paper mill and adjacent property along the Black River
 - b. 1849 - referred to as the "great fire" - started in the American Hotel's stables and spread down Court Street - destroyed more than 100 buildings
 - c. when the flames were finally extinguished, a service of worship was held in the First Presbyterian Church which was not touched by the fire

D. Special Meeting of the WATERTOWN ECCLESIASTICAL SOCIETY

1. January 1850 - motion approved for a committee to obtain a plan for a new church
 - consider a site
 - decide on manner of raising necessary funds
2. decision made by congregation
 - take down the Stone Church that had been built in 1820
 - construct a new edifice
 - a. chairman of the building committee, Edward S. Massey, a builder by profession
 - b. architect and designer, O. L. Wheelock
3. the new brick church is constructed
 - the base of cut stone came from the Chaumont stone quarries
 - the style of architecture was Romanesque
 - the building measured 102 feet long and 63 feet wide, including the 16inch thick walls
 - the walls were 32 feet high
 - the pulpit recess was 3 feet deep and 20 feet wide, arched over and supported by heavy columns
 - the pulpit was plain, yet massive and highly finished, and based upon a raised circular platform
 - the whole woodwork of the interior was painted in imitation black walnut
 - the seats were cushioned with crimson damask
 - the organ recess was over the front vestibule and the choir gallery projected in front of the organ
 - there were side galleries for the congregation in the balcony
 - there were 3 aisles to correspond with the 3 front doors
 - a total of 126 pews was in the body of the church
 - at a height of 75 feet was erected a wooden octagonal spire of 125 feet upon the walls of the brick tower. The steeple of First Presbyterian Church dominates the skyline of Watertown!
4. the total cost of constructing the church was \$17,000.00
 - financed through the sale of the pews
 - there were some large individual gifts also
5. the congregation of only 338 erected a sanctuary that could accommodate 1000 persons!
6. the new church was dedicated on April 10, 1851
 - Rev. Brayton preached on the subject, "The Object and Purposes of the Sanctuary"
 - The 55 minute sermon was reported to be moving and impressive.
7. 1852 - a new chapel was built to adjoin the rear of the church. This was a needed addition for the expanding Christian Education programs. It was first opened for worship service on Sunday, December 19, 1852.

E. The beginning of Faith Chapel

1. on a Sunday afternoon in June, 1852, a group of boys was playing in the Arsenal Street Cemetery
2. they were seen by a tailoress, Miss Mary Jane Foster, who stopped to talk with the lads and learned that they had no Sunday School to attend
3. she thought the situation should be remedied and invited them to come to a classroom in the Boon Street school house the following Sunday
4. Sunday School for children in this section of the city grew
 - John C. Sterling, an elder at First Presbyterian Church, and a bookseller in the Arcade, was the first superintendent of Sunday School
 - there were occasional preaching services in the evening
 - the establishment was known as the Western Mission Society
 - later the school was called the Boon Street Mission and the Boon Street Chapel
 - it became Faith Chapel when it moved to Arsenal Street in 1903

F. The departure of Rev. Dr. Brayton after a 27 year Pastorate

1. In 1855, the Session granted Rev. and Mrs. Brayton a 6 months leave of absence for health reasons
They returned improved and stayed through the perilous years of the Civil War
2. In October, 1863, Rev. Brayton informed the Elders that on account of his health and that of his wife, he planned to ask for a dissolution of his pastoral relation with the church
 - resignation was granted on December 28, 1863
 - his 27 years as pastor was long remembered in Watertown
 - a. he possessed great preaching power
 - b. he was a man of real culture
 - c. he had high intellectual achievements
 - d. he was quite genial and rather shy at the same time
 - e. he moved about the town, making pastoral calls or doing an errand of mercy, attired in a long black cape and a high black hat
 - f. he and his wife, Elizabeth, built a house upon their arrival in Watertown at 143 Clinton Street
(in 1863 the house was sold to Attorney John Lansing, father of Robert, Katharine and Emma)
3. At the close of his ministry in Watertown, he moved with his wife to Poughkeepsie, NY. and enjoyed his retirement.
 - Rev. Brayton passed away in 1892 at the age of 90

Chapter VII
THE POST CIVIL WAR PERIOD
1864 - 1887

A. The Reverend Dr. Isaac Brayton 1837 - 1864

1. CIVIL WAR began - Fort Sumter, April 30, 1861
 - a. pastor called a community mass meeting and delivered a stirring sermon
 - asked for courage and patience in the struggle that lay ahead
 - b. sixty men from First Presbyterian Church went to war
 - c. church women sewed for the soldiers
 - The Regimental Flag which Company C of the 35th New York Volunteers carried away was fashioned by First Church women
 - d. Liberty flagpoles in Public Square and the First Presbyterian Church steeple delivered war news to Watertown residents
 - flag at top of mast - good news for NORTH
 - flag at half staff - CONFEDERATES favor
2. Rev. Dr. Brayton resigns his pastorate after 27 years and leaves Watertown - January 1864
3. Roof of chapel is swept away during a severe wind storm - restored quickly - February 1864

B. The Reverend Dr John Jermain Porter 1864 - 1882

1. accepts call to serve as minister at First Presbyterian Church
 - a. installed October 6, 1864 by Presbytery of Watertown
 - b. native of Ovid, NY
 - c. son of a devout minister
 - d. education: Geneva Lyceum
Union College
Princeton Theological Seminary
 - e. served pastorates in Kingston, PA
Buffalo, NY
St. Louis, MO
2. a parsonage for the pastor
 - a. a house on TenEyck was rented from Dr. William V.V. Rosa to be used by Rev. Porter and his family
 - b. a house at 16 Clinton Street was purchased from Charles Rice, remodeled and redecorated to become a parsonage for the pastor and his family - 1867
3. Sunday School is progressive
 - a. enrollment was 200 in 1867
 - b. the 28 teachers met weekly
 - c. John C. Knowlton was elected superintendent in 1868, a position he ably filled for 20 years

4. Repairs to the church - 1869 & 1870
 - a. sanctuary: fresco work
new carpets
new cushions for the pews
 - b. outside: a new iron fence was placed around the church
sidewalks were built
 - c. funds were obtained for these church repairs by holding
a fair and festival at the rink in Winslow Street -
plus fund-raising events sponsored by church women
5. In 1872, a schedule of weekly Sunday collections was
launched for special benevolent purposes:
 - Sunday School
 - ministerial relief
 - home missions
 - foreign missions
6. In 1874, nearly 100 new members were added to the church
rolls during a great revival. The total church membership
jumped to 400 for the first time in its history!
7. During the winter of 1874-75, the church steeple crashed
to the ground during a violent wind storm.
 - a. In April 1875, a new steeple was erected for \$3,000.00
 - b. a more elaborate brick base with lattice work was built
and on the top was raised the new steeple and cross -
just as it stands today!
 - c. the church officers decided to also have the chapel
enlarged at the rear of the church - cost was \$6,000.00
8. Session changes influenced by Rev. Porter, considered as a
strong spiritual leader
 - a. Elders began rotation system in 1867 and was approved
by the church membership
 - two elders were elected each year for a 4-year term
after which they would retire from the active list
for a time
 - the Session consisted of 1 moderator and 8 elders
 - b. sponsored weekly prayer meetings
 - c. started preparatory lectures before each Communion service
9. in October 1876, the Synod of Central New York held its
annual meeting at First Presbyterian Church for a 3-day
program
10. Gifts to the church were given in memory of Judge Robert
Lansing by his widow. He died on October 3, 1878.
 - a. A Baptismal Font
 - b. A Communion Table - now being used in the chapel
(the table was in the sanctuary for many years until
it was replaced in 1928 by a larger table, a
memorial to the grandson of Judge Lansing)

11. Resignation of Rev. Dr. John Jermain Porter on July 3, 1881 after a 17-year pastorate in Watertown
 - served as pastor in Phelps, NY for 11 years
 - returned to Watertown to retire in 1892
 - died September 7, 1901
12. In 1906, a tablet was erected on the front wall of the sanctuary at the left of the chancel in memory of Rev. Porter. It was given by Mrs. George W. Flower and designed by Charles R. Lamb, the artist who designed the decorations for the new Flower Memorial Library in Watertown.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 REV. JOHN JERMAIN PORTER, DD
 BORN MARCH 20, 1821
 DIED SEPTEMBER 7, 1901
 PASTOR OF THIS CHURCH
 JULY 1864 TO JULY 1881

Strong in Faith, Pure in Life
 Beloved as a Man and as a Minister of Christ

ERECTED A.D. 1906

C. The Reverend Dr. George B. Stevens 1883 - 1886

1. Installed as the sixth pastor on February 1, 1883 in the chapel by Rev. Dr. S.A. Hayt, pastor of Stone Street Presbyterian Church and Moderator of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence
 - a. native of Spencer, NY
 - b. studied at Ithaca Academy
 Cornell University
 University of Rochester - graduated in 1877
 also at Rochester Theological Seminary
 Yale Divinity School - graduated in 1880
 - c. served as pastor for 2 years at First Congregational Church in Buffalo, NY
2. Rev. and Mrs. Stevens moved to Watertown in December 1882 Their home was in the manse at 16 Clinton Street
3. The church membership was 360 and Sunday School enrollment was 339. Rev. Stevens won affections of the congregation and the membership increased
4. despite the many duties pertaining to his ministry, he was becoming more the Biblical scholar and learned theologian
 - a. special courses at Syracuse University
 - b. one year leave of absence to study in Europe
 - England
 - Scotland
 - Germany
 - c. received a Doctor of Divinity degree from the University of Jena - February 1886
5. Resigned pastorate in September 1886 to become Chair of Sacred Literature at Yale University
 - Rev. Dr. Stevens had a distinguished career at Yale
 - He died ther June 22, 1906

Chapter VIII
EXTENDING GOD'S KINGDOM
1887 - 1912

When approaching the turn of the century, America was emerging into a prosperous and expanding country. There were many changes as the nation was becoming more mechanical and scientific. Watertown was following the trend.

The influence of the First Presbyterian Church was widening. Hope Church and Faith Chapel were nurtured by the pastor and faithful members of First Presbyterian Church. Benvolence contributions increased, a variety of new church organizations were functioning and church members were playing a major role in the business, political and cultural life of the city.

A. The Reverend Dr. Allen Macy Dulles 1887 - 1904

1. Born in Philadelphia, PA on August 19, 1854
son of Rev. and Mrs. John Welsh Dulles
2. Graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1879,
then studied in Germany
3. Ordained and became pastor of Trumbull Avenue Presbyterian
Church of Detroit, Michigan 1881 - 1887
4. Married Edith Foster in Washington D.D. on January 13, 1886.
Edith was the daughter of General John W. Foster who served
as Secretary of State under President Benjamin Harrison
5. Five children - all spent their childhood in Watertown
 - a. John Foster Dulles (born in Washington D.C.)
became Secretary of State in President
Dwight D. Eisenhower's cabinet
 - b. Allen Welsh Dulles - became head of the C.I.A.
in Washington D.C.
 - c. Dr. Eleanor Lansing Dulles
 - d. Margaret (Mrs. Deane Edwards of Rye)
 - e. Nadaline (Mrs. James S. Seymour of Utica)
6. Installed November 17, 1887 as pastor of First Presbyterian
Church. Sermon was preached by Rev. Dr. George D. Baker
of Philadelphia, PA
7. One of his first acts as pastor was to baptize infant son,
John Foster Dulles, in the marble Baptismal Font
(gift to church in 1878 in memory of Judge Robert Lansing)
8. Rev. and Mrs. Dulles moved into the manse at 16 Clinton
Street with one baby, John Foster. They remained there
until after the fifth child was born and then, in 1897,
Rev. Dulles built a house on Mullin Street at his own
expense.

9. Pastor Dulles and the Session organized a Sabbath School on the north side of Watertown in the Baron Block of Court Street. Elder Farwell promoted this growing group which eventually became the birth of Hope Chapel in 1890 - and HOPE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH in 1896 when it was accepted by the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.
10. Rev. Dulles arranged for the reopening of the Boon Street Mission when the population began to grow in the west end of the city in 1895.
 - a. This soon became known as Boon Street Chapel with Miss Sarah Hall Kimball as leader of the Sabbath School
 - b. The chapel's first minister was Rev. F.W. Fuess 1899 - 1906
 - c. A new sanctuary was built on Arsenal Street - and was renamed FAITH CHAPEL
 - cornerstone laid on November 13, 1902 by Margaret J. Dulles, daughter of Rev. Dulles
 - dedication of the new chapel, built in the shape of of a cross, was held on Easter Sunday, April 12, 1903
11. Redecorating of the sanctuary took place in 1892
 - a. Original walnut pews were replaced with more modern one made of sycamore wood. They were arranged in a semi-circle around the chancel with the front center aisle removed half way down
 - b. Portico was erected before the front door and additions were made to the narthex at each side of the main entrance to provide space for new stairs to the balcony
 - c. The new Johnson & Son Organ was installed behind the pulpit with many pipes arranged in line across the width of the chancel. The organ was a gift to the church by Talcott Camp and his son, George VanSantvoord Camp, organist and choir director for 33 years 1882 - 1915 (memorial plaque installed in sanctuary)
12. Stained glass window "Christ and the Doctors" was presented to the church by widow of Dr. William V.V. Rosa in 1893. It was installed in the rear of the balcony in the brick portion of the steeple directly over the portico. Dr. Rosa was a practicing physician in Watertown and had served on the Board of Trustees.
13. Growth and changes in membership:
 - a. Presbyterian Synod of New York convened for three days at First Presbyterian Church in 1891
 - b. Women's societies of church were merged into the Women's Union as suggested by Mrs. Dulles in 1888. It embraced the work of women for missions at home and abroad.

13. Other new organizations:
 - a. Young Women's Union
 - b. King's Daughters
 - c. Junior and Senior Westminster Leagues
 - d. Christian Endeavor Society
 - e. Christopher Club (for boys)
 - f. larger Sunday School Classes for children, women and men
14. Weekly Messenger started by Rev. Dulles.
It contained the order of Sunday Service and the calender of coming events during the week.
15. Elder's rotation system started in 1897 with three classes, each serving a term of three years.
The Session increased to 12 members in 1902
16. Alterations were made in the chapel (now Fellowship Hall) and work done for a pastor's study.
17. **CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION - October 11 - 14, 1903**
 - a. Sunday, October 11 -
 - Worship Service
 - Congratulations from Presbytery of St. Lawrence
 - Report of church benevolences & finances
 - address on church missions
 - History of Sabbath School
 - 4:00 p.m.
 - Sunday School Rally
 - 7:30 p.m.
 - Congratulations from Jefferson County Ministerial Union
 - Address by John C. Knowlton on the history of the church
 - Guest speaker from Auburn Theological Seminary spoke on "Elements of Power in Presbyterism"
 - b. Monday, October 12
 - 5:00 p.m.
 - Meeting for boys featuring an address on "The Twentieth Century Boy"
 - 7:30 p.m.
 - Watertown meeting with century progress reports on:
 - Material Progress
 - Educational Progress
 - Religious Progress
 - c. Tuesday, October 13
 - 7:30 p.m.
 - Reception for Dr. and Mrs. Dulles given by the women of the church
 - d. Wednesday, October 14
 - Final meeting with addresses by visiting clergymen, songs and prayers

18. Centennial Celebration compiled into a pamphlet for souvenirs of the events
19. Clerk of Session elected to write minutes of Session Meetings - Elder John Sterling. (previous minutes had been handwritten by Pastors Brayton, Porter, Stevens and Dulles)
20. Growth of church noted with 603 on the communion roll
21. Resignation of Rev. Dr. Allen Macy Dulles on September 26, 1904 after a 17 year pastorate of First Presbyterian Church in Watertown - a period of great growth and accomplishment.
 - a. Became a professor at Auburn Theological Seminary
 - b. Wrote a book, "The True Church," in 1908 which was well received and widely read
22. After the death of Dr. Dulles on November 13, 1930 in Auburn, a plaque was placed on the south wall of the chancel. This plaque, given by the congregation, bears the inscription:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
 THE REVEREND
 ALLEN MACY DULLES, D.D.
 BORN AUGUST 19, 1854
 DIED NOVEMBER 13, 1930
 MINISTER OF THIS CHURCH
 1887 - 1904

God gave him the spirit of power
 and of love and of sound mind.
 II Timothy 1:7

B. The Reverend Dr. Andrew M. Brodie 1906 - 1912

1. Born in Aurora, Ontario
2. Attended Guelph Collegiate Institute, Ontario and graduated from Chicago Theological Seminary
3. Ordained into the ministry of Congregational Church
4. Received a Doctor of Divinity Degree from Berea College, Kentucky
5. Served as Superintendent of the Illinois Home Missionary Society in 1904 and 1905
6. Expansion of activities in the church -
 - a. Individual Communion Cups were first used
 - b. The Sunday School has its first paid worker, Miss Mary Paris, as Assistant Superintendent.
(She resigned in 1916 as the Director of religious education)
 - c. Dr. Brodie sponsored community services on summer Sunday afternoons at the city park during 1909, 1910, 1911
 - d. Dr. Brodie arranged for Union Sunday evening services at the City Opera House

7. Foreign Missions began -
 - a. Partial support to Rev. W.H. Gleysteen, missionary in Peking, China
(He was the church's first missionary representative in the foreign field)
 - b. Rev. Ernest J. Weekes, son of Elder John Weekes, served as missionary in Canton, China
 - c. Rev. Charles H. Ainley, Jr. represented the mission field during the 1920's in Mexico
8. Redecoration of sanctuary in 1910 under the direction of W. F. Paris of New York City
 - a. Entire auditorium repainted
 - b. Eight medallions representing the celestial choir were placed in the arches of the nave
 - c. New windows were installed
 - d. Church building was wired for electricity and lighted by this means for the first time.
9. Resignation of Dr. Andrew Brodie on February 27, 1912 to accept a call from the First Presbyterian Church in Wichita, Kansas. He remained there until 1921.
 - a. Travelled 48,000 miles in the interest of Near East Relief in 1925
 - b. Became an Associate Minister of historic New York Avenue Presbyterian Church of Washington, D.C., assisting Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo in 1931.
(Dr. Sizoo, a summer resident of Point Solubrious, Chaumont, has long had a close association with First Presbyterian Church and has preached in Watertown many times.)
10. Dr. Brodie died February 20, 1943 at the age of 84 in Hinsdale, a suburb of Chicago, Illinois

Chapter IX
EXPANSION AMID TROUBLED TIMES
1912 - 1949

The next period in the church's history, a most important and progressive one, was enacted against a backdrop of the two worst wars ever to scourge the earth and the most devastating depression this nation ever experienced. In view of these international and national tragedies, it is all the more remarkable that the officers and congregation of this church made such outstanding strides during the years of 1912 to 1949.

By 1912 the new century was well under way. The Victorian era was definitely over. New forces were at work both at home and abroad. Automobiles were only coming into anything like general use. There were no radios nor electric refrigerators and motion pictures were just beginning to attract some favorable comment.

Carriages drawn by horses were still on the streets of Watertown. Sputtering, new-fangled motor cars were becoming more common. The industrial growth of the city continued apace and the spacious homes of the well-to-do matched the wide tree-lined streets of our quietly prosperous city. The First Presbyterian Church had kept pace with the growing town. There was a strong Session, including many prominent business men of Watertown. They were forward-looking, ever mindful of the best interests of the church.

A. The Reverend Darwin F. Pickard 1912 - 1941

1. Born in Syracuse, New York September 19, 1875
His father died in 1897 and thereafter his mother lived with him until 1918
2. Graduated from Hamilton College in 1897
3. Attended Auburn Theological Seminary and Oxford University in England
4. Ordained in the Presbyterian Ministry by Presbytery of Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1901
5. Served pastorates at:
 - a. Paxton Presbyterian Church, Harrisburg, PA 1901 - 1905
 - b. First Presbyterian Church, Albion, NY 1905 - 1912
 - c. First Presbyterian Church, Watertown, NY 1912 - 1941
- installed on October 18, 1912 by the Presbytery of St. Lawrence
- Rev. James H. Keeling, Jr. also began a ministry at Faith Chapel 1912 - 1923

6. Family: wife, the former Miss Virginia Rutherford
two sons, Darwin R. Pickard
Dr. Hugh B. Pickard
7. Home (manse) in Watertown
 - 117 Keyes Avenue 1912 - 1916
 - 128 Keyes Avenue 1916 - 1949 (twelve-room house)
8. Honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity received from Hamilton College - 1914
 - Elected to the Board of Trustees 1922 -1929

9. WORLD WAR I

- a. Beginning
 - June 28, 1914
Archduke Francis Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria-Hungary, and his wife were assassinated while on a visit to Bosnia
 - August 1, 1914
War in Europe
 - April 2, 1917
United States entered the conflict
- b. Members of First Presbyterian Church became involved
 - Elder Robert Lansing left to serve as Secretary of State under President Woodrow Wilson
 - Emma S. Lansing and Katharine TenEyck Lansing served overseas with the American Red Cross
 - Frederick F. Bugbee, general secretary of the local Y.M.C.A., was assigned to Fort Dix, N.J. during the war
 - Mrs. Willard Gamble opened her residence to soldiers stationed at Madison Barracks in Sackets Harbor
 - 90 men from First Presbyterian Church (27 were from Faith Chapel) served in the military
(On the service flag there were three gold stars for those from the church who lost their lives)
- c. The Synod of New York convened in First Presbyterian Church in October 1917
 - Moderator was Rev. Dr. Allen Macy Dulles from Auburn Seminary
 - Message was sent to President Woodrow Wilson stating that he was remembered in the prayer of the Synod
- d. Armistice - November 11, 1918
 - Elder Robert J. Buck and Rev. Dr. Pickard hurried to the church to ring the bell in the steeple
 - A prayer meeting was held at 7:30 a.m., with the church nearly filled with grateful people

10. Serious influenza epidemic of 1918
 - The Masonic Temple was converted into a hospital
 - Dr. Pickard visited the hospital daily and did a vast amount of work aiding the sick

11. Growth of the Sunday School - 450 pupils & 40 teachers
 - a. The Sunday School held annual picnics in the city park and was attended by several hundred
 - b. The pupils provided Christmas baskets yearly for needy families in the Faith Chapel area
 - c. Emphasis in having assistance with religious education for youth was important
 - In 1916 Miss Mary A. Paris, director of religious education for several years, resigned
 - Rev. Charles A. Anderson, graduate of Williams College and Auburn Seminary, became assistant pastor to work with the young people for one year (1916-1917)
(he became manager of the Department of History of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. in Philadelphia, PA)
 - Sunday School Superintendents, elected from the Session, were very important to the destiny of Christian Education
 - Miss Jane Naughton, church assistant, 1919-1941
 - directed the work of Sunday School
 - ordered church and Sunday School supplies
 - supervised Young Peoples Alliance, which became Westminster Fellowship
 - planned special programs for Christmas, Easter and Rally Day
 - active in young peoples conferences at Wells College, Aurora and at Oak Point
 - established Week Day School in the church, along with St. Paul's Episcopal, October 1924
 - began tradition of dinners at Christmas time for students away at college and other schools
 - established pageants on Sunday afternoons before Christmas
 - did secretarial work for the pastor
 - called on new people in the city and visited members of the congregation

12. Expanding church property
 - a. Purchased Dr. Henry Deane's residence at 130 Academy Street in 1920 to provide a meeting place for the Men's Class which met each Sunday at noon. The interior was remodeled and transformed into one large room to accommodate 150 people
 - The Boy Scout Troop of the church also used the house for troop meetings
 - b. Purchased property south of the church on Washington Street with frontage of 60 feet and depth of 150 feet in 1923. It included the old fashioned house of wooden construction owned by George R. Hanford. This house was torn down to make room for an addition to the church building.

13. Changes in church Officers and Boards
 - a. Trustees' term of 3 years could be reelected for a second 3 year term - began in 1925
 - b. In 1920 pews became free for all persons. Double envelope system for benevolence and church support had been instituted for several years.
 - c. Treasurer of the church was elected from the Board of Trustees. Dr. C.M. Rexford served from 1917 to 1941. He was succeeded by Mrs. Mabel Porter Downes, also serving as financial secretary since 1918, until 1952. She performed both arduous duties with great accuracy and competence.
 - d. In 1926 First Presbyterian Church affiliated with the pension fund for ministers of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
14. At annual meeting - April 26, 1926 - a Resolution was passed that Elders and trustees be empowered to go forward with a building program to plan:
 - a. a two-story educational building
 - assembly and class rooms for all of Sunday School
 - pastor's study
 - chapel
 - women's parlor
 - b. make a large meeting room and install a stage (Fellowship Hall)
 - c. redecoration of the main sanctuary and restore it to the appearance of 1851
15. Building Campaign launched to obtain pledges for the required \$200,000.00
16. Building Committee engaged Ludlow and Peabody of New York City to be architects. Contract for the work was awarded to Norman B. Hayes of Watertown - April 30, 1927
17. Ground broken for cornerstone of new educational Building on July 10, 1927
18. In the sanctuary:
 - a. the pews from 1892 were removed and replaced by straight pews with a center and side aisles
 - b. the organ pipes were placed in two sound boxes on each side of chancel
 - c. choir stalls were erected on each side of the chancel, facing each other
 - d. console of the organ was set at the rear of the chancel, on the south side.

19. 125th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION - October 1928

- a. Sunday, October 21, 1928
 - Rededication of the church
 - Dedication of the new educational building
 - b. Tuesday Evening, October 23, 1928
 - Organ Recital presented by Mrs. Kate Elizabeth Fox, formerly the organist of the church
 - c. Thursday, October 25, 1928
 - Dinner in Fellowship Hall, celebrating the 125th Anniversary
 - d. Sunday, October 28, 1928
 - Worship Service with the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
 - afternoon was a consecration service of the church school
 - e. A booklet outlining the history of the church was published
 - f. It was necessary for the church to obtain a mortgage loan of \$150,000.00 from the Agricultural Insurance Company of Watertown
20. Problems brought about by the Great Depression of 1929
- a. corners had to be cut in order to maintain a good financial situation
 - b. deemed advisable to terminate Sunday Vesper Services
 - c. with the decline in Sunday School attendance at Faith Chapel, families connected with the chapel needed help with food, clothing, fuel and even shelter
21. Resignation of Rev. Darwin Pickard on October 6, 1940
- a. letter of the resignation was read to the congregation at a Communion Service
 - b. resolutions of praise were expressed for the great work he had performed during his 29-year pastorate
 - c. Dr. and Mrs. Pickard remained in Watertown until April 1941, at which time they left to make their home in Harrisburg, PA.
22. After the death of Rev. Dr. Pickard on June 14, 1950 in Harrisburg, PA, a plaque was unveiled and dedicated in his memory on Sunday, October 29, 1950. It is situated on the south wall of the sanctuary and bears the inscription:

IN LOVING MEMORY OF
THE REVEREND
DARWIN FRANK PICKARD, D.D.
MINISTER OF THIS CHURCH
MORE THAN TWENTY-NINE YEARS
1912 - 1941

With love, dignity and understanding
he extended the Kingdom of God.

B. The Reverend Robert Wells Youngs 1941 - 1944 1946 - 1949

1. Born in Auburn, NY
2. Graduated from the College of Wooster, Ohio in 1935
3. Graduated from Auburn Theological Seminary in 1938, being high man of his class
4. Became pastor of the Seneca Falls church 1938 - 1941
5. Installed as 10th pastor of First Presbyterian Church October 8, 1941
6. In November 1941 Rev. Youngs preached a sermon during the Sunday Worship Services that were first broadcast over the air for the Watertown Daily Times Station, WWNY, which had opened in April. Radio listeners were throughout the North Country and Ontario.
7. **WORLD WAR II**
 - a. Beginning was December 7, 1941 when Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor
 - b. 202 young men from First Presbyterian Church and Faith Chapel were in the service before the end of the war
8. After about 15 years of making generous payments to be free of debt from the Agricultural Insurance Company loan of \$125,000.00, the congregation obtained their objective on February 1, 1944 when the last payment was made! A banquet on Friday, May 19th filled Fellowship Hall to capacity. The following Sunday morning the burning of the mortgage took place with Dr. Youngs and Dr. Pickard conducting the service.
9. Dr. Youngs became a navy chaplain assigned to the Pacific theater of operations for two years:
November 1944 to June 6, 1946

Interim Pastor was The Reverend Dr. Charles K. Imbrie,

- pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Newburgh
 - graduate of Princeton University and Auburn Theological Seminary
 - chaplain in the first World War
- Impressive services were held
- in August 1945 with the Japanese surrender
 - on November 11, 1945 at commemorative service as the dead of both world wars were remembered

10. Accomplishments of Dr. Robert Wells Youngs:
 - a. Moderator of St. Lawrence Presbytery 1946-1947
 - b. Leader in the Watertown Improvement League during the fight to obtain the new Senior High School 1948
 - c. Conducted the first coast-to-coast network program to originate in this city when he preached on the Columbia Church of the Air with the service originating at WWNY.
11. Changes in church government:
 - a. Annual meeting date changed from April to January - 1949
 - b. Method of rotating the terms of Ruling Elders -
 - no Elder can succeed himself after two terms of 3 years each,
 - although, an Elder may be eligible for reelection after being off the Session for 1 year
 - c. Board of Trustees increased to nine members (from five members)
 - d. Decision to create a Board of Deacons
 - e. In 1948 the establishment of a permanent Endowment Fund - with David C. Knowlton as Chairman
12. Distinct honor bestowed on Elder Frederick F. Bugbee
 - a. Elected Moderator of the Synod of New York in 1948
 - the first Elder to hold this high office since 1896
 - had previously served as Moderator of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence
 - was a retired General Secretary of the Watertown YMCA
 - b. also, in the year 1948, Mrs. Bugbee was honored at the annual dinner of the Women's Bible Class for having been teacher of the class more than 35 years!
13. Announcement by Dr. Youngs on May 27, 1949 that he had accepted a call to serve as Minister of the Hitchcock Memorial Church Church in Scarsdale, New York.

He and his family were honored with a dinner in Fellowship Hall with Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Sizoo as the principal speaker.

Chapter X
THE CHURCH TODAY
1949 - 1953

- A. First Presbyterian Church had no pastor for over six months. A committee of 26 members was elected at a special meeting of the congregation in June. A thorough search was launched to find a minister especially suited to the needs and requirements of this growing congregation. Elder William Roe, Clerk of Session, was elected as chairman of the committee.

Sunday worship services and various church responsibilities were done by "interim pastors."

1. **Reverend Norman W. Minard - Summer 1949**

- a. New Assistant Minister in charge of Faith Chapel
 - Bachelor's degree at the City College of New York
 - Theological degree at Western Theological Seminary, Pittsburgh, PA
- b. Divided his time between Faith Chapel and First Presbyterian Church

2. **Reverend Dr. Max A. Kapp - Fall 1949**

- a. Assistant Dean at the Theological School of St. Lawrence University
- b. Served the church each Sunday
 - to conduct the Worship Service
 - to teach the Men's Bible class each Sunday noon

B. **The Reverend David B. Watermulder 1950 - 1955**

- 1. Born on an Indian Reservation in Winnebago, Nebraska
- 2. Father was Superintendent of an Indian Mission School of the Reformed Church
- 3. Graduate of the University of Kansas - BA
- 4. Received the Bachelor of Divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary
 - took special work at Union Theological Seminary in New York City
 - awarded the degree of Master of Theology from Princeton in the field of English Bible
 - served as student assistant at the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City
- 5. Installed as the 11th pastor of First Presbyterian Church on January 25, 1950
 - service conducted by the Presbytery of St. Lawrence
 - participating were:
 - Rev. Thomas J. Carlisle, pastor at Stone Presbyterian
 - Rev. James L. Hill, pastor of Hope Church
 - Rev. Norman W. Minard, new pastor at Faith Chapel

6. New Director of Religious Education - Christine Dever
 - a. Native of Portsmouth, Ohio
 - b. Graduate of College of Wooster, Ohio
 - c. Attended summer school for leadership education
 - d. Duties described as
 - being in charge of the Sunday Church School
(attendance increased 55 percent by 1953)
 - being in charge of the Weekday School
 - promoting the Westminster Fellowships
 - e. Became director of the youth choir

7. HISTORICAL CELEBRATIONS

- a. 1951 - 100th ANNIVERSARY of the erection of the BRICK BUILDING
 - April 8, Special Sunday Service and Sermon
 - April 10, Anniversary Dinner in Fellowship Hall and Church history traced by Mr. Frederick H. Kimball
 - Summer plans were made:
 - rehabilitation of the church exterior
 - painting the exterior
 - Sanctuary redecorated with funds provided by Miss Emma Lansing as a memorial to her sister and family
 - Chancel remodeled with funds provided by Miss Nellie B. Wilmot. This included the erection of a 15 foot Mosaic Celtic Cross on the wall behind the Communion Table
 - (1) Service of Dedication on completion of the Cross, which included Biblical symbols of Christian Faith, was held on November 25, 1951
 - (2) A series of Sermons by Rev. David Watermulder explained the meaning and special significance of the symbols.
- b. 1952 - Redecoration of the Chapel
 - funds provided by Mrs. J. Munson Gamble
 - installation of a new lectern
 - installation of a new electronic organ
- c. June 7, 1952 - Commissioning of Missionaries
 - Rev. and Mrs. Stanton Wilson, to Korea from our church
 - Lifeline Club of 52 families formed to correspond weekly with the Wilsons
 - Numerous gifts were presented to the Wilsons as they departed for Korea
- d. June 15, 1952 - 100th Anniversary of Faith Chapel
 - Sunday - family supper held followed by a historical program in the sanctuary
 - list of past workers and ministers at Faith Chapel was recognized
 - an interesting history of the chapel in mimeographed form, compiled by Rev. Minard, was distributed

e. 1953 - SESQUICENTENNIAL YEAR

Reports of Progress:

- Membership at an all-time high - 1175
- Morning Worship Service attendance increased regularly each Sunday + 450
- Major roles in the onward movement of the church were being played by
 - The Sunday School
 - The Choir
 - The Women's Guilds
 - The Men's Council
 - The Couples' Club
 - The Young Adult Group
- Concentration on 3 phases of work in the church:

(1) SPIRITUAL EMPHASES

- support of a full time pastor at Faith Chapel
- partial support of a foreign missionary to Korea
- increased amount of yearly benevolence giving for regular missionary work
- given \$3,000 a year toward National Building Funds campaign designed to undergird our seminaries and aid in the establishment of churches in new communities
- prospective members undergo instruction classes and meetings with about 40 laymen of the church, followed by a four-week instruction course, taught by Rev. Watermulder

(2) YOUTH PARTICIPATION

- increased through expansion of youth groups & organizations
 - Junior High Westminster Fellowship
 - Senior High Westminster Fellowship
 - Young Adults Group (non-denominational)
 - Couples' Club - organized to bring many new young couples of the church together to develop friendships at monthly meetings
- addition of Sunday School classes for youth
 - Tiny-tot nursery
 - Nursery class
 - Kindergarten
 - Junior Church (those who leave worship service during 2nd hymn to attend their own religious service)

(3) MORE PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENT

- Repair and paint steeples and steeple cross with funds donated by Josephine and Grace Bingham
- Six assembly rooms, the parlor, 17 classrooms were cleaned and painted by a large number of men - "painting bees"
- All classrooms and assembly rooms, along with the sanctuary, chancel and chapel, have been redecorated!

f. Special Happenings

- impressive service in the fall of 1952 marking the publication of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible
- recognition of the 150th anniversary of national missions of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
- Rev. David Watermulder was elected Moderator of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence in June, 1953
- The National Council of Churches of Christ in America invited Rev. Watermulder to be one of the United States ministers to preach in various pulpits in Great Britain during the summer. This interchange of pulpits had been carried on for 25 years. It was a great honor to the church as well as to the minister. Rev. & Mrs. Watermulder traveled to London, Surrey, Oxford, the Portsmouth Cathedral and Glasgow, Scotland. He also attended the International Summer School of Oxford University.

g. 150th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION planned for October 4 thru 18

- Programs included outstanding guest speakers:
 - Secretary of State John Foster Dulles
 - Rev. Dr. John A. Mackay, President of Princeton Theological Seminary and Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.
 - Rev. David S. MacInnes, Executive of The Synod of New York
 - Rev. Dr. Henry P. Van Dusen, President of Union Theological Seminary, New York
 - Rev. Dr. Robert W. Youngs, former pastor
- Participation in services by two members of the church studying to enter the Presbyterian Ministry
 - Bruce M. Bowen, senior at Yale Divinity School
 - Hugh L. Cosline, Jr., senior at Princeton Theological Seminary
- A presentation depicting incidents in the history of the church under the direction of Mrs. Russell Wright
- An Anniversary Dinner
- A Presbytery-wide Service
- The publication of **"YEARS OF Faith"** by Historian and Elder Frederick H. Kimball
 - It is the history of First Presbyterian Church of Watertown, New York 1803 to 1953

Closing paragraph of "YEARS OF FAITH"

by Frederick H. Kimball

"This history of the first 150 years of the First Presbyterian Church of Watertown draws to a close. Since that founding day in 1803 back in Caleb Burnham's barn the Christian witness of this church has been a goodly one. Hardship, financial stress, wars and depressions have never halted the work, service and growth of this great North Country church nor does it now appear that anything in the future will ever prevent the people of this church from marching forward toward the City of our God. Great years of faith are behind us. Great years of faith stretch ahead."

For the next 50 years
"When the Doors are Open,"
the focal point of
the spacious sanctuary
will be
The Mosaic Celtic Cross

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Watertown, New York**

MOSAIC CELTIC CROSS

The beautiful Mosaic Celtic Cross was installed on the back wall of the chancel in 1951, the 100th anniversary of the brick church building. This was made possible by the generosity of Miss Nellie Wilmot, who provided the funds in memory of her two sisters. At the same time, Miss Emma Lansing gave money to redecorate the entire interior of the church as a memorial to her sister, Katharine TenEyck Lansing, and the Lansing family, who had been active in the church for more than 130 years.

The 15 foot high cross has over 30,000 small stones of Venetian mosaic. It was designed by Katharine Lamb Tait of the J & R Lamb Studios, who was well known for design in stained glass and mosaic in churches throughout the United States. She was a great student of the Bible and Ecclesiastical Symbolism.

The Celtic Cross, with its circle and slightly tapering arms, is an ancient cross of western Scotland. It is particularly appropriate for use in a Presbyterian Church with its strong Scottish heritage. It usually has elaborate detail, and through the use of mosaic, our Celtic Cross includes most of the important symbols which are found in the Bible. The minister in 1951, The Reverend David Watermulder, preached a series of sermons on these symbols, explaining thoroughly their meaning and special significance.

For over 50 years, this impressive Venetian Mosaic Celtic Cross has truly been the focal point of our sanctuary. With mosaic, every change in lighting and every change in position of the observer throughout the room brings out different beauties and contrasting impressions of colors.

FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS

"WHEN THE DOORS ARE OPEN"

The focal point of the spacious sanctuary will be
The Mosaic Celtic Cross

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Parish Associates

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The Reverend Gail Parsons	2003-

Outlined by

Mary P. Sanford
Bicentennial Co-Chair

a note from Mary -

Doug and I would like
to take this opportunity to
sincerely thank Mr. T. Urling Walker
and his wife, Mabel, for their contributions
to the success of our year long
Bicentennial Celebration!

Tom and Mabel became members of our church
in February, 1952 and have thus become
acquainted with the ministers of the
church and their families who have
served us through the past 50 years.
Tom had corresponded with all of them and had been
largely responsible for their being here for
all the significant events of the
Bicentennial year. In addition, the Walkers
housed The Reverend Jack Smiley
and the Watermulder family.

Tom arranged for Cardinal Avery Dulles to
be our guest speaker in July, and
Mabel was in charge of the beautiful
reception in Fellowship Hall following
Cardinal Dulles' appearance.

We certainly are grateful for their
generosity, hospitality,
enthusiasm and dedication.

Chapter I

The Reverend David B. Watermulder

1950 - 1955

The Reverend David Watermulder's installation as the eleventh senior pastor at First Presbyterian Church took place on January 25, 1950. With his wife Ruth and two year old son Paul, he took up residence in the newly purchased manse on Haley Street. The ensuing five years of his tenure in Watertown were marked by strong preaching, significant reorganization, expanded educational offerings and many memorable services marking the impressive history of our church.

The Reverend David B. Watermulder

- born on an Indian Reservation in Nebraska where his father was superintendent of an Indian Mission School
- graduate of the University of Kansas
- received a bachelor of divinity degree from Princeton Theological Seminary, which has honored him with the Distinguished Alumnus Award
- served as pastor in Hightstown, NJ

Reverend Watermulder was already regarded as one of the outstanding young ministers in the denomination when he was called to the north country. During his Watertown pastorate, First Presbyterian Church increased its membership by 250 and saw attendance double at morning worship. A selected list of major innovations/ events/developments happened during Rev. Watermulder's pastorate:

- the hiring of Christine B. Dever as Director of Religious Education
- the commissioning of Reverend and Mrs. Stanton Wilson as missionaries to Korea
- the construction and installation of the Mosaic Cross to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the present brick church building
- the 100th anniversary of the founding of Faith Chapel
- the 150th anniversary of First Presbyterian Church which was celebrated in October 1953. Guest speakers for the events were:
 1. John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State of the United States, who had grown up in our church
 2. Reverend David S. McInnes, Syracuse, executive of the Synod of New York
 3. Reverend Henry P. VanDusen, president of Union Theological Seminary in New York City
 4. Reverend John A. MacKay, president of Princeton Theological Seminary and current moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church
- following the meaning celebrations in 1951 and 1953, "Years of Faith," a history of First Presbyterian Church from 1803 to 1953 by Elder Frederick Kimball was published and distributed to members of the church.

While serving his pastorate at First Presbyterian Church in Watertown, Reverend Watermulder also became moderator of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence. In the community he became active in the following organizations:

- + Community Chest (United Way)
- + Mental Health Association
- + Cancer Society
- + YMCA director
- + chaplain of the Rotary Club

During the last two years of his pastorate, many changes took place in the staff of the church:

- Mrs. Mabel Porter Downs, a loyal and efficient treasurer for many years, resigned due to health problems. Mrs. Florence Watts Fagan followed her as treasurer, but she found the duties too demanding of her time. She was replaced by Mrs. Earl Bell.
- Reverend Norman Minard resigned as pastor of Faith Chapel plus assistant pastor of First Presbyterian Church. He was well liked by the congregation at Faith Chapel, and he had published a manuscript on their history.
- Reverend Thomas Kalshoven became Assistant Minister and served as minister at Faith Chapel on Sundays in 1954.
- George Hayes, Organist and Choir Director, resigned. He was replaced by organist Gardiner Vincent, with Mrs. Orrel York as organist. Mr. Vincent developed a filing system for church music.
- Miss Jane Naughton officially terminated her services as Church Visitor. She had previously served as Director of Christian Education and Assistant to Reverend Darwin Packard during his 29 years as pastor.
- Long time sexton Fred Thorigal retired.
- Christine Dever resigned as Director of Christian Education in February 1955. She had enjoyed 4 years of popularity with young people in the church.

Reverend David Watermulder served the people of our church with care, concern and compassion. His talents did not go unnoticed, as a search committee from Oak Park, Illinois "found" him and tendered a call which he accepted. In the five years he spent in Watertown, he gained the experience to take on the challenges of a larger church in a larger setting. His last sermon was on Easter Sunday, 1955, followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall.

Chapter II

The Reverend Herbert S. Schroeder

1955 - 1960

Reverend Herbert Schroeder of Syracuse was selected to become the new senior pastor. When he and his wife, Jane, came to Watertown with their four children, they moved into the newly purchased manse at 227 Thompson Boulevard.

The Reverend Herbert Spencer Schroeder

- native of St. Louis, MO
- won a full tuition scholarship to Washington University and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree
- worked in the travel department of American Automobile Association, did sales promotional work
- active in the large Tyler Place Presbyterian Church in St. Louis, MO
 - served as a choir member
 - became a Sunday School teacher
 - chosen to be an Elder. He was the youngest ever elected to that position in that church of 1200 members
- decision to become a minister - -
- graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity degree during the accelerated wartime program following World War II
- served as pastor in Yellow Springs, OH for 3 years
- served as pastor at the East Genesee Presbyterian Church in Syracuse for 6 years

During the first year of his pastorate, many activities and changes were developed by him. He promoted the publication of the first monthly NEWSLETTER in December 1955. He created the position of Associate Minister. The person who filled this position would act as an assistant at First Presbyterian Church and as the pastor of Faith Chapel. **The Reverend Thomas N. Kalshoven** had the title of Assistant at that time, but the first official Associate Pastor was when when **The Reverend Frederic W. Helwig** was installed in October 1956. Regulations for weddings in the church were established. Instead of pledging separately to current expenses and benevolences, there was a single pledge to both. (Benevolences were being over-subscribed, and current expenses were being under-subscribed.) James Maynard became Supervisor of Religious Education (also referred to as Superintendent of the Sabbath School)

Membership was at an all time high! These 1231 members were representative of all age groups, which kept attendance high, too! The Men's Club of nearly 100 members and the Women's Guilds were active. Sabbath School classes filled all the classrooms. Christmas caroling to the homes of the sick and shut-in was carried out by young people. Get-togethers for college and prep school students during the Christmas holidays were well attended. Boy Scout Troop 4, sponsored by our church, reached its full membership.

Easter Sunday Services were always well attended. As many as 900 filled the pews and the balconies. In 1957, Reverend Schroeder initiated two identical services on Easter Sunday, one at 9 and another at 10:30 AM. Also, on Easter Sunday, there was a sunrise service for Junior and Senior High students. They came to the church for breakfast at the conclusion of their service.

Support for our missionaries, **The Reverend Jay Johnson** in Thailand and **The Reverend Stan Wilson** in Korea, continued. Under Reverend Herb Schroeder, a check for \$1000.00 was presented to Stan Wilson to aid in the building of a youth hostel in Andong, Korea for 20 Korean boys studying at the J. Munson Gamble High School. The hostel would be used for boys who walk or bicycle 10 to 20 miles from their homes to school. They could stay at the hostel during the week and return home on the weekend.

In 1959, Rev. Herbert Schroeder guided the organization of an Improvement Program. This included a fund drive, where a goal of \$150,000.00 was oversubscribed. The main object of the campaign was the purchase of a new magnificent Austin organ. It was installed in a center position of the chancel. A dedication concert was beautifully presented by organist, Lorraine Adams Revelle, who returned to her home church for the event. In addition to the new organ, the kitchen, women's parlor and rooms in the Christian Education Building were renovated.

Joan Jones became Director of Music at our church in January 1959, and has continued to serve us faithfully and with great skill and diligence. She continued to promote the popular 11:00 PM Christmas Eve Service. The choir room was moved to the lower level of the Christian Education Building. The "choir room" located between Fellowship Hall and the sanctuary was made into a well-stocked library.

Faith Chapel becomes an independent church - Faith United Presbyterian Church. **The Reverend Frederick Helwig** resigned as Associate Minister at First Presbyterian Church and became the minister at Faith in January 1960. A new associate minister, **Reverend Wilfred B. Long**, arrived in October 1960 before Reverend Schroeder left to accept a position as pastor in Saginaw, MI.

Reverend Schroeder summarized his 5 years in Watertown: he was strong with youth and old people; he increased the membership; he was a successful money raiser, especially for benevolences; and the church was rehabilitated during his ministry.

Chapter II - continued

The Reverend Thomas N. Kalshoven
Assistant Pastor 1954-1956

- graduated from Cornell University in 1951
- graduated from Union Theological Seminary in 1954
- became Assistant Pastor of First Presbyterian Church to help its fast growing membership. The popular **Reverend Norman Minard** had just retired from 5 years of service at Faith Chapel
- As Assistant minister, Rev. Kalshoven would divide his time between Faith Chapel and First Presbyterian Church. All of Sunday would be devoted to Faith Chapel.
- He married Mary Rienbeck of Watertown in September 1955
- During his 2 years as assistant minister, he served with **The Reverend David Watermulder** from 1954 to 1955 and with **The Reverend Herbert Schroeder** from 1955 to 1956
- Following his departure from Watertown in 1956, he served as pastor at the Jamesville Federated Church in Jamesville, NY.

The Reverend Frederic W. Helwig

Associate Pastor 1956 - 1960
Pastor of Faith United Presbyterian Church 1960-1964

- native of Youngstown, NY
- installed as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in October 1956. This position included being Pastor of Faith Chapel
- installed as Pastor of Faith United Presbyterian Church in 1960
- retired from the ministry in 1964
- moved with his wife to Tennessee

Chapter III

The Reverend John B. Smiley

1961 - 1986

- The Smiley years - almost a quarter of a century -

A 16 member Pulpit Nominating Committee of First Presbyterian Church searching for a new pastor under the leadership of Attorney Carl O. Bachman worked carefully and patiently at the task of finding someone to lead our church. The call to Reverend Smiley was given unanimous approval by the congregation and he was installed as Senior Minister on September 28, 1961. He and his wife, Mary Ellen, and three children moved into the manse at 227 Thompson Boulevard during the summer. A dinner to welcome the new pastor and his family was held at Pine Tree Point in Alexandria Bay.

The Reverend John B. Smiley

- graduate of Princeton University
 - member on the varsity baseball team
 - played junior varsity basketball and football
 - editor of the daily "Princetonian"
 - class president for 3 years
- graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary
- ordained in the Presbyterian Church by the Monmouth Presbytery of the New Jersey Synod in October 1952
- was the chaplain for the State Home for Boys while serving in Jamesburg, NJ
- served as pastor in Beverly, NJ
- served as a commissioner of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the USA in 1958
- served as chairman of the evangelism committee of the New Jersey Synod in 1959

Several young people who have grown up in Watertown have decided to go into the ministry. Gail Ryerson has applied to enter Colgate-Rochester Divinity School in the Fall of 1966, Lawrence Chamberlain is a senior at Princeton Theological Seminary, and Thomas T. Crenshaw plans to attend seminary.

The Womens' Guilds became known as United Presbyterian Women. This large active group adjusted well to "Circles" instead of "Guilds" Most of their meetings were held in the church building, especially the parlor.

Lands End, the New York Center for Renewal and Study, was used more for weekend conferences for adults during the winter and Spring. Youth groups also enjoyed weekend retreats there.

Presbytery of Northern New York was formed in February 1965. At their December meeting, the Moderator of the General Assembly, Dr. Eugene Smathers, spoke at the Christmas Eve service. It was broadcast over WWNy.

Lewis B. Washburn became the organist in 1961. The choir membership increased with the new seating arrangement. The Christmas Eve music, presented under the direction of Joan Jones, had a large audience every year.

A historic event took place in February 1968 with the merger of Faith United Presbyterian Church with First Presbyterian Church. The Presbytery of Northern New York approved of the union and assisted **The Reverend Roger B. Putnam**, pastor of Faith United Presbyterian Church, with the arrangements for the merger. The church building on Arsenal Street was sold to Concordia Lutheran Church. Three women had been ordained as Elders and continued to serve their term of office at First Presbyterian Church. In 1969, Mrs. Alberta Simpson became the first woman to be ordained as an Elder from our congregation.

While serving the First Presbyterian Church in Watertown, Reverend Jack Smiley was active in community affairs and was devoted especially to the Watertown Urban Mission. The Urban Mission was inspired by three Watertown ministers, one of whom was Rev. Smiley. With churches of many denominations working together, they met the needs of individuals and families not served by the government or Social Services, but who were in need of help. They saw a need to enable these people to raise themselves from their hopeless positions and join the mainstream. Thus, the Urban Mission was started in 1968. Reverend James U. Cortelyou from Newark, NJ was hired to become Coordinator of its Urban Mission. Reverend Smiley also served as a director of Share-a-Home and of the Henry Keep Home. He was a member and past chairman of the Watertown Human Rights Commission.

In 1969, a decision was made to also have a Director of Christian Education, Ruth Rentschler, to join the staff. Her new leadership with the youth, especially with their projects and with retreats at Lands End, was continued until 1972.

1969 Was Watertown's Centennial Year!

A special service to recognize the incorporation of the city of Watertown 100 years ago was held in the sanctuary on February 2nd with a reception following in Fellowship Hall for City and Centennial officials. Mrs. Junia Stanton, Chair of the Landmarks Commission, asked for permission to place a plaque on the front of our church in recognition of its historical significance. The Bicentennial of our Nation was celebrated in 1976 with a special colonial worship service in our church.

In May 1973, **The Reverend Ellison L. Elmer** began his 17 years of service as Associate Minister. He and his wife, Phyllis, and 4 children came with much enthusiasm for Christian Education and Music Education. Both "Al" and Phyllis were musicians and their talents made a difference in the music of our church. A gift of handbells had been given to the church by Barbara Amos in memory of her grandfather, Jacob Amos. Both adults and young people learned to ring the hand-bells under the direction of Al and/or Phyllis Elmer. Sometimes Joan Jones incorporated bells with the anthems provided by the Chancel Choir.

ACT (Activate our Church Together) was organized in 1972 with a committee to study and to make recommendations. It was important that members realize the church spirit and attendance were declining. Many "inactive" members had been placed on the "reserve roll."

There were many "happenings" during Reverend Jack Smiley's ministry in Watertown:

- + New Worshipbooks (hymnals) were given to the church by Jane Knowlton.
- + Bernice Forsythe retired after 20 years as church secretary.
- + Impossible Dream thrift shop opened at Urban Mission in 1973.
- + Sally McAllaster was invited to organize a Folk Music Group in our church.
- + Native Ann Huey, graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, was ordained by the Presbytery of Northern NY. She has accepted a pastor position in Grand Forks, ND.
- + A sound system was installed in the sanctuary, in memory of Jane Naughton, by the Taylor and Butler families.
- + Peter Quimby became Financial Secretary.
- + The first Church Pictorial Directory was published in 1975.
- + The church steeple was provided with reflecting lights installed by The Black Clawson Company in memory of Wes Corbin.
- + The church parking lot was paved - a gift from Alma Avery and Marian Frink.
- + In 1981, Reverend Smiley was hospitalized with a heart problem. He spent most of the summer at home recuperating.

When the Stone Street Presbyterian Church was severely damaged by fire in 1981, the Session suggested that our smoke detectors be connected to the fire department. The Stone Street congregation held their worship services at the WWNY-TV station until a new building was constructed on Chestnut Street.

In 1982, the Martha Boudia Memorial Fund was established by her daughter, Najali Boudia. This fund was to be used exclusively for benevolence and to be used outside the budget. It would be administered by a special committee.

A carillon was installed in the steeple and will sound its chimes almost every hour during the day. It was given in memory of James Barbour, son of Don and Genevieve Barbour

"Joy with Joan" was a concert to celebrate her 25 years as Director of Music. It was held in the sanctuary followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, January 8, 1984.

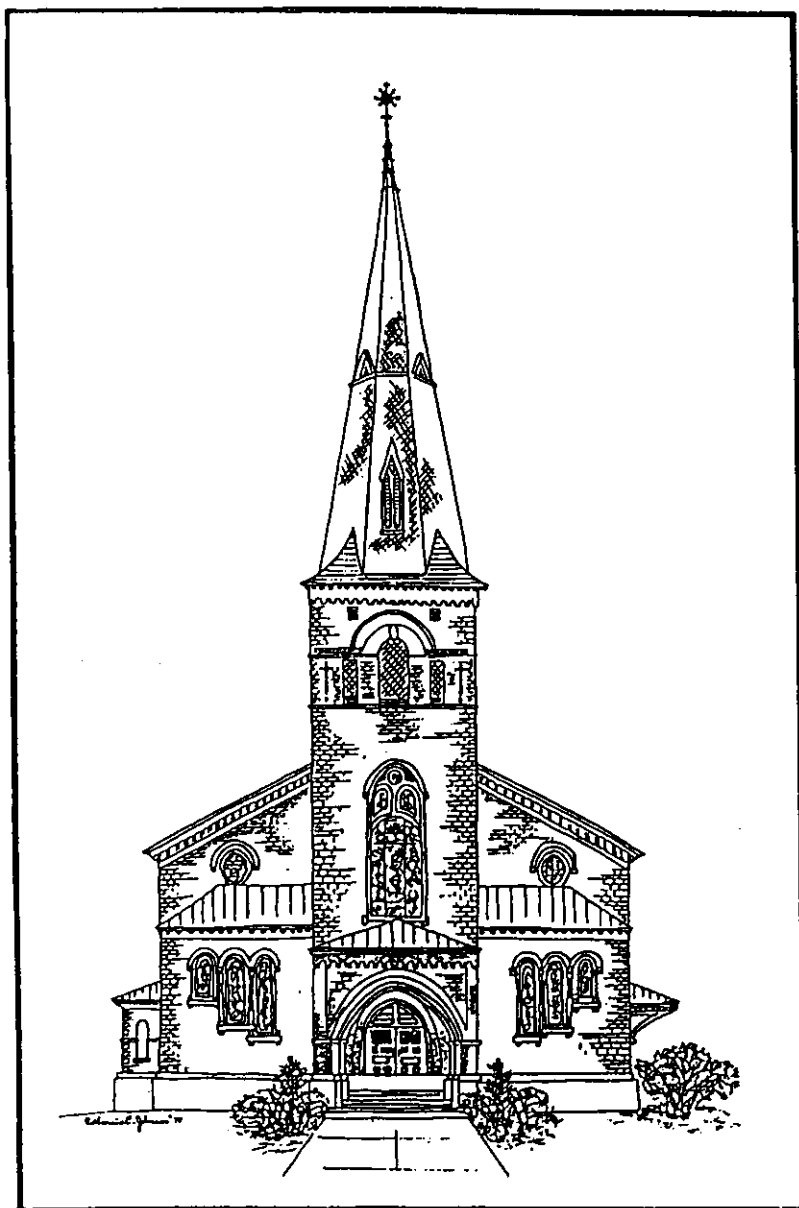
The next Fall Lewis Washburn resigned as organist for health reasons. He was replaced by Phyllis Elmer.

Douglas M. Sanford, Jr. presented a report on his two-year Peace Corps experiences in Botswana, Africa.

Helen Beach resigned as housekeeper after 29 years.

The Reverend James U. Cortelyou resigned as Executive Director of the Watertown Urban Mission and became pastor of The United Presbyterian Church in Sackets Harbor.

After nearly 25 years in Watertown, Reverend John B. Smiley announced his resignation as Senior Minister, effective March 31, 1986. His decision was prompted primarily by the length of his service to the Watertown community, where he had spent almost all of his ministry. He also said that the church needed a new minister with new ideas, new insights, new approaches and new energy to lead the church into the future. He also felt it was time for him to look for a new challenge and opportunity for his ministry. He said it was a resignation, not a retirement, and that he would continue in the ministry as an interim, serving churches that were searching for a new pastor. The Smileys were honored at a dinner celebration of the congregation as the Ramada Inn.



First pictorial directory of First Presbyterian Church
was produced in 1975

Cover by artist Catherine C. Johnson

Chapter III - continued

The Reverend Wilfred B. Long
Associate Pastor 1960-1962

- native of St. Louis, MO
- graduate of John Burroughs School in 1952
- graduated from Yale University with a B.A. in 1956
- studied at New College, the seminary of the University of Edinburgh in Scotland during 1956 & 1957
- received a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in 1960
- served as Associate Pastor and Director of Christian Education while at First Presbyterian Church
- resigned his position in the Fall of 1962 with the intention of studying in the Department of New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary

The Reverend William H. Stryker
Associate Pastor 1962-1969

- graduate of Bloomfield College, NJ
- graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary in 1956
- served as Associate Pastor of the Ewing Presbyterian Church of Trenton, NJ
- served as Minister of the First Presbyterian Church in Sayreville, NJ
- during his ministry he had been active in Christian Education programs and committees of the presbytery. He also directed Junior High camps for the Synod of New Jersey.
- Reverend Stryker's Watertown family included his wife Claire and daughters Cynthia and Kathryn. They were the first family to occupy the manse at 1355 Richards Drive that had been purchased for the Associate Minister.
- In April 1964, a group from our church led by Reverend Stryker and Mr. T. Urling Walker visited the mission activities in New York City that were ministered by The Reverend and Mrs. Guillermo Cotto-Thorner. The next year, in October 1965, these missionaries from New York City were welcomed to our church as guest speakers.
- Reverend "Bill" Stryker was a participant in the popular Men's Bowling League during the 1965-66 season.
- Reverend Stryker resigned his position in Watertown in August 1966 so that he could "undertake his ministry in a new field of service."

The Reverend Arthur B. Goyette
Associate Pastor 1966-1969

- graduate of Colby College in Maine
- graduate of Yale Divinity School
- served as pastor of the Southold Presbyterian Church on Long Island
- served as pastor of the West Adirondack Parish which included churches in Cranberry Lake
Star Lake
Wanakena
- prior to coming to Watertown, he had been active in The Presbytery of Northern New York with church work of Christian Education, especially with the activities in the Camp and Conference Program of the church.
- following his pastorate as Associate Pastor in Watertown, he returned to the Adirondacks. He developed and administered Deer Meadows, a camp in the Cranberry Lake area that served disadvantaged youths. During that period, he became a hunting and fishing guide as a means of raising money for the camp. He later obtained a masters degree in social work and worked as a supervising social worker in areas of St. Lawrence County.

The Reverend Scott C. Miller
Associate Pastor 1969-1972

- native of Salt Lake City, Utah
- graduate of the University of Utah
- graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary
- served as Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Hector, NY, where he had carried forth a vigorous program of adult education.
- He reported that a major concern of his ministry was working with small groups and emphasizing counseling, Christian Education, pastoral calling and preaching.
- The Session had voted in May 1969 to hire a Director of Christian Education AND an Associate Pastor
- Ruth Rentchler began work as Director of Christian Education during August
Reverend Scott Miller and his wife move to Watertown in October. Scott and Cynthia are the third family to occupy th manse on Richards Drive
- In March 1972, the Session approved the resignation of Ruth Rentschler effective July 31.
In April 1972, Reverend Scott Miller also submitted his resignation, effective August 31.
- The Session recommeded that the hiring of an Associate Pastor will divide his/her time between pastoral duties AND Christian Education.

The Reverend Ellison L. Elmer
Associate Pastor 1973-1989 - The Longest Term

- graduated from Cazenovia Central School in 1951
- graduate of Ithaca College in 1955
with a B.S. in Music Education
- earned a masters degree in Music Literature
Butler University in Indianapolis, IN in 1957
- became a music teacher in Hudson Falls, NY
and in Auburn, NY
- An accomplished violinist, he played with the
Syracuse Symphony Orchestra while in Auburn
- In 1964 a decision was made to pursue a career in ministry
- graduate of the Colgate Rochester Divinity School in 1967
with a Bachelor of Divinity degree
- served as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in
Mexico, NY for 6 years

A committee of twelve had been elected by the congregation to secure a new associate minister. They proceeded in their task with diligence and great care, because this position was to replace duties previously had by a Director of Education and an Associate Minister for 3 years. Under the chairmanship of Elder William Barden, the committee studied 54 dossiers of potential candidates. The call to Reverend Ellison Elmer was given approval by the congregation and he was installed on May 20, 1973.

Reverend Elmer, who was usually called "Al" and his wife Phyllis moved to Watertown with their four children: Deborah (aged 15), Gerald (aged 13), Leanne (aged 11), and David (aged 7). All became active in the church, school and the community. Phyllis, a music major from Oberlin College, became organist at Stone Street Presbyterian Church and gave piano lessons in her home. Al and Phyllis became hand-bell directors of youth and adult choirs in the church after Barbara Amos had given the handbells in memory of her grandfather in 1973. Al continued to play the violin and performed locally during church services and as a member of Watertown Morning Musicales. Al was able to write poetry for special occasions.

Reverend Elmer's main interests were in Christian Education, leadership training, and pastoral responsibilities concerning welfare recipients, the homeless, shut-ins and those afflicted with drug addiction. He served with Reverend John B. Smiley until April 1986, with Interim Senior Pastor Reverend Hugh B. Outtersen until May 1987, and with Reverend Brent J. Eelman until 1989.

During Al's time of ministry in Watertown, he was president of the Watertown Area Council of Churches and the Association of Presbyterian Church Educators. He was Chaplain of the Credo Foundation and coordinator of volunteers at the Jefferson County Jail. In 1976, he moderated an open discussion on the five areas of W.H.E.A.T. (World Hunger, Education, Action, Together) sponsored by the Ecumenical Hunger Task Force for Jefferson County.

Chapter IV

The Reverend Hugh B. Outterson

1986 - 1987

He was the second "Interim Pastor"

(The first Interim was Rev. Charles Imbrie, who served one year (1945-1946) while the Senior Pastor, Rev. Robert W. Youngs, was in the navy.)

The Reverend Hugh B. Outterson

- graduate of the University of Rochester
- graduate of the Colgate Rochester Divinity School
- ordained in 1952
- served as pastor of the United Church of Amuay, Judibana, Falcon, Venezuela (an ecumenical church with services in English)
- served as organizing pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis, IN
- served as Associate Pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church of Rochester, NY
- served as Interim Minister:
Lafayette Avenue Presbyterian Church in Buffalo
First Presbyterian Church of Horseheads, NY

The Personnel Committee recommended to the Session that a Mission Study be done to define the goals and aspirations of the church. Within three months the Mission Study report indicated that:

1. The church needs revitalization
2. The church needs more youth involvement
3. The church needs better communication among its members

During the winter the steeple was struck twice by lightning, causing considerable damage but no fire. Repairs were necessary in the balcony by replastering the ceiling and installing new spotlights for the beautiful stained glass window, "Christ and the Doctors." A lightning protection system was also installed.

The Session voted to allow the Associate Pastor, **Reverend Ellison Elmer**, take over the ministerial duties of the church during the summer while the Pastoral Nominating Committee was hard at work seeking a new senior minister.

Chapter V

Building on Years of Faith with

The Reverend Brent J. Eelman

1988 - 1994

The Reverend Brent Eelman was presented by the Pastoral Nominating Committee as a candidate for Senior Minister in September 1987, was hired in October, and was installed as the 16th minister of First Presbyterian Church in January 1988. He and his wife Karen, an elementary grade school teacher, and their young daughter, Emily, were the third ministers' family to occupy the mance at 227 Thompson Boulevard. They eventually purchased the house and made major renovations.

The Reverend Brent J. Eelman

- born in New Brunswick, NJ
- graduate of Hunterdon Central High School, Flemington, NJ

His father was Pastor of Bethel Reformed Church in Passaic, NJ and later a Professor of Preaching and Practical Theology at Brunswick Theological Seminary. The length of the academic year afforded the Eelman family the opportunity to spend entire summers at Chautaugua, NY. Brent's father was a very scholarly person and had been a principal professional influence on his life.

- graduate of Albright College, Reading, PA
major in religion and philosophy
- graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary
with a concentration on Ethics and Theology
- ordained in 1976
- worked as a missionary in Taiwan for a short time
- served as Minister of Education at First Presbyterian Church in Columbia, MO for 3 years
- served as Pastor of the Oakland Presbyterian Church in Cambridge, WI
- Served as Associate Pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church in Beaver Dam, WI for 5 years
- married to Karen Wachholz, a second grade teacher, in Wisconsin

During Brent's first year here, the senior minister's office was redecorated with new carpet, couch, chairs, tables and curtains, using funds from a bequest of the estate of Lyda C. Sudduth which was supplemented by donations from her family and friends.

The sanctuary was closed for four months during that summer for extensive redecorating. Pews were removed, and the sanctuary was completely repainted using three values of mellow beige. The lighting fixtures were removed and the brass was restored and lacquered. New globes were added to soften the light. The carpet was removed so that the floors could be refinished, then replaced with new carpeting. Barbara Jean Metevia, a local interior decorator, developed the colors and the design concepts. The work was paid for by capital funds and a bequest from the estate of Marjorie Van Allen.

Soon after the dedication service for the redecorated sanctuary in November 1988, it was discovered that the roof trusses of Fellowship Hall was in critical need of repair. A major renovation project was planned by the ACE (Architectural, Construction and Engineering) Committee with plans presented by Architect Darryl D. Rippeteau. This project was financed by the money from the "Building On Years of Faith" fund drive, which raised \$850,000.00. The roof trusses were replaced and repaired, and Fellowship Hall was completely redecorated. A special dinner dedication was held in September 1990. During these trying times services and fellowship gatherings were held in the chapel, Room 10 and the hallways of the Educational Building. The church's Annual Dinner Meeting was held at the Masonic Temple in January 1989. When Associate Pastor, Reverend Ellison L. Elmer, and his wife, organist Phyllis Elmer, left after 17 years, the farewell dinner was held in the Parish Hall at Trinity Episcopal Church.

In 1990 our church was awarded a "Private Sector Award" from the Preservation League of New York State. This award was for "significant achievement in the preservation of the rich architectural heritage and cultural legacy of New York State." It recognized the effort that our congregation made to restore and repair the sanctuary, Fellowship Hall and the rest of our church property. Meanwhile, a newly formed historical committee, headed by Jane Huey, prepared index cards that describe many photos and items in the historical room.

Carl A. Bingle became church organist in January of 1990 and initiated major repairs to the organ. This was funded by "organ donors" and was celebrated at an organ recital in 1992 that was coordinated with Watertown Morning Musicales and the St. Lawrence Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The dedication service for the restored organ featured music and the accompanying words composed by Brent Eelman. He liked all kinds of music and plays Jazz guitar. Joan M. Jones, Director of music in the church since 1959, continued to promote music for all ages. When retired organist, Lewis Washburn, moved into a nursing home, he donated his spinet piano to the chapel. Jennifer McCreary Whitenack replaced Al and Phyllis Elmer as hand bell director. She also led a small choir of hand chimes, given to the church by Lynn Pyke in memory of her parents. 1994 marked the 20th anniversary of the handbell choirs, an event that was celebrated by a bell concert.

There were many "happenings" during Brent Eelman's ministry in Watertown:

- + Paul E. Brown was recognized for being an Elder for 50 years
- + The monthly newsletter was renamed "First Press" in 1989
- + Booklets describing church policy concerning weddings and baptism were prepared.
- + In 1988, the women's organization, United Presbyterian Women, became Presbyterian Women and created a new logo. A sewing group, called the "piecemakers" was organized by Ann Sudduth. They used donated fabrics (mostly from Brent's mother) to make small quilts to be given to the Jefferson County Women's Crisis Center for children's need of "security" blankets. It was also decided that the women could fulfill their pledges to the Presbytery's domestic and foreign mission sewing projects

- + 1991 saw the formation of the Presbyterian Enrichment Group
- + Radio Ministry celebrated its 50th Anniversary
- + Calarco Funeral Home's parking lot became available for additional church parking. A fence and a gate was installed between lots.
- + From 1992 to 1994, Dr. Fred and Nella Stone served as medical missionaries in Malawi, Africa.
- + The church received a generous bequest from the estate of Doris T. Graves in 1992. 50% of the income from the grant would go to local mission, and 50% would go to buildings and grounds.
- + The sanctuary sound system was upgraded
- + Watertown Urban Mission has a Silver Anniversary in May 1993
- + Stephen Ministry began. Four delegates are sent to Florida for a leader's course
- + In 1993 the "Upper Room", or room over the kitchen, was remodeled and developed into a meeting room as a result of a bequest from Helen R. Bowen. Furnishings included an oval-shaped conference table with lovely upholstered chairs.
- + Peter Quimby's position as Financial Secretary, which he held for 19 years, will end. That function was transferred to the duties of Administrative Assistant, Joan Henchen, computer educated to take over positions of church secretary and treasurer.
- + The Session has formed a Futures Group (an extension of Long Range Planning Committee). A consultant from the Alban Group was hired to direct its efforts. Members of the group will be a cross section of the congregation.

While in Watertown, Brent was a member of the Committee on Ministry and the Committee on Preparation for Ministry of the Presbytery of Northern New York. He was also a member of the Permanent Judicial Commission of the Synod of the Northeast. Locally, he was a member of the Watertown Rotary Club and a board member and President (1993) of Hospice of Jefferson County. He served as president of Watertown Urban Mission in 1989.

Brent Eelman's ministry in Watertown extended from the Fall of 1987 to November 1994. He then became the Senior Pastor of Northwoods Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX.

Chapter V - continued

The Reverend Robert A. Findlay
Interim Associate Pastor 1990-1991

- native of New Jersey
- graduated from Muskingum College in Ohio
- graduated from the University of Denver Law School
- served in the U.S. Navy in the Judge Advocate General Corps
- practiced law in Breckenridge, CO
- felt called to the ministry
- graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary
- completed a post-graduate internship at the First Presbyterian Church of Ithaca, NY

Robert Findlay was our first Interim Associate Pastor. During his 18 months with us, he worked with the Deacons and the Christian Education programs. He organized a youth club and was instrumental in the formation of the SOLOS group.

The Reverend James C. Ramsey
Associate Pastor 1991-1996

- graduated cum laude from Ohio University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism
- graduated from Columbia Theological Seminary, GA with a Master of Divinity degree
- became an ordained Elder while in High School
- married to Jo, a social worker while in Watertown
- ordination was held during his installation as Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Watertown

During his 5 years in Watertown, James Ramsey was the principal organizer of the 1000 Islands Habitat for Humanity.

He, along with Arlene Wilson and Linya Bell, started a Stephen Ministry program at our church

He led the Adirondack Canoe Expedition for the Presbytery of Northern New York

He conducted an annual communicants class

He and Lynn Pyke conducted youth religious activities programs that culminated in eight students receiving the "God and Family" award.

He organized a 1995 Senior High Youth Group mission trip to Clairvauz Farm in Elkton, MD

The next year he organized a mission trip to Jamaica

In the Fall of 1996, Reverend James Ramsey accepted a position as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Belle Vernon, PA. Jo had already left Watertown to pursue dual masters degrees in divinity at Pittsburgh Seminary and in social work at the University of Pittsburgh.

Chapter VI

The Reverend C. Frederick Sanford

1995 - 1996

He was the third "Interim Minister"

The interim minister search committee found Rev. Fred Sanford with a background of pastorates, especially with a recent specialty of Interim Ministry. Both training and experience have provided a satisfying career track in helping churches which for various reasons have lost their pastoral leader and are in transition toward a permanent one. He and his artistic wife, Peggy, found friends in Watertown with a common interest, especially with stitchery, Scottish Tartans, geneology and curling.

The Reverend C. Frederick Sanford

- native of New York - childhood in the Catskill Mountains
- boyhood was spent in Cincinnati, OH
- attended Hanover College, IN
- served in the U.S. Military for 2 years with duty on the island of Okinawa.
- graduated from McCormick Seminary in Chicago in 1961
- served Presbyterian pastorates in
 - Winamac, IN for 5 years
 - Dearborn, MI for 2 years
 - central PA for 5 years
 - on the Hudson River across from West Point for 8 years
- served as Interim Minister in
 - Niagara Falls, NY
 - Youngstown, NY

When Fred Sanford moved to Watertown, the final report of the Futures Group was presented to the Session. Decision was made to keep a two minister staff. The weekly bulletin cover will include the newly adopted Vision Statement:

"We will be a force for Christianity
in the Community"

and Mission Statement:

"Seeking God's help, we will pursue growth
and renewal as a united Christian body,
We will nurture people within our church
and provide Christian leadership
and care throughout our community."

The Session has approved a new governance structure for the church - A UNICAMERAL Board (Session) composed of 5 Councils, which will replace 13 committees. The Trustees will be replaced by the Facilities and Finance Council. The Deacons will remain a separate board. This change in governance will be voted on by the congregation. (two years later, the Unicameral board concept was approved by the congregation 88-16. Session Councils will be Christian Education, Outreach, Stewardship, Worship & Music and Facilities & Finance)

TABLETALK, a social gathering of groups of people around a breakfast, lunch or dinner table had been proposed by Paul and Martha Brown. It was launched with a great deal of enthusiasm.

The Session approved a new sound system for the sanctuary. Irene Kolton will supplement the cost in memory of her husband, Stan Kolton. The system was installed by John McCreary, David Stanley, Don Riordan and Ken Reed.

A Church Pictorial Directory was published in 1995 by Olan Mills. The directory cover featured the beautiful Mosaic Celtic Cross done by artist Jim Netto. The theme, "Strengthening the Ties that Bind" has a message for each of us and all of us to be together in Christian faith and love, and (as our new vision statements reads) "to be a force for Christianity in the community."

The library was converted to a choir room. Four closets will store the choir robes. New music file cabinets will have catalogued music for the choir and the organist. The previous lower level choir room will give youth groups more space for their meetings and activities.

The church has new hymnals. They are **The Presbyterian Hymnal** with Hymns, Psalms, Spiritual Songs recently published by the Westminster John Knox Press in Louisville, KY. They are donated by members of the congregation in honor of or in memory of a loved one. A donor notice in calligraphy is placed in the front of each donated hymnal. Calligraphers are Jodi Brickson and Mary Sanford.

The tutoring program, recently organized and operated in conjunction with Asbury Methodist Church, has 6 students, ranging in age from kindergarten through 3rd grade. It is called the Knickerbocker Tutoring Program, because that is where it is held.

WIN (Women's Interest Network) Circle was established as part of Presbyterian Women. Their evening meetings were appreciated by younger women, especially those with day-time jobs.

Name tags for all members were prepared and made available in Fellowship Hall.

The Stephen Ministry has attracted about a dozen members who meet regularly under the guidance of **Rev. James Ramsey**, the Associate Pastor. He also has successfully organized the details for 1000 Island Habitat for Humanity to begin building their first house in Watertown.

In April 1996 an organ concert was presented by Carl A. Bingle. It was sponsored by Watertown Musicales with outstanding vocalists performing in "FRENCH FIREWORKS & PHANTOM at FIRST PRES!" Also included in the program were a brass ensemble, timpani, piano and The Chancel Choir under the direction of Joan M. Jones. Over 600 people attended this free concert, with standing room only for the second half when the music from "Phantom of the Opera" was performed.

Following an active year as Interim Pastor, **Reverend Frederick Sanford** traveled to Chambersburg, PA, where he served as Interim Pastor again during this "mobile lifestyle."

Chapter VII

The Reverend Lawrence S. Moir 1996 - 2000

The Reverend "Larry" Moir was nominated to become the new head of staff by the First Presbyterian Church's nine-member pastoral nominating committee, which reviewed more than 150 resumes from ministers across the country. The congregation approved the appointment and plans were made for him to begin Sunday services on March 16th. He moved his family into a house in Brownville.

The Reverend Lawrence S. Moir

- native of Niagara Falls, NY
- graduate of Brockport State University College with a BS degree in History and a NY State teaching certificate in Social Studies
- graduate of Colgate Rochester Divinity School
- Ordained by the Presbytery of Western NY in 1977
- served as pastor of Stillwater United Church north of Albany, NY for 15 years
- served as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Fairmont, WV for 4 years
- installed as the 18th pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Watertown on April 21, 1996

During the Fall of 1996, the Associate Pastor, **The Reverend James Ramsey**, left Watertown to assume the position of minister of a First Presbyterian Church in Belle Vernon, PA. His wife, Jo, had moved to Pennsylvania previously to pursue dual masters' degrees in Divinity at Pittsburgh Seminary and in Social Work at the University of Pittsburgh.

The stained glass window that faces Washington Street, "Christ and the Doctors," needed to be repaired. A fund drive raised \$40,000.00 for the window to be completely removed and repaired with protective plexiglass. Inscribed on the glass under the picture was "And it came to pass that after three days they found him in the temple sitting in the midst of the doctors both hearing them and asking them questions."

(This magnificent stained glass window was installed in 1893 by the J. & R. Lamb Studio. It is actually a reproduction of Hoffman's painting, "The Christ Child with the Rabbis in the Temple." The window is a gift to the church from the widow of Dr. W.V.V. Rosa, a practicing physician of Watertown and a member of the church's Board of Trustees.)

It was announced that the church steeple bell was in a permanent fixed position and could not be rung. This was repaired and it has been ringing loudly ever since!

The Reverend Susan Tague-Smith was installed as Associate Pastor on September 18, 1998 and became active in the Christian Education of young people in the church,

In April 1999, an organ concert was presented by organist Carl A. Bingle. The music was a concentration of 19th century French and German composers. Choir members from the Adams Village Baptist Church joined our Chancel Choir for an exciting "ORGAN FIREWORKS & LES MIS" concert. Soloists performed 14 selections from the ever popular "les Miserables." A good will offering was collected to benefit the 1999 Geraldine F. Sheehan Memorial Scholarship with the Watertown Morning Musicales Scholarship Fund. The Presbyterian Women's group arranged a reception in Fellowship Hall for the large crowd that attended. Pastor Larry Moir also participated in the choir.

The next year the two choirs combined again to present a sacred cantata, "THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST" by Theodore Dubois.

New blue robes were obtained for the Chancel Choir.

A group of eight people from the Presbytery of Northern New York toured Malawi for 16 days. At a later time we will be hosting four visitors from Malawi. Medical supplies for Malawi have been packed and shipped under the supervision for Dr. Fred and Nella Stone.

During the month of December 1999, there was a burglary in our church, at which time a small portable safe containing Session minutes from January 1994 through December 1999 and the official by-laws of the church was stolen! A new security system was installed in the church.

Criticism of the performance by Senior Pastor Larry Moir began during his first year in Watertown. It became apparent that his style of ministry was not meeting the needs of the congregation. Written complaints from a cross section of the members of the congregation and choir voiced concerns that Pastor Moir had difficulty with interpersonal relationships and had made changes without consulting others. In an effort to rectify the situation, the Session met frequently with Executive Presbyter Clint McCoy and Committee on Ministry representative, Stone Presbyterian Church Pastor Bruce Smith. In September 1999, Pastor Moir disclosed to the Session that he had been diagnosed with clinical depression, the symptoms of which he had had for years. He was immediately placed on indefinite medical leave of absence. In February 2000, with the guidance of the Reverends McCoy and Smith, Pastor Moir submitted to the congregation his letter of resignation. A Service of Remembrance, Dissolution and Thanksgiving was held on February 13th.

Associate Pastor Susan Tague-Smith continued to assume all pastoral duties until an interim pastor was appointed. Supply preachers were used on occasion, and Elders and Deacons assisted wherever and whenever needed.

The Reverend Susan Tague-Smith
Associate Pastor 1998-2004

- native of Alexandria Bay, NY
- member of the Reformed Church of the Thousand Isles, sometimes played the organ for worship services
- graduate of Smith College in Northampton, MA
- graduate of the Andover Newton Theological School in Boston, MA with a Master of Divinity degree
- lived in Albany, NY for 12 years
- served as pastor of the Burrville Congregational Church for 5 years
- lives in Watertown with husband, Mark Smith, and two daughters - Margaret and Alexandra
- happy to have moved back to the North Country and to enjoy the proximity of extended family on both sides

The "Formula of Agreement" was approved by the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1997. This allows ministers of the Presbyterian Church, Reformed Church of America, United Church of Christ and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to serve in each others churches. Our congregation began as a Congregational Church in 1803. We became a Presbyterian congregation in 1821. Two former pastors, **George B. Stevens** and **Andrew M. Brodie**, came to this congregation from the Congregational Church. Now, we welcome **Susan Tague-Smith**, former pastor of the Burrville Congregational Church. She was an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ at the time of her call to our church in May 1998.

The members of the Associate Pastor nominating committee met more than a year, reviewed about 200 personal information forms from all over the country and interviewed several candidates before selecting a person to fill the position of associate pastor. It has been empty since Rev. James Ramsey's departure in December 1996.

During the installation service on September 13, 1998, music was provided by the Chancel Choir under the direction of Joan Jones, the Joy and Alleluia Children's Choirs directed by Margot McGorman, The Watertown High School Jazz Choir directed by Russ Faunce and special organ music by Carl Bingle.

The Reverend Susan Tague-Smith was the first female pastor to officially serve in our church. She became very active in Christian Education and had large communicants classes.

Her community activities have included vice presidency of the Women's Center of Jefferson County and membership on the Board of Trustees of the Samaritan Keep Home.

Chapter VIII
The Reverend Gerald R. Platz
2000 - 2003

He was the fourth "Interim Pastor"

It was with great pleasure that the new Interim Senior Pastor be introduced to members of our church. Rev. Gerry Platz had been an Interim Specialist for eight years and had been recommended to lead our congregation through a difficult transition. Soon after his arrival "Cottage Meetings" were held in several homes as a means for him to become acquainted with members of the congregation. The efficiency of the church secretary, Sue Beaman, was appreciated. The Associate Pastor, **Reverend Susan Tague-Smith**, was relieved to have help with the ministerial duties she had to manage during the winter months.

The Reverend Gerald R. Platz

- native of Erie, PA
- attended Penn State University, Behred Center, Erie PA 1954-1956
- graduate of Maryville College in Tennessee
B.A. in English Literature 1958
- graduate of the McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, IL 1962
- served on the staff of Westminster Church in Albany, NY for 6 years
- served as Pastor of the Stone Presbyterian Church in Clinton, NY for 24 years
- as Interim Specialist for 8 years, he served four congregations: Sparta, NJ
Bloomsbury, NJ
Painted Post, NY
North Syracuse, NY
- served on various committees of the local presbyteries and the Synod of the Northeast
- was on the Board of Trustees of Auburn Theological Seminary in New York City for 4 years
- his wife, Nancy, is a Library Media Specialist and works part-time at a Syracuse public library.
- Gerry and Nancy recently had moved into a new home in Liverpool. His schedule in Watertown allowed him to spend a couple of days each week in Liverpool.

While in Watertown, our church participated in the city of Watertown's Bicentennial Celebration. A special "church days" event in November of 2000 was held in recognition of this event. (report is attached) A 34-foot long **Timeline** depicting the "Life and Times of First Presbyterian Church" was along one wall in Fellowship Hall. Music during the worship services was characteristic of the music played during the ministry of The Reverend Dr. Allen Macy Dulles, who had served as our senior minister from 1887 to 1904.

A church website was established by Kim Collins.

2001 was the 150th Anniversary of the brick church building! And the 50th Anniversary of the Mosaic Celtic Cross! For 50 years this impressive cross, installed with over 30,000 small stones of Venetian mosaic, has truly been the focal point of the sanctuary. Tri-fold brochures describing the symbols of the beautiful mosaic cross and recognizing the talented designer, **Katharine Lamb Tait**, were produced and presented as a gift to the members of First Presbyterian Church by Dr. Douglas M. and Mary P. Sanford. Photos on the brochure were taken by Gary Burns, a local photographer.

The chapel was to be renovated. Design proposals had been received that were not appreciated by many members. One committee member did extensive research on the furnishings and the memorial gifts in the chapel. It was one of the rooms in the Christian Education building completed in 1928. In 1953, the 150th Anniversary of the church, the chapel was redecorated and refurnished, plus provided with a new electronic organ, by Mrs. J. Munson Gamble. To consider a renovation for the upcoming bicentennial year, the modern plans were rejected. Instead, the chapel was changed somewhat to provide flexibility for its use. Chairs and area carpets replaced the pews and center aisle runner. The red altar curtain was replaced by a beautiful and impressive quilted wall hanging entitled "like a dove" and designed by Marilyn Eager, an active member of Presbyterian Women. This interested group also arranged to have the antique altar chairs rebuilt and reupholstered for the small altar in the chapel.

The downstairs Youth Room was renovated and was considerably improved. This was used by Junior and Senior groups.

The 60th Anniversary of the Radio Ministry was recognized.

Organist Carl Bingle presented to the Session a request for a new 32-foot stop for the organ. The request was granted. The 32-foot contra gemshorn extension on the organ was installed in honor of Joan Jones' 43 years of service as Music Director. The stop was named after her! This addition to the organ was paid for by money raised in a fund drive that was subscribed to by many members of the congregation.

In June 2002, the congregation gave thanks for the years of faithful service and congratulated The Reverend Gerald Platz on the 40th Anniversary of his Ordination! The Presbytery indicated that Rev. Platz had done an excellent job as our interim senior minister, and that he had been here for a prolonged period of time. They recommended that we look for a new interim or use supply pastors until we have been successful in obtaining a designated senior pastor.

Rev. Platz served us well as interim pastor for 33 months. He was instrumental in the healing that took place following the difficult period the church had with its previous pastor. He was here during much of the committee planning of our Bicentennial Celebration. When he left on January 31, 2003, his departure was after he had moderated the Annual Meeting and assisted with the organization of the new Session.

Bicentennial Church Days
SPECIAL
WATERTOWN BICENTENNIAL PROGRAMS
at
First Presbyterian Church

Report by Mary P. Sanford, Chairman

Watertown, New York celebrated its Bicentennial during the year 2000 with a different theme concentration each month. The Bicentennial Committee paid tribute to the religious heritage of our community by sponsoring "CHURCH DAYS" for all the houses of worship located in the City and Town of Watertown during the first weekend in November. Nearly 30 churches participated with various scheduled events

Because First Presbyterian Church is the oldest church in Watertown and will be celebrating its own Bicentennial in 2003, this "Church Days" event gave our committee an opportunity to learn about our history and to proudly showcase our beautiful church. As chairman, I carefully selected 18 church members who had special talents, interests and enthusiasm to serve on the committee. Our Interim Senior Minister, Gerald R. Platz, was also included, and his support and encouragement were appreciated throughout the summer and fall. There were five meetings held to plan the Bicentennial Church Days happenings at First Presbyterian Church. These happenings include:

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2000

An Old Fashioned Ice Cream Social
in Fellowship Hall
6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

and

A Musical Variety Show, named "SUNDAE SONGS"
in the Sanctuary
7:45 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2000

Afternoon tours of several (12) local churches
Guided tour of First Presbyterian Church
included the Sanctuary & Fellowship Hall
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

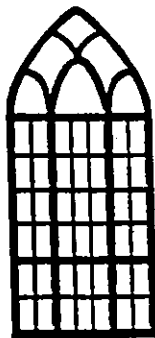
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2000

WORSHIP SERVICE

- turn of the century era -

Concentrating on the years during the
Rev. Allen Macy Dulles, D.D. Ministry
1887 to 1904

90 minute special broadcast over Radio WATN 1240



CHURCH DAYS
at
First Presbyterian Church

November 5, 2000
10:00 a.m.

WORSHIP SERVICE

PASTORS: Gerald R. Platz, Interim Senior Pastor
Susan J. Tague-Smith, Associate Pastor
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Joan M. Jones
ORGANIST: Carl A. Bingle
CHURCH HISTORY narrated by Kevin Kieff

following the Worship Service

Colonial Punch and Cookies RECEPTION
in Fellowship Hall

with

A 34-foot long TIME LINE depicting the history
of First Presbyterian Church from 1803 to 2000
plus
Banner of FPC Building
Banner of Stained Glass Window "Christ and the Doctors"
and
Exhibit of historic American Flags on stage
and
Display of early Bibles and Hymnals

Our church participated in the Watertown Bicentennial Settlers' Day Parade on Saturday, July 22nd. A flatbed float was decorated with beautiful enlarged photos of our church building and our stained glass window (same as used as "banners" in Fellowship Hall during Church Days) Two altar chairs (probably over 130 years old) were placed on the float for adults to use. About 20 children in colonial dress also rode on the float. They sang a selection of Sunday School songs along the parade route.

W A T E R T O W N B I C E N T E N N I A L

C H U R C H D A Y S

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Established 1803

C O M M I T T E E

Mary Sanford, Chairman
Carl Bingle, Organist
Liz Bonisteel
Carole Brown
Phyllis Elmer
Judy George
Lou Green
Kevin Kieff
John McCreary
Betty Lou Riordan
Donald Riordan
Douglas Sanford
David Stanley
Jeanne Stanley
Bernie Taylor
Ellie VanEenenaam
Ann Van Slyke
Bart Van Slyke
Louise Wisner

Consultants:

Elizabeth Brown
Kathryn Wright
Marcia Treadwell
Bill Keene

Coordinating With:

Gerald Platz, Interim Senior Pastor
Susan Tague-Smith, Associate Pastor
Joan Jones, Director of Music

WATERTOWN COMMITTEE:

Donna Dutton & Rande Richardson, Co-Chair
Elise Chan
Catherine Martin
Mabel Walker
T. Urling Walker

Chapter IX

The Reverend Fred G. Garry

2003 -

For almost three years, the Pastor Nominating Committee, which is made up of congregation members, met every two weeks, conducted a survey of the congregation, created a church information sheet reflecting the survey results and reviewed 268 personal information forms. "The result of those labors is that God has led us to this candidate as minister for our church," wrote Shari Nattell, chairwoman of the committee, and John Sudduth, clerk of session, in a letter to congregation members.

The Reverend Fred G. Garry, D. Min.

- born and raised in San Diego, CA
- graduate of San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Arts and Letters degree in history
- received a Masters of Divinity in 1993 from Princeton Theological Seminary
- received a Masters of Theology in 1994 from Princeton Theological Seminary
- ordained in 1994
- currently completing his Doctor of Ministry at Princeton Theological Seminary (scheduled for May 2003)
- served as pastor at the First Presbyterian Church in Pataskala, OH
- served as pastor at the Summit Avenue Presbyterian Church in Bremerton, WA

Reverend Garry and his wife, Kathy, have five children: Joshua (15), Laura (14), Zoe (10), Ethan (6), and David (2). He counts his wife and his children as a "miraculous gift." The family moved into 222 Ten Eyck Street and he began his ministry at our church on March 1, 2003.

His ministry prior to his arrival in Watertown accomplished the following:

- + Successful Capital Campaign leadership representing 30% increase in annual giving
- + Five Short-term Mission Trips to Mexico
- + New and dynamic worship services featuring Kirkin-O-the-Tartan to Bach's St. Matthew Passion
- + Has consistently been a Community Leader and Has chaired a Master Plan Committee
- + Has written two original works of fiction for adult education
- + Has been a supervisor of Seminary Interns
- + Has served as an associate hospital chaplain
- + Has developed an Arbor Day program

Reverend Garry's resume stated that he enjoyed backpacking, 16th century history and the writing of short stories and novellas. He believed that it is important as pastor to be involved in the community as a leader or as a civic guardian.

As a pastor, he believed that God is leading him TO PREACH the word of God where people live, TO TEACH scripture so that it is a living word being written upon our hearts, TO GIVE of his time and talents as an act of love, and TO ORGANIZE the activities of a congregation so as to foster spiritual growth.

Throughout the year 2003 First Presbyterian Church celebrated its 200th ANNIVERSARY. Many events had been planned by the Bicentennial Committee to high light special historic dates. During the Spring a wonderful concert of organ, bagpipe, vocal and instrumental selections was presented. An original anthem, "A Prayer for Peace" with words by choir member Eleanor Fralick and music by organist Carl A. Bingle, recognized and honored Joan M. Jones, Director of music at our church for 44 years! On May 18th the congregation was delighted to witness the Installation Service of **The Reverend Frederic G. Garry**, the 20th minister of First Presbyterian Church!

Fred was pleased to welcome many former pastors who returned for special services or events during the year. A distinguished guest speaker at a worship service in July was **Cardinal Avery Dulles**, son of Secretary of State John Foster Dulles during President Dwight Eisenhower's administration, and grandson of **The Reverend Dr. Allen Macy Dulles**, our pastor for 17 years at the turn of the century.

Fred became active in the community during his first year here when he became a member of the Board of Directors of Watertown Urban Mission. This organization celebrated its 35th Anniversary in June, at which time **The Reverend John B. Smiley**, one of the founders, and **The Reverend James U. Cortelyou**, their first Executive Director, returned for the Founder's Day Banquet. In November 2003, Fred was elected to serve as President of the Board!

During the Fall of 2003, our church recognized as Parish Associates **The Reverend Ellison Elmer** and **The Reverend Gail Parsons**. Both were retired and were living in Watertown. Members felt truly blessed to have them in our midst.

When the Presbytery of Northern New York held its December meeting at First Presbyterian Church, it was another opportunity for area pastors and church leaders to be introduced to **The Reverend Fred G. Garry**. By now our congregation was beginning to feel Assured of the Faith of Our Future while Celebrating the Faith of Our Past and Strengthening the Faith of the Present.

BICENTENNIAL YEAR 2003

Celebrate the Faith of Our Past

Time line in Fellowship Hall

Displays of our beginning (1803-1850)

Caleb Burnham's new barn in Burrville

Stone Church built in 1821

Pastors

Early Photos

List of 50-year members (posted in Fellowship Hall)

(The Bicentennial Committee found 67 names, thanks to Bart & Ann VanSlyke)

DID WE MISS ANYONE?

Strengthen The Faith of Our Present

Special 44th Anniversary for

Joan M. Jones, Director of Music (1959-2003)

The church organ has had a new 32-foot contra Gemshorn, named for Joan Jones on the "stop", installed before the Bicentennial Year to provide a new organ "voice" with the deep lower tones from the new digital rank. This extension will tie into our existing 16 ft. and 8 ft. gemshorn pipes. This wonderful "gift of music" was initiated by members and friends to honor Joan Jones' dedication to music at First Presbyterian Church for 44 years! Carl Bingle is a master organist and will be rendering special arrangements on the organ, especially preludes and postludes, during January to demonstrate this new sound!

MAJOR PROGRAMS SCHEDULED FOR 2003

Sunday, May 4 - Rev. Dr. Brent J. Eelman, guest pastor

Monday, May 5 - Bicentennial musical program,
"Pipes of Jubilee at FPC"

Sunday, June 1 - Rev. John B. Smiley, guest pastor

Tuesday, June 3 - Founders Day Dinner & Program

Sunday, June 29 - Avery Cardinal Dulles, guest

Friday, October 10 - Bicentennial Banquet & Program

Sunday, October 12 - Rev. Dr. David B. Watermulder, guest pastor

Saturday, December 2 - Presbytery of Northern New York meeting at FPC

Assure the Faith of Our Future

By doing everything we can to build a stronger church that will be better able to serve our community in the future. The first 200 years must be remembered by the generations that are to come, as hundreds of outstanding pastors, loyal Sunday School teachers, choir members, organists, Elders, Trustees, Deacons and a host of other men and women, boys and girls have expended their strength, talents, and money in this church.

Mary Sanford, Co-Chair



BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

In 2003 we celebrated the 200th anniversary of our church. There were many events that highlighted this celebration. On March 23rd, Joan Jones was recognized for her 44 years as Director of Music. At that time, the world premier of "A Prayer for Peace" was held. This is a poem by Eleanor Fralick set to music by organist Carl Bingle. On May 4th former senior minister Brent J. Eelman (1988-1994) and former associate minister James Ramsey (1991-1996) returned and participated in the Sunday service. On May 5th, "Pipes of Jubilee," a wonderful concert of organ, bagpipe, vocal and other instrumental selections was presented. At that time, "A Prayer for Peace" was again sung by the choir. On May 18th, we were delighted to be present at the installation service of Fred Garry, our new senior pastor. June 1st found John B. Smiley, our minister from 1961 to 1986 in the pulpit as our guest preacher. Jack was also present for our Founders Day Banquet on June 3rd, the exact day of our founding in 1803. While Jack was here he also participated in the 35th anniversary celebration of the Watertown Urban Mission, which he helped found. Also present for the Urban Mission anniversary was the Reverend James U. Cortelyou, the first executive director. On June 29th, our guest preacher was Cardinal Avery Dulles, whose father, John Foster Dulles, grew up in our church and whose grandfather, The Reverend Dr. Allen Macy Dulles, was our pastor for 17 years at the turn of the century. The youth of our church were instrumental in conducting a Vacation Bible School in August. This was in conjunction with the YMCA.

October 10th was the date of our Bicentennial Banquet, during which former pastor David Watermulder (1950-1955) and former Director of Christian Education Christine Dever Hansen (1950 - 1955) were featured. The Reverend Dr. Paul Watermulder, the son of David Watermulder, also spoke during the banquet. On the following Sunday, October 12th, Dr. David Watermulder preached during the morning worship service. The "Kirk O' the Tartans," which celebrated our Scottish heritage and included the blessing of tartans, took place on October 19th. A Harvest Breakfast for local clergy was held on October 21st. Those of us who got up early on October 26th and turned on the television set found our church featured on the "U. S. Farm Report."

The Presbytery of Northern New York met in our church on December 2nd. This was the first time this had happened in several years. On Sunday, December, 21st, following a wonderful Children's Christmas Pageant, the Presbyterian Women gifted us with a lovely Christmas Tea which was enjoyed by all.

During the Bicentennial Year, our church recognized as Parish Associates Gail Parsons and Al Elmer. We are blessed to have them in our midst. Our bicentennial celebrations also led to reflections on the beautiful Celtic cross that graces our chancel. It was installed in 1951 and marked the 100th anniversary of the construction of our present brick church. In addition to the Celtic cross, another cross attracted our attention: the original cross that topped our steeple when the church was constructed in 1851. It was

blown down in a windstorm during the winter of 1874 and replaced by a new tower, new steeple and the cross that you see today. This old cross was discovered this year and immediately put on display in Fellowship Hall.

We have commemorated the bicentennial event with souvenir plates, calendars and post cards. A 34 foot long TimeLine which describes "The Life and Times of the First Presbyterian Church" has been installed in Fellowship Hall. Two banners (which are actually huge photographs of our church) and the bicentennial logo (designed by Susan Stanley Martin) have been on continuous display.

Gifts to the church during the bicentennial year have included a beautiful wall hanging by Marilyn Eager. It's entitled "Like a Dove..." (Matthew 3:16) and is hanging in the chapel. It is bracketed by two historic chairs that have been restored by Tom Walker and re-upholstered by Presbyterian Women. Between the chairs is a lovely marble-topped table contributed by the Eagers. In the narthex is a custom-made portable podium (holding the guest book) which was donated by the Board of Deacons. Another gift is a framed photograph of Fred Kimball, elder, historian and author of "Years of Faith," the book that tells the history of our first 150 years. Presbyterian Women have given 18 banquet-sized tablecloths for the tables in Fellowship Hall. Another extraordinary gift to the church during the bicentennial year was the 32 foot contra Gemshorn stop which was added to the pedal rank. It was named after Joan Jones to honor her for her 44 years of service as music director and resulted from a fund drive spearheaded by Carl Bingle.

An outstanding Pictorial Directory was produced in early 2003. The church bells have rung every Sunday. Changing historic displays have appeared in the locked cabinet in the Education Wing along with informative notices on the adjacent bulletin board.

Videos made during the worship services of the visiting pastors plus "Pipes of Jubilee" plus Fred Garry's installation are available for sale or loan by contacting the church office.

Vignettes have appeared frequently in "First Press." In January, the Bicentennial Theme was expressed and the schedule of events was presented. Our theme was:

**CELEBRATE THE FAITH OF OUR PAST
STRENGTHEN THE FAITH OF OUR PRESENT
ASSURE THE FAITH OF OUR FUTURE**

In March, facts and figures concerning ministers, elders, trustees and deacons were featured. The steeple was the topic in April, and in May, Brent J. Eelman, James Ramsey, "Pipes of Jubilee" and a history of pipe organs in our church were the subjects. In June background information on John B. Smiley and Cardinal Dulles was presented, along with a description of our Founders Day. During the summer the newsletter article emphasized that our church was the "mother" of 4 churches in the area. September featured the Sunday School and weddings in our church. In October, David Watermulder

and our changing sanctuary were presented. November noted our church's involvement in wars, and December showed Christmas activities through the years.

The Bicentennial Committee has actively participated in all the events of the year. Their interest and enthusiasm have been truly appreciated. The members of the committee are:

Jeffrey Barnard
Carl Bingle
Bill & Liz Bonisteel
Carole Brown
Elizabeth Brown
Sally Dickinson
Henry & Marilyn Eager
Phyllis Elmer
Rosalyn Farmer
Fern Foster
Lois Galloway
Judy George
Bob & Bunny Gorman
Maureen Gorman
Lou Green
Marian Hills
Joan Jones

Kevin Kieff
Dick & Debbie Lake
Beth Linderman
John & Gini McCreary
Peter & Laurel Pike
Don & Betty Lou Riordan
Peter Salmon
Charles & Sonnie Scott
David & Jeanne Stanley
Fred & Nella Stone
John & Ann Sudduth
Bernie Taylor
Ellie VanEenenaam
Peter VanEenenaam
Bart & Anna VanSlyke
Tom & Mabel Walker
Louise Wisner

Respectfully submitted,

Mary and Doug Sanford, Co - Chairs

"THIS IS OUR HERITAGE"

by Joe Glass

Here we stand, remembering our founders, hand in hand,
recalling the account of faithful souls who poured their lives
into a sovereign dream.

Here we sing in reverence to the Savior,
and we cling to hope of gaining favor as we follow His commands,
we worship and obey.

May our heritage be that we fought the fight.
May our heritage be that we stood for the right.
May our children know that we followed Christ.

This is our heritage.

We're building the Kingdom of God.

Surrounded by a cloud of witnesses, let us cast aside the weight of all our
differences.

We will run the race before us with our eyes on Jesus Christ who is the
Author and Perfector of our faith.

May our heritage be that we fought the fight.
May our heritage be that we stood for the right.
May our children know that we followed Christ.

This is our heritage.

We're building the Kingdom.

May our children know that we followed Christ.

This is our heritage, our heritage.

We're building the Kingdom of God.

The anthem was performed by the Chancel Choir
of First Presbyterian Church
for "Kirkin O' the Tartans" Sunday
which celebrated our Scottish Heritage

October 26, 2003

REPORTS

Housing for Pastors

Church Officers

Elders

Trustees

Deacons

Music in our Church

Choir Directors

Organists

Sabbath School

Superintendents

Vacation Bible School

Lands' End

Local Ministries

Jail Ministries

Radio Ministries

Foreign Missionary Activities

Women

Historic Highlights

Presbyterian Women

Women of First Presbyterian Church

History

Piecemakers

Presbyterian Women Logo

Groups and Moderators

HOUSING FOR PASTORS

at

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

1. Rev. Ebenezer Lazelle (1803 -
House was located in Burrville
2. Rev. Daniel Banks (1815 - 1821)
Rev. Banks lived across the street from the church at 418 Washington Street. The site was part of land owned by Zachariah Butterfield, one of Watertown's first three settlers. He sold property to Jonathan Cowan, the community's first miller, in 1806, who then sold 31 acres to Daniel Banks in 1816 for \$1,600.00. County records state that it became known as "the Banks Place." After 1831 the house was owned by Egbert TenEyck, one of Watertown's most noted citizens. Judge and Congressman TenEyck occupied the two-story Georgian Colonial house for many years, then, through marriage of descendents, the house was owned by Henry Babcock, Vice President and trust officer of the Watertown National Bank. In more recent years the building was used as an office for the Methodist Conference Center. Presently, it is owned by Rose & Kiernan Associates.
3. Rev. George S. Boardman (1821 - 1837)
The church rented a house at \$40.00 per month from Jabez Foster. It was located on the south side of the first block of Clinton Street. Rev. Boardman was single.
4. Rev. Isaac Brayton (1837 - 1864)
Rev. and Mrs. Brayton built a house at 143 Clinton Street. It later became the home of Judge and Mrs. Robert Lansing and was occupied many years by Miss Emma Lansing.
5. Rev. John J. Porter (1864 - 1882)
The Porter family rented a house from Dr. William V.V. Rosa on TenEyck Street until 1867. Then the Watertown Ecclesiastical Society purchased the Clarke Rice home at 16 Clinton Street for \$8,531.00. It was the first manse for pastors at First Presbyterian Church. Rev. Porter lived there until he left Watertown in 1882.
6. Rev. George B. Stevens (1882 - 1886)
16 Clinton Street
7. Rev. Allen Macy Dulles (1887 - 1904)
The Dulles Family lived at the manse at 16 Clinton Street until 1897. At that time he built his own house at 129 Clinton Street, across the street from the manse which was sold to Mrs. Alice Powers Smith. 129 Clinton is the site of the Watertown Savings Bank.

8. Rev. Andrew M. Brodie (1906 - 1912)

When Rev. Brodie and his family moved to Watertown, the Watertown Ecclesiastical Society purchased another manse at 171 Mullin Street from the Ingalls' family. The church had not owned a manse since Rev. Dulles moved out of the Clinton Street parsonage and built his own residence in 1897. After Rev. Brodie left the city, the trustees received an offer from F.M. Williams to buy the manse, a large brick residence at 171 Mullin Street, and the church decided to accept.

9. Rev. Darwin F. Pickard (1912 - 1941)

Rev. and Mrs. Pickard moved their family into a house at 117 Keyes Avenue until the Watertown Ecclesiastical Society purchased a parsonage at 128 Keyes Avenue from Fred A. Caswell, a contractor, in 1916. This 12 room house was their home for the many years he served as pastor.

10. Rev. Robert W Youngs (1941 - 1944) & (1946 - 1949)

128 Keyes Avenue

11. Rev. Charles K. Imbrie (1945 - 1946)

128 Keyes Avenue

12. Rev. David B. Watermulder (1949 - 1955)

A newly purchased manse was at 157 Haley Street. It had been sold to the church by Mr. & Mrs. Robert Meade.

13. Rev. Herbert Schroeder (1955 - 1960)

227 Thompson Blvd.

14. Rev. John B. Smiley (1961 - 1986)

227 Thompson Blvd.

15. Rev. Hugh B. Outterson (1986 - 1987)

Rev. Outterson served an interim year in Watertown by travelling to and from his home in Rochester. While he was in Watertown, he resided at the home of Robert and Jean Sturtz at 204 TenEyck Street from Sunday through Wednesday.

16. Rev. Brent J. Eelman (1988 - 1994)

227 Thompson Blvd.

17. Rev. Frederic Sanford (1995 - 1996)

During Rev. Sanford's interim year, he and his wife, Peggy, lived in a house on Route 37, about 3 miles from Watertown.

18. Rev. Lawrence S. Moir (1996 - 2000)

He and his family purchased a house in Brownville and commuted to church in Watertown every day.

19. Rev. Gerald R. Platz (2000 - 2003)

During his three year interim ministry, Rev. Platz maintained his home in Liverpool with his wife Nancy. He usually left Watertown following the Sunday service and returned on Tuesday or Wednesday. While in Watertown he lived in an apartment on Keyes Avenue next to Don Calarco's Funeral Home and adjacent to the church parking lot.

20. Rev. Fred G. Garry (2003 -
222 TenEyck Street

ELDERS and TRUSTEES
at
First Presbyterian Church

(Unicameral Board began in 1997)

In the process of compiling a roster of the elders and trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Watertown, New York, some very interesting observations can be made. Many of the first families were of Scottish or Dutch ancestry, and their traditions would most likely have been of the Presbyterian or Reformed worship experience. Many of those family surnames are evident today in our Watertown street and business names.

In the Church's earliest years, elders (men) were elected to serve for life, or until no longer able for other reasons. Many of Watertown's "first" families were represented for a number of generations. Women did not serve as elders until the 1960's.

The history of men and women who have served the Church in leadership roles is indeed rich.

Report by Richard J. Lake

Extra Research by Mary P. Sanford
Bicentennial Co-Chair

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, New York

ROLL OF ELDERS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>
William Brown	1821
James Stone	1821
William Huntington	1821
J. Van Nest	1821
Theophilus Redfield	1821
Hart Massey	1821
Job Sawyer	1821
Asaph Horton	1821
Amasa Herrick	1821
Jeremiah Holt	1832
Buckly Steadman	1832
Eli Farwell	1837
C. D. Morgan	1837
A. P. Brayton	1837
Solon Massey	1843
J. L. Rice	1845
J. C. Sterling	1845
Elias Hagar	1854
H. H. Kellogg	1854
H. E. Conger	1867
F. R. Farwell	1873
George E. Massey	1873
J. C. Knowlton	1873
W. H. Porter	1881
Edward B. Sterling	1885
Samuel F. Bagg	1885
George W. Knowlton	1886
W. A. Winslow	1889
J. R. Stebbins	1892
Charles H. Anthony	1892

1897 - ELDERS ROTATION SYSTEM STARTED

There were designated three classes of
three Elders each, serving a term of
three years.

1902 Session increased to twelve members

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>	<u>Re-Elected</u>
John Weekes	1897	
Robert Jones Buck	1897	
Charles L. Parmalee	1897	
John Sterling	1903	
Robert Lansing	1903	
Elliot K. Harroun	1903	
C. W. Gamble	1903	
Henry Eager	1907	
Matthew M. Bagg	1908	
Charles Duane Griffith	1915	
Willard H. Northrop	1915	
Frederick F. Bugbee	1920	
Howard F. Farrington	1922	
Jacob F. Amos	1923	
J. Munson Gamble	1923	
James H. Davison	1928	
Samuel H. Abbey	1930	
George W. Combs	1930	
George Seymour Knowlton	1931	
Harold Bruce Johnson	1931	
Richard Johanknecht	1937	
Robert L. Pease	1937	
A. Wilson Laird	1937	
Paul Ellsworth Brown	1940	
Calvin Wesley Gamble	1940	
Alton H. Adams	1942	
Frederick Hubert Kimball	1942	
John D. Barnard	1942	
Clyde W. Miller	1942	
Frederick E. Decker	1944	
William A. Hamler	1944	
William I. Roe	1944	
David C. Knowlton	1946	
Roy R. Allen	1948	
Wallace W. Manning	1948	
Nathaniel P. Wardwell	1948	
Robert G. Hess	1949	
Robert L. Meade	1949	
James A. Coulter	1950	
LeRoy C. Mather	1950	
Hugh G. Murray	1950	
Frederick H. Doner	1951	
H. Norton Sudduth	1953	
John F. Shriver	1953	

The above list of ELDERS appeared in "Years of Faith"
a history of First Presbyterian Church 1803 - 1953.

LIFE MEMBERS: Samuel H. Abbey, Jacob F. Amos,
Frederick F. Bugbee, Howard F. Farrington,
Richard Johanknecht, Harold B. Johnson

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>	<u>Re-elected</u>
John H. Williamson	1954	1955-58 1961, 1964, 1968
Wesley S. Corbin	1954-1957	1957-60 1961, 1964, 1971
Orrel A. York	1954-1957	1957-58 -
William H. Larrabee	1955-1958	1958-60 1962, 1965
Robert F. Mendler	1955	
Carl O. Bachman	1956-1957	1957-60 1964, 1967
Robert A. Bond	1957-1960	1960-63
Max A. Slate	1957-1960	1960-63
Donald V. Rienbeck	1958-1961	1961-64
T. Urling Walker	1958-1961	1961-64 1965
Kenneth S. Barden	1959-1962	1962-65
John B. Johnson	1959-1962	1962-65
Maurice C. Miller	1959-1962	1962-65
Donald A. Barbour	1960-1963	1963-66 1968
Dan J. Beckner	1960-1962	1962-65 1965, 1970
Francis L. Guertin	1961-1964	1964-67
Gerald E. Allen	1963-1966	1966-69
Charles R. Close	1963-1966	1985-88 1988
Vernon I. Galster	1963-1966	1966-69
Josiah R. Meyer	1963-1966	1966-69
Edmond A. Moesel	1963-1966	1966-69
Thomas B. Roe	1964-1967	1967-70
Robert W. Kellock	1965-1968	1968-71
Gilbert L. Pultz	1965-1968	1968-71
Eugene D. Pfaff	1965-1966	-
Robert S. Shaw	1966-1968	completed Pfaff term
		1968-71
Lyston C. Jennings	1966-1969	1969-70 -
Charles F. Hasner	1966-1969	1969-71 -
Lyle B. Marvin	1966-1967	1967-70
William G. Garlough	1967-1968	-
Laurence H. Kissel	1967-1970	1970-73
James E. McVean	1968-1970	completed Garlough term
Michael F. Speno	1968-1970	
William Taylor	1968-1971	1971 - 1994
William B. Freeman	* 1966-1969	1969-71
Charles E. Hart	1969-1972	1972-75 1976
Stan L. Kolton	1969-1972	
+ Alberta E. Simpson	1969-1972	1972-75
Mrs. Louis Seery	* 1965-1968	1968-71
Miss Lorraine Brown	* 1965-1968	
Mrs. Louis Monaco	* 1967-1968	1968-70
Gerald Satchwell	* 1967-1968	

+ First female to serve as an Elder

* Elders from Faith United Presbyterian Church

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>	<u>Re-elected</u>	
Reed T. Barnard	1970-1973	1973-76	
William B. Keene	1970-1973		1979, 1982
Russell Spencer	1970-1973		
Gerald W. Walsh, Jr.	1970-1972		completed Jennings term
Lyman L. Goodrich, Jr.	1971-1974		
Kenneth L. Seeber	1971-1974	1974-77	
David O. Stanley	1971-1974		
George Maley, Jr.	1971-1972	-	
Genevieve Kellock	1972-1974		completed Maley term
		1974-77	
William B. Barden	1972-1975	1975-78	1989, 1992
Fern Foster	1972-1975	1975-78	
June Galster	1972-1975	1975-78	1979, 1982
Harold N. Little	1972-1975	1975-78	1985
Stephen C. Williamson	1972-1974		completed Taylor term
		1974-77	
William W. Conde II	1973-1976	1976-79	1980, 1983
W. Robert Galloway, Jr.	1973-1976	1976-79	
Julian B. Palien	1973-1976	1976-79	
David O. VanEenenaam	1973-1976	1976-79	
P. Owen Willaman	1973-1976		
++ John P. McCreary	1974-1976	-	
		1990-93	1997
W. Barton VanSlyke	1974-1977	1977-80	
++ Richard J. Lake	1975-1978	1978-81	1985, 1989, 1998
Geraldine Sheehan	1975-1977	-	
Rodney E. Bonisteel	1976-1979	1979-82	
Gerald C. Porter	1976-1977	-	
Richard H. Baker	1977-1979		completed Porter term
Elizabeth Corbin	1977-1980		
Robert C. Golden	1977-1980		
		1992-95	
Thomas P. Hamilton III	1977-1980		
Jane Huey	1977-1980	1980-83	1984
Ruth Watkins	1977-1978		completed Sheehan term
		1978-81	
Donald A. Foster	1978-1981	1981-84	
John B. Johnson, Jr.	1978-1981		
Laurence H. Kissel	1978-1981	1981-84	
Virginia McCreary	1979-1982		
Shirley Walsh	1979-1982		
Earl L. Kelly	1979-1980	-	
Elizabeth Brown	1980-1982		completed Kelly term
		1982-85	
Anna VanSlyke	1980-1983	1983-86	
George D. Wilson	1980-1983	1983-86	
Frank W. Antalek	1981-1982	-	

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>	<u>Re-Elected</u>
Shirley R. Cortelyou	1981-1984	
++ Frederick A. Stone	1981-1984	
++ John C. Sudduth	1981-1984	1990-93 1996, 1999 1984-86 completed Conde term 1988 2002
Laurabelle Moesel	1981-1984	
Kenneth Reed	1982-1985	
++ Robert R. Sturtz	1982-1985	1985-88 1998
Janet F. Blakeman	1983-1986	1986-89
Kathleen Klemens	1983-1985	-
LeRoy D. Fluno	1984-1987	1987-90
++ Lu Green	1984-1987	1987-90 1997
Elizabeth Prosser	1984-1987	
Ella L. Rienbeck	1984-1987	1987-90 1992
++ Douglas M. Sanford	1984-1987	
Jeanne Stanley	1984-1985	1995-98 completed Klemens term 1988
Charles R. Close	1985-1988	1985-88 1988-91
Kenneth E. Ferris	1985-1988	1988 -
Ernest Mugglin	1985-1988	
Richard Baker	1986-1987	-
William W. Banker	1986-1989	1989-92
++ Charles Bohlen	1986-1989	1989-92 2000
++ Henry R. Eager	1986-1989	1989-92 1997
David Galster	1986-1989	1989-92
Carol Gorman	1987-1989	1989-92 completed Baker term
Robert J. Brown	1987-1990	1990-93
Shirley A. Parker	1987-1990	1990-93
Margaret Pontious	1987-1990	
C. Waring Blackburn, Jr.	1988-1991	
++ Donald W. Riordan	1988-1991	1996-99 2003
Arlene Wilson	1988-1991	1991-94
Marian J. Hills	1989-1992	1992-95
James Ketrick	1990-1993	1993 -
Lynn S. Pyke	1990-1993	
Mabel B. Walker	1990-1993	
David C. Bentley	1991-1993	-
James Goodyear	1991	-
Helen H. Murray	1991-1994	
Arthur C. Stever III	1991-1994	1994-97
Jean S. Sturtz	1991-1994	
++ Kenneth J. Rucki	1992-1995	1995-98
Mary (Toni) Silliman	1992-1995	1995-97 -
++ Louise S. Wisner	1992-1995	1995-98
++ Re-elected to serve a term as ELDER after a Unicameral Board was established in 1997.		

<u>NAME</u>	<u>Date Installed</u>	<u>Re-elected</u>
Earle L. Ashbridge	1993-1996	1996-99
Norma Bohlen	1993-1996	
Lyle Eldred	1993-1995	-
Irene Kolton	1993-1996	
Douglas A. Danforth	1993-1996	1996-99
Russell McCullough	1994-1997	
Jeffrey Barnard	1994-1997	
John Blodgett	1994-1997	
LaRue Jones	1994-1997	
William W. Tinsley II	1994-1995	-
Lindsay Fleming	1995-1997	-
Bunny Gorman	1996-1999	

TRUSTEES INSTALLED TO BE ELDERS

Elizabeth Klug	1995-1998
Beth Linderman	1995-1998
John Bell	1996-1999
Gordon Bonisteel	1996-1999

U N I C A M E R A L

Paul W. Brown	1997-2000	2000-03
Henry R. Eager	1997-2000	
Charles Fluno, Jr.	1997-1998	-
James Kanik	1997-2000	2000-03
John Mc Creary	1997-2000	2000-03
Charles Scott	1997-2000	2000-03
Lulubelle Green	1997-2000	
Leslie Deming	1997-1998	completed Fleming term 1998-01
Kathy Kersh	1998-1999	-
Bernice Taylor	1998-2001	
Linda McCullough	1999-2001	completed Kersh term
Paul Archibald	1999-2000	-
William Bonisteel	1999-2002	
Robert Kimball	1999-2002	
Phyllis Elmer	1999-2002	
Charles Bohlen	2000-2002	completed Archibald term
Emily Sprague	2000-2003	
Carole Brown	2001-2004	
Peter Schmitt	2001-2004	
Laura Little	2002-2005	
Carol Murray	2002-2005	
John Sudduth	2002-2005	
John Tinsley	2002-2005	
Arthur Wright	2002-2005	
Robert Gorman	2003-2006	
Kevin Kieff	2003-2006	
Lynn Pyke	2003-2004	-

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, NY
ROLL OF TRUSTEES

<u>Name</u>	<u>Date Elected</u>	<u>Service Ended</u>
C. Fred Peck	1915	1918
A.F. Wardwell	1915	1918
S.A. Upham	1916	1919
M.S. Pruyn	1916	1919
Karl George	1917	1920
S.B. Wardwell	1918	1921
D.B. Schuyler	1918	1921
H.J. Kimball	1919	1922
F.F. Bugbee	1919	1920
F.L. Moore	1920	1920
F.L. Massey	1920	1922
H. J. Wright	1920	1922
Miss Emma Lansing	1921	1921
E.I. Harrington	1921	1924
W.W. Waddingham	1921	1924
A.F. Wardwell	1922	1925
J.F. Amos	1922	1923
W.R. Box	1922	1925
F.L. Massey	1923	1925
C.F. Peck	1924	1930
J.F. Amos	1924	1930
G.W. Combs	1925	1931
J.H. Davison	1925	1940
W.M. Jones	1925	1935
B.S. Hayes	1930	1933
H. Roy Peck	1930	1939
C.W. Miller	1931	1941
J.C. Stebbins	1933	1936
R.L. Pease	1935	1938
C. Wesley Gamble	1936	1942
W.A. Hamler	1938	1944
A.H. Adams	1939	1942
W.I. Roe	1940	1944
R.H. Amos	1942	
H.B. Lines	1942	1945
N.P. Wardwell	1944	1946
Russell Wright	1945	1948
D.C. Knowlton	1945	1950

W.R. Adams	1946	1951
Mrs. Richard H. Taylor	1947	1955
H.C. Montgomery Jr.	1948	1954
W.W. Waddington	1948	1954
Mrs. Schuyler Adams	1948	1950
John F. Shriver	1948	1953, 56-59
Mrs. Alex McIntosh	1948	1952
John B. Johnson	1950	1959
W.W. Manning	1950	1953
S.A. McKay	1951	1958
J.R. Meyer	1953	1956
Willard S. Gamble	1944	1945
Norman L. Ahleim	1952	1955
Robert A. Bond	1954	1957
Charles L. Fluno	1954	1960
Darrel D. Rippeteau	1954	1960
Kenneth S. Barden	1955	1961
Robert W. Powell	1956	1962
Robert B. Thompson	1957	1958
Robert W. Sweet	1958	1960
William W. Conde	1958	1964
Mrs. Russell Wright	1958	1964
Francis L. Guertin	1959	1965
Laurence H. Kissel	1959	1965
Harold W. Tomlinson	1960	1966
Lyle B. Marvin	1960	1966
Arthur K. Hinds	1960	1966
Mrs. Irwin K. Stone	1960	1963
Dr. Arthur C. Peckham	1960	1962
Frank D. Sweeten	1960	1962
Eugene D. Pfaff	1961	1964
Claude L. Dobbs	1962	1965
David O. Stanley	1962	1968
Wilson G. Watkins	1962	1970
William B. Keene	1963	1969
Mrs. Charles H. Ielfield	1963	1969
Wayne H. Boniface	1964	1970
Russell Spencer	1964	1970
Gerald E. Allen	1965	1971
William A. Ballantyne	1965	1968
Miss Elizabeth Brown	1965	1968
Charles J. Carr	1966	1969
Lyle A. Chamberlain	1966	1969
Albert B. George	1968	1973
Kenneth M. Hough	1968	1971

Mrs. Vernon I. (June) Galster	1969	1975
Harold E. Morgan	1969	1972
Karl W. Russell	1969	1972
William D. Taylor	1969	1972
Carl O. Bachman	1970	1975
Raymond B. Frank	1970	1973
Gerald C. Porter	1970	1976
T. Urling Walker	1970	1973
John G. Ahlheim	1971	1977
Warren R. Bonney	1971	1977
William W. Thomas	1971	1977
Mrs. Hugh G. Murray (Evelyn)	1972	1975
Michael F. Speno	1972	1975
Mrs. Florence W. Fagan	1973	1977
John H. Treadwell	1973	1978
Thomas B. Roe	1973	1975
Phillip S. Spink	1973	1979
Mrs. Darrel Rippeteau (Donna)	1975	1979
Peter L. Salmon	1975	1981
John H. Treadwell	1975	1978
W. Barton Ban Slyke	1975	1981
Miss Kathryn F. Wright	1975	1981
Dr. Robert B. Brown	1976	1979
Dr. Douglas M. Sanford	1976	1981
Richard W. Burns	1977	1983
Stan L. Kolton	1977	
Mrs. Lyle Marvin	1977	
Hugh G. Murray	1977	1983
David O. Stanley	1978	1984
William B. Barden	1979	1985
P. Owen Willaman	1979	1985, 92-97
Paul W. Alfke	1980	1983, 85-88
James R. Kanik	1980	1983, 85-88
Margaret N. Bonney	1981	
Corydon H. Morrison	1981	1985
Wilfreda B. Stone	1982	1984
William W. Conde II	1982	1984
Douglas A. Danforth	1982	1988
P. Owen Willaman	1982	1985, 92-97
Paul W. Alfke	1983	1986
James R. Kanik	1983	1986
Arthur C. Stever III	1983	1989
Mabel Walker	1983	1986
Carolyn Whitney	1984	1990
James I. Wisner	1984	1990

George K. Myrus	1985	1993
George R. Blakeman	1985	1991
LaRue H. Jones	1985	1991
Robert R. Sturtz	1985	1991
William T. LeRoy	1986	1986, 89-92
Douglas Murray	1986	1989
Doris Palien (Mrs. Julian)	1986	1987
W. Henry Case	1986	1987
Kenneth W. Reed	1987	1990
Carole Ashbridge	1988	1995
Gerald W. Walsh, Jr.	1988	1994
Mary Sanford	1988	1995
Raymond Bradham	1989	1992
Robert K. Britton	1990	1990
Henry R. Eager	1990	1996
David P. Graham	1990	1991
Donald Foster	1990	1996
John G. Ahlheim	1991	1992
John B. Johnson, Jr.	1991	1997
Loron E. Silliman	1991	1997
T. Urling Walker	1993	1996
Helen H. Murray	1992	1995
W. Barton VanSlyke	1993	1997
Brian W. Hayes	1993	1996
Elizabeth A. Klug	1995	1997
Beth Linderman	1995	1997
John Bell	1996	1997
Gordon Bonisteel	1996	1997
Edwin Rothfuss	1996	1997

THE BOARD OF DEACONS

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

In March of 1948, the First Presbyterian Church voted to create a Board of Deacons. At a meeting held on March 3rd, three classes of Deacons were established.

The duties of the Deacons were directed in the area of service to the church. In Biblical times deacons were appointed to care for widows, offer aid to the poor, and comfort the bereaved. Thus early deacon responsibilities at First Pres were such activities as: calling on the homebound, visiting the sick and recovering, and generally caring for the members of the church. Over the years the specific duties of the Deacons have changed a bit, but the main emphasis has remained that of service and caring.

Early in its existence the Deacons were reorganized in 1952 under the leadership of Wesley Corbin. A need was felt to place responsibility of various groups under the Deacons to avoid duplication and to streamline the efforts. Hence the Deacons became responsible for the library, the Westminster Fellowship groups, the Boy and Girl Scout troops, and began a publication known as "The First Press" - a newsletter of sorts.

What follows is a list of duties and functions the Deacons have performed over the years:

- Visiting shut-ins, homebound, or partially restricted members
- Maintaining a Deacons' Fund and dispensing of same
- Serving as ushers
- Keeping track of the Urban Mission food pantry
- Delivering flowers, transporting worshipers
- Sponsoring an annual auction
- Providing clean-up services in the Fall and Spring
- Sharing chores for the Church Picnic and Thanksgiving Breakfast
- Coordinating special projects like Habitat for Humanity,
 Adopt-a-Platoon, Christmas Carolling, a church prayer chain

The present structure of the Board of Deacons consists of a moderator, a secretary, the advice of the associate pastor, and three standing committees: Fellowship, Care, and Membership/Evangelism. The after worship receptions held weekly are a duty of the Deacons.

The Deacons meet the first Monday of the month and send a representative to the Session Meetings.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Watertown, New York

BOARD OF DEACONS

established in 1948

Deacons are installed in January to serve for three-year terms in Classes referred to year of completion. Deacons may be elected to serve one additional three-year term. If a Deacon is unable to complete a term due to illness or a move out of town, the three-year Class Term is finished by a second Deacon presented by the nominating committee and installed the following January. Twelve members served as Deacons when the Board was established in 1948. Throughout the years, the numbers and responsibilities have increased. During the Bicentennial year of 2003, the Board of Deacons has 18 members.

Deacon Roster by Year

1948

At a meeting held on March 3, 1948, three classes of DEACONS were established

1949

Carl Emerson
Robert L. Meade
George Stafford
Morris G. Story

1950

Hugh Murray
Mrs. F.B. Pennionan
Mrs. Robert Thompson
H. Norton Sudduth

1951

James A. Coulter
William M. Sizoo
Alfred N. Santway
Frederick H. Doner
Paul McClennan

1952

Carl A. Emerson
George E. Stafford
Albert E. Galster
Miss Jane Naughton

1953

Mrs. Robert Thompson
H. Norton Sudduth
Charles L. Fluno
Wilson G. Watkins
Augustus Holmes

1954

Wesley S. Corbin
Kenneth S. Barben
Charles J. Carr
John R. Williamson

1955

Schuyler Adams
William H. Larrabee
Norman K. Mack
Ezra H. Williams

1956

Ralph E. Scott
Max A. Slate
Robert F. Mendler
Orrell A. York

1957

Donald Barbour
Dan J. Beckner
Earl R. Kelly
Carl Bachman
Lee D. Clark

1958

Albert E. Galster, Jr.
Maurice C. Miller
Donald V. Reinbeck
T. Urling Walker
Herman J. Keller
Lyle W. Randall -F-

1959

Claude L. Dobbs
William G. Garlough
William W. Roe
Ronald E. Smith
Richard H. Taylor
Kenneth V. Wilder -F-
Mrs. Lewis Seery -F-

1960

Howard E. Miller
Paul L. Suter
Arthur M. Sproul
Donald Taylor
Arthur H. Schmalz
James H. Smith
William B. Adams
Charles W. Trickey -F-

1961

Howard W. Geyer
William B. Keene
Herman J. Keller
Robert J. Maloney
Edmond A. Moesel
Thomas B. Roe

1962

Ervin J. Dickey, Jr.
Lyston C. Jennings
Donald A. Detmer
Robert W. Kellock
William W. Roe
Howard J. Zibble
Morris R. Yates
William S. Moses

1963

Charles R. Close
Vernon I. Galster
Albert Palmer
J. Ellis Stevens

1966

John G. Ahlheim
Mrs. Clyde Graves
Michael F. Speno
Harold W. Greene
L. Miller Harris
Warren R. Bonney
Charles F. Hasner

1969

William B. Barden
W. Robert Galloway
Harold Morgan
Donna Rippeteau
Kenneth Seeber
John Treadwell

1972

Leigh E. Andrews
David L. Fields
Mrs. Carl E. Foster
Gary A. Jadwin
Edward A. Podrebarac
Robert C. Golden

1975

Mrs. Rollin G. Farmer
Richard J. Lake
Mrs. Terence McCarrick
Peter L. Salmon
Mrs. John H. Sheehan
Maureen Whitlock
Ronald J. Knox
Mrs. Clifford C. Wray

1964

Robert J. Maloney
Howard L. McIntyre
Clyde J. Miller
Gilbert L. Pultz
Russell Spencer
Robert Shaw

1967

William B. Adams
Robert S. Cornwall
Clarence L. Crabb, Jr.
John P. McCreary
James D. Radde

1970

Ray W. Douglass
Gary A. Jadwin
James R. Kanik
Harold M. Little
Earl L. Nicholson
Gerald W. Walsh, Jr.
LeRoy J. Seery, Jr.

1973

Mrs. Wesley S. Corbin
LeRoy D. Fluno
Mrs. Josiah R. Meyer
Frederick J. Reinbeck
Douglas M. Sanford
David O. VanEenenaam

1976

Rodney B. Bonisteel
Lynne F. Barnard
Roger L. Sonstroem
Robert B. Brown
Richard W. Burns
Mrs. Carl H. Frink
Lyda C. Sudduth

1965

William A. Ballantyne
Edward L. Clark
David J. Nelson
Donald J. White

1968

Lyman L. Goodrich, Jr.
George Blakeman
Stan Kolton
James McVean
Gerald A. Moore
Charles Hart
Alberta Simpson
Van Travis, Jr.

1971

Charles Casler
LeRoy Fluno
George Maley, Jr.
Richard Purcell
Lyda C. Sudduth
George Blakeman

1974

Richard H. Baker
John B. Johnson, Jr.
William D. Moore
Kenneth W. Reed
Thomas B. Roe, Jr.
Kathryn Williamson
Mrs. Michael Speno

1977

Amy J. Ahlheim
Thomas P. Hamilton
Mrs. W. Robert Huey
Mrs. U. Grant LeFevre
Lanny J. Miller
Mrs. John H. Treadwell

1978

Mrs. Ward B. Gorman, Jr.
Jeffrey A. Kolton
Mrs. Ronald McLean
George K. Myrus
Mrs. Leon Schwerzmann
Loron B. Silliman

1979

Norma Conde
Hollister Cox
Katherine Englebrecht
Suzette French
James McAllaster
Kenneth Reed
Douglas M. Sanford, Jr.
Peter VanEenenaam
John Sudduth

1980

Frank Antalek
Leanne Elmer
Karen Goodfriend
Ralph Little
Elizabeth Prosser
Frederic Stone
Anna Jane VanSlyke

1981

Robert J. Brown
Douglas Danforth
Mrs. Lu Green
Nancy Kish
Lori Silliman
Mrs. Jeanne Stanley

1982

Kenneth E. Ferris
James Galloway
David Hamilton
James C. Pontius
Ella L. Reinbeck
Robert R. Sturtz
Suzette French

1983

Cathleen Cortelyou
Dan Cortelyou
Thomas McLaughlin
Doris Palien
David Ransome
John W. Fluno
Toni Silliman
Charles Wert

1984

Jeffrey A. Barnard
Elizabeth A. Brown
Devona F. Lake
Mary Ellen Smiley
Scott G. Spooner
John A. Tinsley
Robert F. Bach

1985

Kenneth E. Ferris
John W. Fluno
Maureen P. Gorman
Nelson L. Howard
Sally R. McAllaster
C. Waring Blackburn
Katherine Misulis

1986

William Banker
David Galster
Dorothy LeFevre
Patricia Little Mecklin
Arthur Peckham
Elena VanEenenaam

1987

Barbara Amos
Sally Dickinson
Julie Eastman
Shirley Parker
Jean Sturtz
Arlene Wilson

1988

Wayne Babcock
Charles Fluno, Jr.
Emerson Laughlin
Alice LeRoy
W. Ray Miller
Donald Riordan
Stephen Wheadon
Sandra Rutledge
C. Waring Blackburn

1989

Earle Ashbridge
Jean Bach
Ramon Bradham
Marian Hills
Avis O'Connor
Grace Smith
Helen Murray

1990

Ronald Appleby
Katrina Cox
Juanita Barre Duffany
Cheri Danforth
James Johnson
Norma Bohlen
Mildred Olson
Phillip Towne
William Kamalsky

1991

Charles Fluno, Jr.
James Sudduth
Donald Davidson
Glenda Roslund
Sandra Rutledge
Mel Thaanum
Joan Jones
W. Ray Miller
Don Prosser

1992

Diana Bradham
Sally Dickinson
Joan Jones
David T. Knowlton
Alice LeRoy
Nella Stone

1993

Katrina Cox
William Kamalsky
Donald Klug
Lois Galloway
Tim Lehman
Janet Streit
Mary Etta White
Elaine Bartges
Ruthann Reed

1996

Linya Bell
Eileen Eldred
Amy Gill
Steven Guy
Laura Little
Edward Wardwell
Mary Etta White
Betty Riordan
Heather Danforth
Diane Rothfuss

1999

Linya Bell
William Bonisteel
Frank Empsall III
Robert Gorman
Edward Wardwell
Robert Pils

2002

Elizabeth Bonisteel
Michael Gillette
Robert Gorman
Gillian Hayes
Laurel Pike
Elise Chan

1994

Cynthia Banker
Genevieve Close
Charles Close
Kevin Kieff
Peter Pike
Cheryl Purdie
Heather Danforth
Mary Etta White

1997

Sarah George
Daniel Gress
Cindy Alteri
Alonzo Henderson
Dorothy LeFevre
Alan Staley
Paul W. Brown
Betty Riordan
Diane Rothfuss

2000

Katherine Ann Archibald
Julia Bonisteel
Erica Klug
Sarah Felton
Dorothy LeFevre
Nella Stone
Diane Rothfuss

2003

Jeffrey Barnard
Martha Brown
Kim Collins
Donald Klug
Shari Nattell
Philip Sprague

1995

Steven Clark
Carol Cooper
Eleanor Fralick
Ernest Mugglin
Carol Way
John Whitenack
Amanda Reed
Bonnie Wilkinson
Lu Green

1998

Amy Ashbridge
Archie Fleming
Eleanor Fralick
Jason Klug
John Sudduth
Bernie Taylor

2001

Rebecca Brown
Deborah Lehman DeMorse
Susan Guy
Cherie Danforth
Kathy Rucki
Stuart Mc Creary
Margot McGorman
John Sudduth

2004

David Feltwell
Linya Bell
Susan Guy
Lucy Hiotis
Charles Jesmer
Margot McGorman
Sondra Scott
Gerda Barbour

Report by John Sudduth
and Mary Sanford

MUSIC

IN

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

- information gathered through research for
the BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION in 2003 -

SPECIAL DATES

- 1803 June 3 First congregation of 13 met in Caleb Burnham's new barn in the nearby village of Burrville
- 1811 Separation of the Watertown group from the Burrville group
- 1814 May 25 Presbyterian Church was legally organized as the Watertown Ecclesiastical Society
- 1820 Stone church built on corner of Academy and Washington Streets. This was the first house of worship in Watertown.
- 1821 Jan. 1 Dedication of newly built two-story stone church
summer First Sabbath School was organized in northern NY
- Music has always played a major role in the worship service of our church. In the days of the old stone church, the choir singers sat in the gallery in pews lower than those in the sanctuary. The leader of the choir at that time was **ISAAC LEE**, and after him, **JABEZ FOSTER**, both of whom used the old-fashioned wooden pitchpipe. Eventually the singing was accompanied by a bass viol.
- 1830 - A resolution was passed authorizing the trustees to procure a chorister to lead in singing during the services. Eventually, **Dr. and Mrs. S.M. ROBINSON** served as leaders in the service of sacred song for about 40 years.
- 1843 First organ purchased (probably not a pipe organ) This small organ replaced the bass viol and was used for about 8 years in the stone church.
- 1851 April 10 Dedication of new Brick Church, constructed on the site of the Stone Church.
- A new **MARKLOV ORGAN** with L stops was installed in the balcony, with the choir gallery projected in front of the organ. The large pipes were visible as one looked toward the balcony from downstairs. This organ was used until 1892. **DR. and MRS. S.M. ROBINSON** continued to be organist and choir leader
- 1892 Sanctuary has major alterations with curved pews, New **JOHNSON & SON ORGAN** installed behind the pulpit with its many great pipes arrayed in line across the width of the chancel.
- The Johnson Pipe Organ cost \$7,500.00 and was made in Westfield, MA. Mr. Talcott Camp & son, **GEORGE VanSANTVOORD CAMP**, donated the organ. **GEORGE VanSANTVOORD CAMP** become Organist and Choir Master (1882-1915) The choir consisted of a quartet only.

SPECIAL DATES - continued

1946 - 1951 **Mr. W. Robert Huey, JR.** Organist & Choir Director
1951 - **Mrs. Orrell A. York** Organist
1951 - 1954 **Mr. George Hayes** Choir Director
1951 **Miss Barbara Amos** Youth Choir Director
1954 - 1958 **Mr. Gardiner Vincent** Choir Director
1956 - 1957 **Miss Lorraine Brown** Organist
1957 - 1960 **Mrs. Robert Cox** Organist
 Judson Loomis Interim Organist
 Edith Henderson Interim Organist
1959 - **Mrs. Joan M. Jones** Choir Director
1960 **AUSTIN ORGAN** INSTALLED IN REMODELED CHAMBERS ON
 BOTH SIDES OF THE CHANCEL. It was installed by
 the Austin Organ Company , Hartford, CT, to
 replace the Johnson Organ used since 1892.

- The new organ is a three manual instrument of 46 stops and chimes. Of the 2,690 pipes, the largest is 16 feet high and 13 inches square. The smallest is about 6½ inches high and three-eighths of an inch in diameter. The console was placed in a pit in the center of the chancel and 3 levels of choir pews are in back of it directly under the mosaic celtic cross.

1960 Nov 20 **ORGAN RECITAL by Lorraine Adams Revelle**
1961 - 1984 **Lewis B. Washburn** Organist
1984 - 1989 **Mrs. Phyllis Elmer** Organist
1990 - **Carl A. Bingle** Organist
1992 - AUSTIN ORGAN refurbished (special concerts attached)
2003 - Installation of a new 32-foot Contra Gemshorn attachment to the Austin Organ for the Bicentennial Celebration of the church. It provides a new organ "voice" with the deep lower tones from the digital rank. This wonderful gift of music was initiated by organist **Carl Bingle** and was purchased through donations from many members and friends to honor **Mrs. Joan M. Jones**, choir director and Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church for 44 years!

ORGAN HISTORY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Stone Church

1843 - According to Years of Faith by Frederick H. Kimball, an organ was placed in the church (probably not a pipe organ).

Brick Church

1851 - A new *Marklov Organ* with stops was installed in the balcony, with the choir gallery projected in front of the organ. This organ was used from 1851 to 1892.

1892 - The *Johnson Pipe Organ* was installed behind the pulpit with pipes occupying the width of the chancel. This organ was donated by Talcott Camp and his son, George Santvoord Camp. George was organist and choir master for 33 years (1892-1915). This organ was rebuilt and electrified - cost \$10,000.00 in 1921. The Johnson Organ was rebuilt and the pipes were divided and placed in side consoles for 125th anniversary in 1928.

1960 - The new *Austin Organ* was installed with the console placed in a pit in the center of the chancel with 3 levels of choir pews in back of it directly under the mosaic cross. The 2,690 pipes were installed in remodeled chambers on both sides of the chancel. Major repairs were done in 1992. Other changes are described in the Organ Folder prepared by Carl A. Bingle in March 2003.



ORGAN CONCERTS by Carl A. Bingle

- Beginning in 1988, major work had been done on the physical plant of First Presbyterian Church. Even the sanctuary had been painted and completely redecorated. In the midst of renovations it became apparent that the organ also needed some repair. Members and friends gave generously to refurbish the organ during the fall of 1991. This was done by Stuart S. Biza, one of the workers for the Austin Organ Company who had installed the organ in 1959.

- 1992 April 28 **ORGAN RECITAL by Carl A. Bingle**
sponsored by First Presbyterian Church,
Watertown Morning Musicales, Inc.
and American Guild of Organists,
St. Lawrence River Chapter
- 1996 April 30 **ORGAN CONCERT by Carl A. Bingle**
"French Fireworks & Phantom at First Pres!"
sponsored by Watertown Morning Musicales, Inc.
(record crowd of over 600 attended the program)
- 1999 April 29 **ORGAN CONCERT by Carl A. Bingle**
"Organ Fireworks & Les Mis"
sponsored by Watertown Morning Musicales, Inc.
with a good will offering to benefit the
1999 Geraldine F. Sheehan Scholarship
A reception in Fellowship Hall arranged by
Presbyterian Women
- 2000 March 28 **A Sacred Contata**
"The Seven Last Words of Christ"
by Theodore Dubois
presented by CHANCEL CHOIRS of
First Presbyterian Church, Watertown
and
Adams Village Baptist Church, Adams
- 2000 Nov 5 **Watertown Bicentennial Church Days**
Worship Service Music concentrated on
the years of Ministry by
The Reverend Dr. Allen Macy Dulles
1887 - 1904
- 2003 March 23 **"A Prayer for Peace"**
a poem by Eleanor Fralick
put to music by organist, Carl A. Bingle
to honor Joan M. Jones' 44 years as
Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church
- 2003 May 5 **"Pipes of Jubilee at FPC"**
A concert in celebration of the
BICENTENNIAL of First Presbyterian Church
featuring Carl A. Bingle, organist
and J. Avery Head, guest Bag Pipe Major

S A B B A T H S C H O O L
at
F I R S T P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

The Sabbath School idea was conceived in Gloucester, England. The plan spread to America, and, by 1809, the organization of these schools was being taken up in earnest by many churches. It was recorded that the grandmother of the Reverend Allen Macy Dulles actually organized and conducted the first Sabbath School in this country, in Norwich, CT. The Sunday School movement reached Watertown in 1821 when the First Presbyterian Church organized a class in Oren Stone's store in the Paddock Arcade. It was the first Sabbath School in Northern New York.

Soon the setting for instruction moved to a room over the vestibule of the new stone church. Later, the galleries of the church were also used for the 50 to 80 pupils attending. In 1830 the church constructed a Session House on the corner of Stone and Arcade Streets. This served as an annex to the stone church and was used for meetings of the Session and church groups and for Sunday School classes. By 1932 there were 19 teachers and 120 pupils enrolled, and the average attendance was 85. The first church library, which provided books for the Sunday School, was purchased by the women of the congregation in 1832 for \$30.251

By the time the brick church was built in 1851, classes for young people, with an emphasis on reciting verses of the Bible, having devotional exercises and learning from class discussions, were flourishing. When the Boon Street Mission School was opened, many adults volunteered to staff a Sabbath School there. This became Faith Chapel.

It became necessary to elect a superintendent of the Sabbath School. Once this position was established, it continued for over 100 years. From time to time, there has been a Director of Christian Education:

Mary Paris	1907 - 1916
Jane Naughton	1919 - 1941
Christine Dever	1950 - 1955
Ruth Rentschler	1969 - 1972

In recent years, Christian Education has been directed by our Associate Minister under the guidance of the Christian Education Council of the Session.

The first primary department was started by Miss Elizabeth Clark in 1861 and grew throughout the years. The junior and senior high groups also expanded during this period. The Christian Education Building, which was added in 1928, provided many classrooms for all ages.

A women's Bible class was organized by Mrs. Brodie in 1907 and continued until Pastor and Mrs. Brodie left Watertown in 1912. At that time Mrs. Frederick Bugbee became the leader of that popular group and continued to lead it for 40 years. Mrs. Allen Macy Dulles encouraged the formation of the Women's Union in 1890, so that all women would have an opportunity to participate in Bible study plus mission study, sewing projects, church suppers and various Faith Chapel activities. Eventually, the women's organizations became Guilds, United Presbyterian Women and, presently, Presbyterian Women.

A men's class was organized during the winter of 1920-21 in a small classroom of the church. It then took over a house when the church purchased the adjoining Deane property. Dr. Darwin Pickard led this class of Bible study and religious thinking. The men in the class organized suppers and picnics and became truly involved in the programs of the church.

On October 22, 1924, a weekday school was established in the church. This, along with a similar school in St. Paul's Episcopal Church, was the first in the city and was the noteworthy accomplishment of Miss Jane Naughton. It took place on Wednesday afternoon from 3 to 4 o'clock and gave instruction to those children of the third to seventh grades who requested dismissal from public school in order to attend the class. It was a popular class, and lasted until the late 1950s, when it was discontinued due to lack of teachers.

Our church has always believed that social and recreational elements have a place in its life. The large Fellowship Hall has been the setting for congregational suppers, children's parties, luncheons of the women's groups, entertainments and even basketball and volleyball. The Women's Parlor (currently called the Lounge) has been used for teas and meetings. It has provided a delightful venue for reunions with returning college students at Christmas time.

Throughout the years, church school activities have been discontinued during the summer when many families leave for cottages, go on vacations or participate on other summertime activities. In 1973, the Reverend Ellison Elmer introduced Vacation Bible School for young people and their friends. This has continued intermittently throughout the years. This summer, our church and the Watertown YMCA will jointly conduct a Vacation Bible School at the church and at the Y. In September it has become a tradition to have Rally Day to celebrate the resumption of Sunday School classes in the church.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

Oren Stone
T.G. Seward
Silas Clark
J.C, Sterling
A. Campbell
Horace Hunt
J.L. Rice
C.P. Leonard
H. Johnson
Adriel Ely
D.d. Otis
Elias Hagar 1858:
J.B. Tyler 1858-1863
Elias Hagar 1863-1866
M.M. Merrell 1866-1868
John C. Knowlton 1868-1888 (20 years)
S.R. Bagg 1888-1896
Robert J. Buck 1896-1902
Robert Lansing 1902-1903
Charles H. Anthony 1903-1906
Elliot K. Harroun 1906-1913
Jacob F. Amos 1913-1917
Elliot K. Harroun 1917-1918
Charles D. Griffith 1918-1920
Howard F. Farrington 1920-1929
Samuel H. Abbey 1929-1942
Frederick H. Kimball 1942-1949
Robert G. Hess 1949-1952
John D. Barnard 1952-1954
James E. Maynard 1954-1956
Geraldine E. Messina 1956-1958
John B. Williamson 1958-1959
William Larrabee 1959-1960
"Bud" Maurice Miller 1960-1966
Thomas B. Roe 1966-1968

Director of Christian Education
Ruth E. Rentschler 1969-1972

Administrative Supervisor
Pauline Green 1969-1970

Sunday School Chairman
Reed Barnard
Julian Palien
Anna Jane VanSlyke
Dick Lake
Dorothy LeFevre
etc.

Christian Education Council 1997

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School probably began in our church in 1974 when Reverend Ellison L. Elmer came to be the Associate Pastor.

In 1977, several churches combined resources. This idea came about through friendships made at Christian Women's Club. The women learned that other churches had the same staffing problems and very small classes. With session approval, First Presbyterian combined with the Concordia Lutheran Church, Emmanuel Congregational, and Stone Presbyterian churches. The First Baptist Church joined in later.

Over the next several years there was a staff of approximately 50 people from up to nine churches. This included youth assistants for each class. There were separate classes for 3, 4, 5 year olds, kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th with 5th & 6th grades combined. A nursery was provided for the staff. The attendance varied from 109 to 140. The week was scheduled around the Air Brake vacation time. Mindful of those with cottages, the program for the parents was held on Thursday evenings in the sanctuary with a different schedule on Fridays. The first Thursday program was held at the Lutheran church. All others were at First Presbyterian Church. The 1981 newsletter stated "The Thursday evening program was a delight with singing and skits. The escape of the Israelites through the Red Sea and capture of the Egyptians by the "sea" brought spontaneous applause. The 5th and 6th grade bell choir capped the evening." On Fridays a half hour movie, usually from the David and Goliath series, was shown in the chapel about four times with black fabric drawn over the windows. Also on Fridays, Rev. and Mrs. Elmer took the 5th and 6th graders to Samaritan Keep Home where they played the handbells for the worship service led by Al.

The curriculum used was usually from Augsburg, because of the good selections in the songbooks and the appealing craft ideas. The offerings ranged from \$130.00 to \$150.00. They went to various agencies. When the Seeing Eye Dog Program was selected, a blind lady came with her dog and visited the classes. A lady brought her pet goat the week it went to Heifer International. The week it went to the Association for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing, a deaf girl and her mother were greeted by newly learned sign language for their welcome. One year it went to CURB, a local organization promoting removal of barriers. A retired public health nurse in her mechanized wheelchair came to visit. The film, "The Invisible Children," continued to help in understanding and acceptance of their handicapped peers. One year it went to Credo, a program for the prevention of drug abuse. Another year it went to CROP for seeds. The film that year was "Down on the Farm" which showed the importance of seeds and their care

and how, although God provides the natural elements, man must do his part to produce anything good. Some favorite things were the popcorn from Charlie Close's Caramel Corn Shop and recreation. For several years a parachute borrowed from Wiley School was used. Also the lunches served the staff and their children were a big plus.

After 1985, both of the young women who had instigated the idea of churches co-sponsoring Vacation Bible School had moved away, but the program continued with others doing the job.

During the Bicentennial Year of 2003, about 50 children participated in a joint Vacation Bible School program with the YMCA for a week in August. Mornings were at First Presbyterian Church for Bible lesson, craft and music. Afternoons were at the YMCA for swimming, gym, snack and craft

Report by Virginia McCreary

Retyped by Mary P. Sanford
Bicentennial Co-Chair

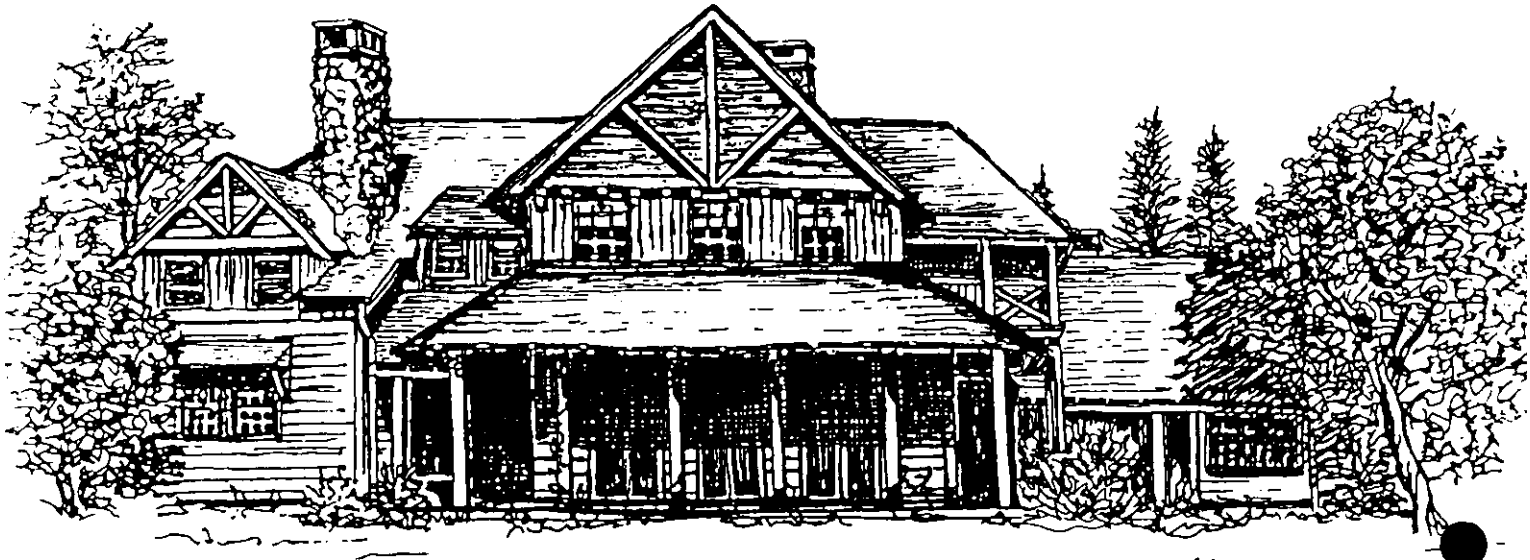
Land's End

Land's End. A fading memory. A piece of property designed on the theme and magnificence of the Great Camps of the golden era of the Adirondack lodges and located on Upper Saranac Lake. As First Presbyterian Church of Watertown celebrates its bicentennial year and records its past history it cannot overlook the important role played by Land's End in the lives of many of its current church members.

In 1974 the Lodge and its 17 acre lakeshore property was given to the Presbyterian Synod of New York by the Donald Ross family to serve as a human-relations training center. In 1984 the Synod felt it could no longer operate the center and turned it over to the Presbytery of Northern New York. The Presbytery hired The Rev. Jean Anne Swope as executive director, a native of Utica and a summer time vacationer in the Adirondacks. Prior to coming to Land's End she had been national director of the church's Volunteers in Mission program. Her husband, also an ordained minister, was installed as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Saranac Lake.

The Rev. Swope developed programs, which filled a vital need in the rural North Country. Emphasis was placed on its new mission of hosting educational seminars, informal seminars, group retreats organized by outside agencies such as our own Presbyterian retreats and unprogrammed retreats. Planned times were set aside for individual "Reading, Rest and Renewal" weeks. Leadership was provided for a variety of needs for adult and youth groups. There were seminars and discussions on lifestyles for high school groups. Elderhostels, weddings, family reunions and programs to attract the "neighborhood" residents were all part of the Land's End experience.

Many of the members of the Watertown First Presbyterian Church became involved in the direction, guidance and maintenance of the Land's End facility. Attendance of up to forty of our church members at retreats and workshops made Land's End one of the major activities of our church. Some of our members became mission volunteers, going to Land's End for extended periods of time to help with chores as needed in the kitchen, office and grounds maintenance. In 1990, after the Rev. Swope moved on to another position, the decision was made to sell the facility. Bill and Bernie Taylor, who had been regular retreat attendees and had served as mission volunteers, returned to Land's End to be the caretakers during the interim period and were in residence during the sale and the period of renovation by the new owners. It was converted to a bed and breakfast after extensive remodeling and then sold again to become a private residence.



Presbytery of Northern New York, Star Route Box 5



LAND'S END

Saranac Lake, New York 12983

LOCAL MINISTRIES

WATERTOWN URBAN MISSION

A non-profit organization formed in 1968 by over 28 member churches. Its purpose was to care for human needs in the community more effectively than any single church could do individually.

Food Pantry - staffed by volunteers and provided food collected from the churches for the needy as required

Impossible Dream - provided clothing and furniture at modest prices

Critical Needs - ministry of compassion for the poor

Operation Breakthrough - tutoring

Urban Camp - summer camp experiences with supervision

Big Brother/Big Sister - companionship and guidance

The Bridge - provided individualized rehabilitative plans for convicted offenders

The Christian Care Center - provided a place where people may find a sense of welcome and a responsive ear. At various times there have been programs in arts and crafts, self-awareness, and many services as needed.

Others -

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

An international, nonprofit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry. Its goal was to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from the world and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. (began in 1995)

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Trained lay people who offer a ministry of Christian caring for those in need (began in 1994)

Presbyterian Women "PIECEMAKERS"

Quilters that made small quilts for the children staying at the Women's Crisis Center in Watertown. Quilts were also made for overseas Presbytery Mission projects.

(began in 1989)

Jail Ministry - see report

Radio Ministry - see report

JAIL MINISTRY INITIATED BY FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

An outreach of the Board of Deacons of First Presbyterian Church, Watertown, in the 1970's and 1980's was ministry to inmates of our Jefferson County Jail. Our motivation for this ministry came from Jesus' teaching recorded in Matthew 25 where Jesus said that as often as we visit those imprisoned it is as if we are visiting him.

Our Associate Minister at that time, the Reverend Ellison L. Elmer, spearheaded an effort through Watertown Urban Mission. Clergy organized to visit jail inmates on a regular basis. Clergy, in the process, discovered educational and other needs for particular inmates. Laypeople then visited inmates individually as tutors or friendly visitors as agreed to by the inmates. Laypeople also helped with times of worship.

The jail ministry begun in the 1970's is still taking place in the Jefferson County Jail today. Thanks be to God.

Radio Ministry History

In November, 1941, under the leadership of the Reverend Dr. Robert Wells Youngs, First Presbyterian Church, Watertown, became a voice in an important aspect of church mission. At that time, the Sunday morning services were broadcast from the Watertown Daily Times radio station, WWNY, which had begun broadcasting in April of the same year. Dr. Youngs was the first of 10 pastors of the church to preach their sermons to not only our congregation, but to a wide group of listeners throughout northern New York and southern Ontario, Canada.

In July of 1980, WWNY radio became WTNY, and our church services were broadcast on that station until July of 1985. There were no broadcasts that summer, due to "technical difficulties" at the radio station. In September of 1985, we were notified that new management at WTNY did not choose to support religious programming, and our services were dropped. We did not broadcast again until January, 1986, when we were carried for one month on AM station WOTT. We negotiated a new contract with WATN radio, and from February, 1986 to the present time, we have been on the air with that station.

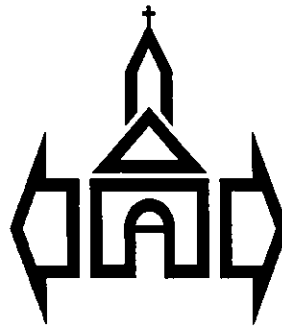
New equipment has been added or replaced, when needed, to keep our system current and give our congregation and radio listeners the best sound possible. In June 1995, an FM transmitter, an antenna in the belfry, and a receiver and necessary equipment at the radio station were installed. Members of the Radio Ministry Committee also designed, built and installed custom cabinetry for the control consoles in the back balcony. Many hundreds of feet of wire were strung throughout the sanctuary, a main speaker array installed, ten microphone locations established, and speakers installed in the ceiling under the balcony. The sound system includes an infrared system for those with hearing impairment.

The Sunday services are recorded for broadcast over the summer months when we're not in our own sanctuary. Our sound system is also available for weddings, funerals, concerts, etc. in the sanctuary.

Although the costs of a broadcast today are significantly higher than in past years, our Radio Ministry continues, 52 weeks a year, supported by memorial remembrances, gifts from the congregation and appreciative listeners, and the mission outreach of our church.

Over the years there have been a few “glitches” in the broadcasts ... lightning strikes, ice storms, blizzards, even a “pre-emption” of the 1989 Christmas Eve service by a talk show when a wrong button was pushed at the radio station; but for over 60 years... approximately 3000 broadcasts...our Radio Ministry has been sending God’s word to the people across the north country. First Presbyterian Church looks forward to sharing His message for many more years. It is our gift to the community, with God’s love.

Report by Ruthann Reed,
member of the
Radio Ministry Committee



MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES

of

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Watertown, New York

By definition the mission of the church is mission. A corollary is that Mission is Language, and that Language is Mission. One of the recognized spokesmen for mission in our time was Albert Schweitzer who said, "He came to us as He came to those by the seaside, and says again what long ago He said to them, 'Follow Me!' And then He sets us at tasks needful for our time. And once again, it is in the joy and the sorrow, the labor and the pain that we, like those of old, will discover who He is." This came from the Pastor, Musician, Physician, and Scientist who motivated a resurgence in medical missionaries touching many areas of the world.

In 1906, helping in the foreign missions, the congregation of First Presbyterian Church gave partial support to the Reverend W. H. Gleysteen as missionary pastor in Peking, China. He was the church's first foreign missionary. The church's next missionary to China was the Reverend Ernest J. Weekes, son of First Presbyterian Elder John Weekes, assigned to Canton, China in 1909.

The Reverend Charles H. Ainley, Jr. represented the church in the country of Mexico in the 1920s.

In 1952, the Reverend Stanton Wilson and his wife, Marion, were commissioned as missionaries to Korea at a communion service in First Presbyterian Church under the direction of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church, U.S.A. Rev. Wilson acted as liaison between the 2,000,000 member United Presbyterian Church in the United States and the Presbyterian Church of Korea with a constituency of 800,000. Members of our church kept close contact with Stan and Marion Wilson through the Lifeline Club, formed by designated families to write every week of the year. During their trips to the United States, they often visited our church, held meetings with the young people and were honored guest speakers at dinners held in Fellowship Hall.

In 1953, the Reverend Jay Johnson and his wife, Jean were among the first missionary families to work in Thailand. They spent 11 years in the city of Chiangmai, about 400 miles north of Bangkok, working with youth in Christian Education. Amid the complexities of working in a foreign country with its own culture, they learned that much can be accomplished by working with vocational students. They reported their experiences during visits to our church gatherings. It is interesting to note that they spent 5 years at a western Adirondack Parish of Wanakena before entering the foreign missions.

The Reverend Donald McIlvride was appointed in 1963 by the Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations of the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. and assigned to Thailand. Upon completion of language study in Bangkok, he began work among students at the new Chiang Mai University, founded in 1964.

He and his wife, Marjorie, spent many years working with several rural congregations in Northern Thailand, where the religion is 92% Buddhist. They also presented mission reports to our members during visits here.

After the Reverend Douglas Baker graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary and did a three-year Associate Pastorate in Pennsylvania, he and his wife, Elaine, moved to Northern Ireland in 1979. He worked as a "Christian Education Coordinator" and was seeking positive alternatives to bigotry, violence and civil alienation. As a congregation, we kept in contact with the Baker Family through the Interpretation and Stewardship Committee.

Our church supported the Reverend Dr. Carlos A. Ruiz, pastor of The First Spanish Presbyterian Church in New York City in 1960. Rev. Ruiz was a native of the Dominican Republic and his ministry was primarily to Puerto Ricans. He was followed by the Reverend Dr. Guillermo Cotto-Thorner and his wife from 1961 to 1969.

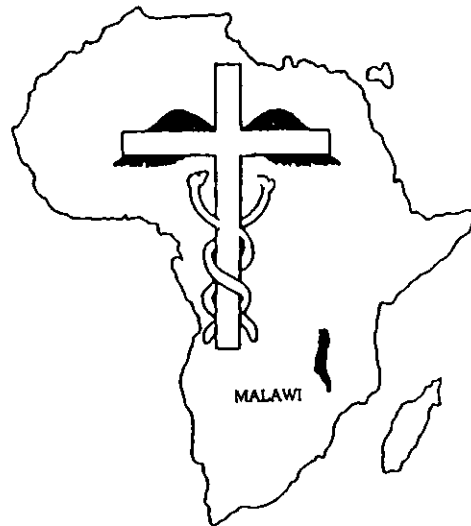
The result of having close ties with missionaries was commitment to the goal of "The Evangelization of the World in One Generation!" We were soon preoccupied with World War I, the Depression, World War II, all of which diminished the support of missions. By this time, national churches had become established with seminaries, and especially local spirit which insured growth if not autonomy. In our own country, the formation of local church related agencies was exemplary, and frequently ecumenical, to relieve hunger, the need for clothing and spiritual counselling.

First Presbyterian Church of Watertown became the home church of its own missionaries when two members returned from the General Assembly of 1991 where they heard a Bishop from an African church saying to the assembly, "We used to say, 'White man, go home!' Now we say, 'We are ready to work with you, since we need each other to achieve the goals given us by Jesus Christ!' " This stuck in the hearts and minds of Fred and Nella Stone. Fred had inquired about mission service upon completion of medical school, and now realized that the Bishop may have been speaking about needs including medical mission. A postcard was sent to the medical branch of Worldwide Ministries asking about opportunities in medical mission. The timing was perfect: they were in need of a surgeon. The forms and the psychological testings were submitted for service by Dr. Fred and Mrs. Nella Stone, which resulted in the assignment to the Synod of Livingstonia Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, in Malawi. The support from the church and community back home was sustaining! All manner of supplies were forthcoming, not the least of which were two ambulances! Have we said, "Thank You!", enough to continue your support for the Malawi Partnership Working Group, of the Presbytery of Northern New York, which/who have brought Malawians to our homes and churches? If not, we say "Thank you, and we couldn't have done it without your prayers, your letters and your donations!"

There are continuing needs for Volunteers in Mission, so consider learning about the opportunities for Service with Worldwide Ministries, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
100 Witherspoon Street
Louisville, Kentucky 40202-1396

Credits: "Years of Faith" by Frederick Kimball in 1953
"Speaking of Missionaries" by the Reverend John B. Smiley

Sign over the pastor's study door of
the Reverend Judson I. Stone -
'Let us not look back in anger, or forward with fear,
but around in awareness.' by James Thurber



Report by Dr. Frederick Stone
Edited and retyped by
Mary P. Sanford
Bicentennial Co-Chair

Historical Highlights



United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. (UPCUSA)

- 1930 Women ordained ruling elders
- 1956 Women ordained teaching elders (clergy)
- 1969 Task Force on Women (TFW)
- 1971 Church Employed Women (CEW)
- 1972 Third World Women's Coordinating Committee (TWWCC)
- 1973 Council on Women and the Church (COWAC)
- 1978 Constitutional provision that both men and women be elected elders and deacons in local congregations



Presbyterian Church in the United States (PCUS)

- 1964 Women ordained ruling and teaching elders
- 1972 Committee on Women's Concerns (COWC)
- 1976 Church Employed Women (CEW)
- 1981 Committee for Racial Ethnic Women (CREW)



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (PC(USA))

- 1983 Reunion UPCUSA and PCUS
- 1986 UPW and WOC approve the design for Presbyterian Women (PW)
- 1986 Structural Design for Mission adopted by the General Assembly, including the Women's Ministry Unit as one of its nine units
- 1987 Presbyterian Women (PW) approved (with the exception of voice and vote on the General Assembly Council) by the General Assembly



- 1988 Presbyterian Women (PW) comes into being
- 1993 Restructure of General Assembly Council organization; Presbyterian Women is lodged in Women's Ministries Program Area, National Ministries Division
- 1996 General Assembly grants moderator of Presbyterian Women voice and vote on General Assembly Council

PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS ———— TIMELINE

First Cent Society formed. In subsequent years women in all Protestant denominations organize to increase their support for and involvement in mission around the world.

				1801
	PCUSA	PCUSA	UPNA	
PCUS				1861
	Regional Women's Mission Boards formed			1870
			Women's General Missionary Society	1883
	FIRST OBSERVANCE	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER		1887
			First Thank Offering	1888
	WORLD'S MISSIONARY COMMITTEE OF CHRISTIAN WOMEN formed in 1888 (First International, ecumenical mission agency)			
			Women's Auxiliary formed	1912
			Montreat holds first Summer School of Missions	1913
		Women's Board of Foreign Missions formed from 6 Regional Boards		1917
	First Birthday Offering	Women's Boards absorbed into Denominational Structure		1922
	ORGANIZATION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF FEDERATED CHURCH WOMEN			1929
		Ordination of Women as Deacons and Ruling Elders		1930
		Presbyterian Women's Organization (PWO) formed		1946
	Board of Women's Work established			1950
1948 Auxiliary becomes WOC		Ordination of Women as Teaching Elders		1956
		PCUSA and UPNA merge = UPCUSA UPW formed		1958
	Ordination of Women approved		UPCUSA	1964
	Restructure Women's Board absorbed		Restructure	1973
	REUNION!!			1983
	UPW and WOC approve design for Presbyterian Women (PW)			1986
	General Assembly approves design for Presbyterian Women			1987
	PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN (PW) --- IMPLEMENTATION and CELEBRATION FIRST CHURCHWIDE GATHERING			1988

W O M E N
of
First Presbyterian Church
Watertown, New York

During the 17-year pastorate (1887 to 1904) of the Reverend Allen Macy Dulles, his wife, Edith Foster Dulles, suggested that the women of the church should get together for study. In 1890 the Women's Union was formed to meet every Tuesday. The meetings were held for Bible study, mission study, or local and overseas sewing projects. Mission study assignments came from the Womens' Home and Foreign Missionary Society of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, organized in 1879. Monies collected were sent to support missionaries and home teachers in India, Persia, and China as well as American Indian Territories in Appalachian Mountains or Utah, and the Farm School in Ashville, North Carolina. (The mission study abroad continued for many years through The Study Club 1913 - 1942) They were always worth attending. The aim of the Women's Union was to build together the women of the church in neighborhood groups so they could become better acquainted and united to form a body of loyal, enthusiastic and devoted workers.

The Women's Union sponsored church suppers, Faith Chapel sewing school, rummage sales, plus Annual Picnics, mother and daughter banquets, father and son banquets. They also provided soups and canned jellies for use in case of illness at the Chapel. The Union held the Faith Chapel Birthday Party annually to which men and women would bring birthday offerings for Chapel work.

The Reverend Andrew Brodie was the next pastor to serve First Presbyterian Church from 1906 to 1912. His wife organized a Women's Bible Class which she taught until they left Watertown in 1912. One attendee, Mrs. Mabelle Bugbee, took over the leadership of the class and continued teaching for over 35 years. The large class of over 170 women met every Sunday in the chapel. The objective of the class was to become more familiar with the Bible, to find in it helps for everyday problems and to deepen their spiritual life. Through the monthly social meetings, efforts were made to become better acquainted. The class had two meetings each year when layettes were made for the Visiting Nurses Association. Members began going from class to other departments of church school as a teacher or a substitute.

A Study Club was formed in 1913 to study the work of the church at home and abroad, to promote good fellowship among the women of the congregation and to render every service possible

A group of younger women was organized as the Katharine Lansing Guild in 1931. They had originally been in a Sunday School class taught by Miss Lansing. These members were nurses, teachers, business women and others unable to attend afternoon meetings. They met for supper and an interesting program plus sewing projects every two weeks in the women's parlor. The parlor was found to be very useful after completion of the Christian Education Building in 1928. Their membership was not limited to church members, but to others who could attend at this time, especially school teachers.

The Women's Guilds began in 1942 and continued for almost 20 years. Guilds in First Presbyterian Church grew in number and size and incorporated almost all the women in the church. The most number of Guilds was eight, each with its own President, Vice President, Secretary and committees. Each Guild would take a turn in assisting with church functions such as family night suppers, receptions, and Lenten suppers. They served luncheons at the Salvation Army Citadel and the Community Chest, prepared sandwiches for U.S.O. once a year, and sent cards for birthdays at the County Home during one month. Their services in the community were appreciated.

All the Guilds would get together for the annual Hollyberry Sale and the Christmas Candlelight Pageant in Fellowship Hall. They would also be together for the annual meeting with supper in May. Delegates would be sent to the St. Lawrence Presbytery meetings.

The First Presbyterian Guilds, through its membership and committees, have continued to perform services which have been the responsibility of the women of the church for years. As always, the Faith Chapel Rummage Sales have been held each year; as always, the missionary box to the Ashville Farm School was packed; as always, Christmas wreaths were sent to the Tuberculosis Sanitarium; as always, Faith Chapel sewing classes and Red Cross sewing projects have continued. The Choir Committee sewed name tapes in robes and did necessary alterations to make the choir look presentable each Sunday morning. The Flower Committee made arrangements for the special decorations at Christmas-Tide and for the memorial flower offerings which appeared in the chancel at each church service.

Women became more active in our church government by being elected and ordained as a Deacon in the early 1950s. Mrs. Robert Thompson, Mrs. F. B. Pennionan and Miss Jane Naughton were among the first to serve on our newly organized Board of Deacons. After Faith Chapel was reorganized as Faith United Presbyterian Church in January 1960, three women soon became ordained as Elders in 1965 and 1967. They were Mrs. Lorraine Brown, Mrs. Lewis Seery and Mrs. Louis Monaco. They continued to serve at First Presbyterian Church when the two churches merged in 1968. Our congregation elected and ordained Mrs. Alberta Simpson in 1969. She served a second term in 1972.

When the United Presbyterian Women became the official organization for Presbyterian women in 1960, the Guilds became "Circles" for its' 369 members. Most Circles met at 1:30 p.m., but others preferred the morning meeting at 9:30 or evening at 8:00. Groups often met in the homes, but would be together for special programs in the church almost monthly. UPW had its own LOGO and PURPOSE. (see attached)

St. Lawrence Presbytery merged with Champlain Presbytery in 1965 to become the Presbytery of Northern New York. The Champlain Presbyterial had been organized in 1880 as a Home and Foreign Missionary Society and was affiliated with the Women's Foreign Missions of Northern New York. In 1967 the national organization of United Presbyterian Women changed to allow more flexibility, with the Presbyterial acting as a greater resource for local associations. Emphasis was placed on women's concern and political involvement as a Christian obligation. An official magazine for UPW, "Concern," offered many suggestions and activities. Topics for study have covered abortion, child abuse, the battered woman, Equal Rights Amendment, Literacy Volunteers, Planned Parenthood, remedial reading, senior citizen housing, summer camps for disadvantaged children, and the newly organized Watertown Urban Mission.

United Presbyterian Women became active in the Watertown Council of United Church Women and participated in the annual World Day of Prayer, May Fellowship Day and World Community Day. This organization became known as Church Women United until it disbanded in 2002.

In 1988, the women's meeting group in Presbyterian Churches everywhere became known as Presbyterian Women. It has its own meaningful LOGO and PURPOSE (attached). Special offerings, such as Birthday, Thank and Least Coin, are recognized each year. The official magazine, "Horizons," is published bimonthly. Every issue provides ideas, inspiration and information for Presbyterian Women by addressing current issues facing the church and the world.

Presbyterian Women's groups at First Presbyterian Church have slowly reduced their schedule of meetings to one evening meeting monthly, except for the Christmas Tea and the May Salad Luncheon. Many participate in a mission sewing project organized in 1988 by Mrs. Ann Sudduth. The group is appropriately called the "Piecemakers". A complete report of many sewing and quilting projects has been submitted by Ann.

Research and Report by
Mary P. Sanford, Co-Chair of
Bicentennial Celebration 2003

PRESBYTERIAN PIECEMAKERS

The Presbyterian Piecemakers were organized October 20, 1988, at the suggestion of Karen Eelman, the wife of our new senior pastor, The Reverend Brent Eelman. Karen donated boxes of fabric and two sewing machines from the pastor's mother, Arlene Eelman, who had belonged to a quilting group in her church for many years.

Attending the first meeting in the Women's Lounge of First Presbyterian Church were Genevieve Barbour, Margaret Pontious, Ann Sudduth, and Kathryn Wright. It was decided that the group would meet two goals: to fulfill the Presbyterian Women's yearly pledges to the Presbytery's domestic and foreign mission sewing projects, and to make small quilts to be donated to the Jefferson County Women's Crisis Center (now re-named the Victims Assistance Center). The quilts were to be given to the children who came with their mothers to the center, often in emergencies, and sorely in need of comfort and reassurance.

At first we met in members' homes, but, thanks to mounting donations of fabric and supplies from both the church and the community, it was soon necessary to move to two rooms in the upstairs of the education wing of the church.

In those cramped rooms we met once or twice each month to cut, sew, and plan more quilts. As the quilts accumulated, we displayed them in Fellowship Hall before taking them to the Woman's Crisis Center. Over the years hundreds of quilts have been donated.

We made quilts for others, as well. In May, 1989, five quilts were donated to a Russian family who had re-located to the North Country. Several quilts were made for the Embangweni Medical Mission in Malawi, Africa, including one for Dr. Fred and Nella Stone who were serving there for two years.

Special quilts were made to honor departing pastors: The Reverend and Mrs. John B. Smiley, The Reverend and Mrs. Ellison L. Elmer, The Reverend and Mrs. Brent J. Eelman, and The Reverend Robert Findlay.

We held special all-day sewing bees to make quilts, baby layettes, bed nets for African hospitals, and even surgical masks for the Presbytery Mission Sewing projects.

Knitters have been active in Piecemakers, too, by creating preemie baby caps for the Samaritan Medical Center nursery, mittens and scarves for school children, and afghans for the nursing homes.

Through these needle arts, Presbyterian Piecemakers have shared the love of Christ in our community and far beyond.

Report by Ann Sudduth



The Presbyterian Women Logo

In July 1998 voting delegates to the organizing meeting of Presbyterian Women adopted the organization's original symbol. The symbol, designed by Sarah Abbot from the Synod of the Covenant, has served Presbyterian Women well for 10 years.

As we enter our second decade and look toward the new millennium, the image moves into the future with us. The updated symbol retains the message of the original design and captures the vitality of Presbyterian Women today.

Please share the new image of Presbyterian Women that this updated symbol represents.

Some Meanings Found in the PW Symbol:

Forgiven and freed by God in Jesus Christ,

Forgiven and freed by grace through faith, the central figure stands in praise.

And empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves:

Rooted in faith, the trio of women emerge. The outline of the central figure forms a cross. We are Presbyterian women engrafted in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. It is no longer we who live, but Christ who lives in us.

To nurture our faith through prayer and Bible study,

The right figure holds a book to guide her reading, studying, praying, or meditating.

To support the mission of the church worldwide

The left figure reaches out to care for others, as she shares, nurtures, and heals. The circle represents the church worldwide where women offer their gifts and talents in the midst of the global community.

To work for justice and peace,

The uplifted arms of the central figure reach out to embrace a just peace. The relationship between the three figures depicts lives of wholeness rather than turmoil.

And to build an inclusive, caring, community of women

The three women have no distinct features. They represent all women. The shapes surrounding them express energy, strength, and openness..

That strengthens the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A)

Our name, Presbyterian Women, ties us to our denomination. The Bible resembles the Bible depicted in the PC(USA) Seal.

And witnesses to the promise of God's kingdom

Guided by the Purpose, Presbyterian Women witnesses to the reality of God's present realm.

H I S T O R Y
OF
WOMEN'S GROUPS
in
First Presbyterian Church

W O M A N ' S U N I O N

Every Woman of the Congregation is considered a member.

1903-1904	
1904-1905	1918-1919
1905-1906	1919-1920
1906-1907	1920-1921
	1921-1922
	1922-1923
1909-1910	1923-1924
1910-1911	1924-1925
1911-1912	1925-1926
1912-1913	1926-1927
1913-1914	1927-1928
1914-1915	1928-1929
1915-1916	1929-1930
	1930-1931

The Woman's Union
The Study Club
The Katherine Lansing Guild

1931-1932
1932-1933
1933-1934
1934-1935
1935-1936
1936-1937
1937-1938
1938-1939
1939-1940
1940-1941
1941-1942

THE WOMEN'S GUILDS
of the
First Presbyterian Church

<u>year</u>	<u>President</u>
1942-1943	Mrs. Glenn Shriver
1943-1944	Mrs. John Barnard
1944-1945	Mrs. John Barnard
1945-1946	Mrs. George Bock
1946-1947	Mrs. George Bock
1947-1948	Miss Jane Naughton
1948-1949	Mrs. N. A. Jenkins
1950	Mrs. Sutherland Simpson
1951	Mrs. Sutherland Simpson
1952	Mrs. Robert Bond
1953	Mrs. Robert Bond
1954	Mrs. Howard Farrington
1955	Miss Charlotte Gillette
1956-1957	Mrs. William Larrabee
1957-1958	Mrs. William Larrabee
1958	Mrs. Donald Jackson
1958-1959	Mrs. Charles Close
1959-1960	Mrs. Charles close
1960-1961	Mrs. Darrel Rippeteau



THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION
of
First Presbyterian Church
Watertown, New York

<u>year</u>	<u>President</u>
1961-1962	Mrs. Darrel Rippeteau
1962-1963	Mrs. William G. Garlough
1963-1964	Mrs. William G. Garlough
1964-1965	Mrs. John H. Sheehan
1965-1966 (December)	Mrs. John H. Sheehan
1967	Mrs. Robert W. Kellock
1968	Mrs. Robert W. Kellock
1969	Mrs. Robert W. Kellock
1970	Mrs. William W. Conde (resigned)
1970	Mrs. John H. Sheehan
1971	Mrs. Lyle B. Marvin
1972	Mrs. Lyle B. Marvin
1973	none
1974	Co-Coordinator: Mrs. Hugh Murray Mrs. Julian Palian
1975	Co-Presidents Mrs. Hugh Murray Mrs. W. Barton VanSlyke
1976	Mrs. David O. Stanley
1977	Mrs. David O. Stanley
1978	Mrs. Julian Palian
1979	Mrs. Julian Palian
1980	Mrs. Loron Silliman
1981	Mrs. Loron Silliman
1982	Miss Elizabeth Brown
1983	Mrs. David O. Stanley
1984	Mrs. Genevieve Close
1985	Mrs. Genevieve Close
1986	Mrs. Donna Maulding
1987	Mrs. Norma Miller
1988	Miss Shirley Parker



PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN

1989	Moderator	Miss Shirley Parker
1990		Mrs. Marilyn Eager
1991		Mrs. Marilyn Eager
1992		Mrs. Toni Silliman
1993		Mrs. Mary Sanford
1994		Mrs. Shirley Walsh
1995		Mrs. Shirley Walsh and Mrs. Bernie Taylor
1996		Mrs. Bernie Taylor Vice Mod. Mrs. Debbie Lake
1997		Mrs. Ann Sudduth Vice Mod. Mrs. Sonnie Scott
1998		Mrs. Ann Sudduth Vice Mod. Mrs. Sonnie Scott
1999		Mrs. Sonnie Scott Vice Mod. Mrs. Lynn Pyke
2000		Mrs. Lynn Pyke Vice Mod. Mrs. Shari Nattell
2001		Mrs. Lynn Pyke Vice Mod. Mrs. Shari Nattell
2002		Mrs. Shari Nattell Vice Mod. Mrs. Margaret Safford
2003		Mrs. Shari Nattell
2004		Mrs. Bernie Taylor and Mrs. Lynn Pyke

FACTS & FIGURES

Membership

Listing every five years

Listing every year

Fifty-year Members

Bronze Plaques in Sanctuary

Historic Banners

Early Gifts to the Church

Membership of First Presbyterian Church

1950 - 1030

1955 - 1213

1960 - 1197

1965 - 1251

1970 - 1270

1975 - 1086

1980 - 959

1985 - 933

1990 - 683

1995 - 601

2000 - 595

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

RECORD OF MEMBERSHIP
AS REPORTED TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

(Recorded in "Years of Faith" thru 1952)

YEAR	MEMBERS
1821	122
1825	219
1830	269
1835	255
1850	334
1860	373
1870	360
1880	396
1890	448
1900	580
1910	635
1920	871
1930	1000
1935	917
1940	902
1945	786
1946	786
1947	805
1948	845
1949	941
1950	1030
1951	1117
1952	1118

(Recorded in ANNUAL REPORTS of First Presbyterian Church)

1953	1173	1973	1077	1993	681
1954	1219	1974	1074	1994	600
1955	1231	1975	1086	1995	601
1956	1276	1976	924	1996	612
1957	1283	1977	936	1997	602
1958	1304	1978	955	1998	600
1959	1329	1979	954	1999	597
1960	1197	1980	959	2000	595
1961	1201	1981	936	2001	564
1962	1202	1982	932	2002	542
1963	1203	1983	944	2003	550
1964	1236	1984	944		
1965	1251	1985	933		
1966	1245	1986	773		
1967	1233	1987	704		
1968	1313	1988	724		
1969	1320	1989	619		
1970	1270	1990	653		
1971	1108	1991	672		
1972	1091	1992	673		

CURRENT (LIVING) FIRST PRESBYTERIAN MEMBERS WHO JOINED THE
CHURCH 50 OR MORE YEARS AGO

<u>Name</u>	<u>Became member on</u>
Miller, Helen Swan (Mrs. M.C.)	10 Apr 1925
Parry, Margaret Jane	02 Apr 1926
Johnson, Catherine Common (Mrs. John B.)	05 Apr 1927
Brown, Elizabeth	18 Apr 1930
Dickey, Ervin J., Jr.	18 Apr 1930
Foster, Fern Hibbard (Mrs. Carl)	08 Mar 1931
Orloff, Irene Bickel (Mrs. John)	21 Mar 1932
Hart, Frances Jones (Mrs. Charles E.)	25 Mar 1932
Wait, Elizabeth Waddingham (Mrs. George W.)	26 Mar 1932
Inglehart, George G., Jr.	30 Mar 1934
Olson, Mildred E. Pinner (Mrs. Wycoff)	19 Apr 1935
Eager, Henry R.	19 Apr 1935
Farmer, Rosalyn Monaco (Mrs. Rollin)	19 Apr 1935
Hyde, Charles R.	19 Apr 1935
Schneider, Katherine (Mrs. Martin)	26 Mar 1937
Schneider, Martin	26 Mar 1937
Cox, Mary Eaton Cooper (Mrs. George E., Jr.)	26 Mar 1937
Hills, Marian Flower Jones (Mrs. William P.)	26 Mar 1937
Slack, Betty J. Pinner (Mrs. Benjamin)	11 Apr 1938
Amos, Barbara E.	11 Apr 1938
Richards, Elizabeth Story (Mrs. Everett)	19 Mar 1940
Goodfriend, Carol Hills (Mrs. Clarence L.)	08 Apr 1941
Smith, Grace Sherman	08 Apr 1941
Treadwell, Marcia Stone (Mrs. John H.)	29 Mar 1942
Balcome, Ola Humphrey (Mrs. Loren C.)	05 Apr 1942
Priest, Catherine Bickel (Mrs. James A.)	22 Apr 1943
Alfke, Paul W.	23 Feb 1944
Whitney, Carolyn E.	23 Feb 1944
Ahlheim, John G.	23 Feb 1944
Maloney, Suzanne Peckham (Mrs. Robert J.)	23 Feb 1944
Fluno, Leroy David	23 Feb 1944
Bretsch, Marion Cring (Mrs. Stanley)	23 Feb 1944
Williams, Dorothy Decatur (Mrs. Ezra H.)	25 Mar 1946
Thorigal, Myra B. Van Antwerp (Mrs. Arnold L.)	02 Jun 1946
Thorigal, Arnold L.	02 Jun 1946
Carr, Mary (Mrs. Charles J.)	29 Dec 1946
Rippeteau, Darrel D.	03 Apr 1947
Sheitz, Peggy Carr (Mrs. Donald C.)	05 Oct 1947
Barbour, Genevieve Johnson (Mrs. Donald)	28 Dec 1947

Duncan, Kathryn L. Duffany	25 Mar 1948
Barden, William B.	25 Mar 1948
Sudduth, John C.	25 Mar 1948
Millar, Kay Meyer (Mrs. Josiah R.)	1949
Gorman, Carol Sterling (Mrs. Ward B., Jr.)	30 Dec 1949
Payne, Anita M. (Mrs. Thomas L.)	30 Dec 1949
Payne, Thomas L.	30 Dec 1949
Quimby, William H., Jr.	01 Jan 1950
Huber, Howard E.	02 Apr 1950
Sheitz, Donald C.	03 Dec 1950
White, Roger W.	03 Dec 1950
Bonney, Warren	Dec 1950
Bonney, Margaret McArthur (Mrs. Warren)	Dec 1950
Eager, Marilyn Hibbert (Mrs. Henry R.)	22 Mar 1951
Tarrant, David V.	22 Mar 1951
Walker, Mabel Brooks (Mrs. T. Urling)	27 Feb 1952
Walker, T. Urling	27 Feb 1952
Kant, Alfred	10 Apr 1952
Peckham, Jeanne Secoy	10 Apr 1952
Kanik, James R.	10 Apr 1952
Galloway, Lois E. Mallon (Mrs. W. Robert)	05 Oct 1952
Moesel, Laurabelle Fischer (Mrs. Edmond A.)	28 Dec 1952
Moesel, Edmond A.	28 Dec 1952
Case, Barbara Boyce Roe (Mrs. Wm. Henry)	28 Dec 1952
Laughland, Mary Hurburt (Mrs. Emerson V.)	28 Dec 1952
Dobbs, Claude L.	02 Apr 1953
Keene, William B.	04 Oct 1953
O'Connor, Avis (Mrs. Robert)	04 Oct 1953

B R O N Z E P L A Q U E S

in the SANCTUARY
of
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
WATERTOWN, NEW YORK

In loving memory of
REV JOHN JERMAIN PORTER D.D.
Born March 20, 1821
Died September 7, 1901

Pastor of this church
July 1864 to July 1881

Strong in Faith, Pure in Life.
Beloved as a Man and as a Minister of Christ.

Erected A.D. 1906

IN Loving Memory of
The Reverend
ALLEN MACY DULLES, D.D.
Born August 19, 1854
Died November 13, 1930
MINISTER OF THIS CHURCH
1887 - 1904

God gave him the spirit of power
and of love and of a sound mind.

II Timothy 1:7

In loving memory of
The Reverend
DARWIN FRANK PICKARD, D.D.
Minister of this church
more than twenty-nine years
1912 - 1941

With love, dignity and understanding
he extended the Kingdom of God.

B R O N Z E P L A Q U E S - continued

TO
GEORGE VAN-SANTVOORD CAMP
* December 9, 1861
+ February 2, 1915
Organist of this church 1882 - 1915

The congregation has erected this
tablet in grateful remembrance of
his pure and loving spirit and of
his generous and constant
devotion to the musical
service of this church

To the glory of God
and in loving memory of
JANE NAUGHTON
Director of religious education
1919 - 1941
Dedicated to this church throughout
her life, particularly with
children and youth
Given by the Richard H. Taylor and
the Jean Taylor Butler Families

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
and in beloved memory of
KATHARINE TEN EYCK LANSING
This sanctuary has been redecoreated
by her sister, Emma Sterling Lansing,
as a memorial to the Lansing Family,
active in this Church for more than 130 years.
A.D. 1951
Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Maria Hubbard) Lansing
Mr. and Mrs. John (Maria Dodge) Lansing
Mr. and Mrs. Robert (Eleanor Foster) Lansing
Katharine Ten Eyck Lansing and Emma Sterling Lansing

TO THE GLORY OF GOD
and in beloved memory of
MR. AND MRS. JOHN STERLING
and
MR. AND MRS. CHARLES D. GRIFFITH
The chancel has been redecoreated and furnished
with a MOSAIC CELTIC CROSS
by their sister,
MISS NELLIE B. WILMOT
A.D. 1951

B A N N E R S

DISPLAYED DURING THE BICENTENNIAL

2 0 0 3

of First Presbyterian Church
Watertown, New York

1. First Presbyterian Church Adult Choir
Watertown, New York
- royal blue background and white letters -
2. First Presbyterian Church Junior Choirs
Watertown, New York
- light blue background & white letters -
3. First Presbyterian Church School
(picture of open Bible)
- royal blue background & white letters -
4. HE COMES TO US
gold letters on red background
fringe on top and bottom
bells
5. HOPE AND FAITH WITH FRIENDS
HANDS Meeting - yellow background -
dove
Bible, chalice, cross
Love is the way
(this banner was made by an adult group at
Lands End with Bill & Bernie Taylor.
probably in the Spring of 1986)
6. Yellow Cross on Light Blue Background
Heart with People
Flower with Roots
John 10:10
7. GOD is Looking Everywhere for LOVE
FIGURES - eyeball buildings
cross interracial meeting
piece symbol (black & white)
- blue -
8. Black Cross with symbols
Dove Celtic Cross
fire Whale
- light blue background
9. Pentecost Dove & flames
- white figures on red background

These OLD BANNERS were found
in the Historical Room 2003

EARLY GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

1851

PULPIT BIBLE
(King James Version)

by

Mr. John Sterling

* * *

1878

BAPTISMAL FONT

by

Mrs. Robert Lansing
in memory of her husband,
Judge Robert Lansing

* * *

1878

COMMUNION TABLE
(used in Chancel until 1928)

by

Mrs. Robert Lansing
in memory of her husband,
Judge Robert Lansing

* * *

1892

JOHNSON PIPE ORGAN

by

Mr. Talcott Camp and son,
George VanSantvoord Camp
(organist 1882-1915)

* * *

1893

STAINED GLASS WINDOW
"Christ and the Doctors"

by

widow of Dr. William V.V. Rosa

* * *

1928

COMMUNION TABLE
given to replace the 1878 table,
which was moved to the new chapel

by

Eleanor Foster Lansing
in memory of her husband,
Secretary of State, Robert Lansing

* * *

1928 EIGHT SOLID SILVER COLLECTION PLATES

by

Miss Emma Lansing
Miss Katharine Lansing
Mr. Robert Lansing
(children of John & Maria Dodge Lansing)

* * *

TWO SILVER FLOWER VASES

by

Mrs. S.L. Brockway

* * *

BRAZEN CROSS

by

The Study Club

* * *

BABY GRAND PIANO
in sanctuary

by

Mrs. Etta Burnham

* * *

1919 AMERICAN FLAG & CHRISTIAN FLAG

by

Miss Jane Naughton &
Mrs. Richard H. Taylor
in memory of Harold Naughton

* * *

1928 14 BANQUET SIZE TABLES
in Fellowship Hall

by

Mrs. S. A. Upham

* * *

1928 FURNISHINGS FOR PRIMARY CLASSROOMS

by

Anna Hope Camp
in memory of her mother,
Mrs. Walter H. Camp

* * *

WHITE PEW or BENCH
used in the STONE CHURCH 1821 - 1850

by

Miss Harriet Hungerford

* * *

1928 THREE PICTURES FOR CHILDREN'S CLASSROOMS

IN MEMORY OF

Lucia Anne Blanchard

John Gamble

Bruce Hills

* * *

1942 RED VELVET TABLE COVER & BACK DROP
in the CHAPEL

by

The Young People's Alliance

* * *

GOLD CROSS & CANDLESTICKS
placed on the communion table in chapel

by

Mrs. John Sterling's Guild

* * *

1952 REDECORATION OF CHAPEL
with a NEW ORGAN

by

Mrs. J. Munson Gamble
in memory of Mary Annis Gamble
& Myra Delaney Gamble

* * *

LITERATURE TABLES

by

Mr. & Mrs. John Williamson

* * *

PARAMENTS

by

families in memory of
Mrs. Charles J. Fluno
Mr. Carl E. Foster
Mrs. George Inglehart

* * *

1951

REDECORATION OF THE SANCTUARY

by

Miss Emma Sterling Lansing
in memory of Katharine TenEyck Lansing

* * *

1951

INSTALLATION OF MOSAIC CELTIC CROSS
& REDECORATION OF THE CHANCEL

by

Miss Nellie D. Wilmot
in memory of Mr & Mrs John Sterling
& Mr and Mrs Charles D. Griffith

* * *

BOOK FOR ENDOWMENT FUNDS & MEMORIAL GIFTS
(kept in NARTHAX)

given in memory of Mrs. J. Munson Gamble
by daughters: Mrs. Walter Atkinson
Mrs. Morse G. Dial
Mrs. Robert Horr
& Mrs. Grace G. Quimby

GIFTS FOR THE PARLOR

BEAUTIFUL WROUGHT IRON FIREPLACE SCREEN
(made by Chester Hyde)

by
Mrs. George Hyde

GRAND PIANO
BY
Mrs. J. Sterling Robinson

MIRROR
by
Mrs. W. I. Allen

GOLD & WHITE CHINA SET
in kitchenette
by
Mrs. J. Munson Gamble

SOFA
by
Miss Nellie Wilmot

SILVER TEA SERVICE & TRAY
by
Mrs. M. M. Bagg

PARLOR LIGHTS
by
Katharine Lansing Guild

LACE TABLE CLOTHS

DRAPES

other items
given by various Guilds

PRESBYTERIAN SYMBOLS

**Seal of The General Assembly
of the United Presbyterian Church
in the United States of America**

Explanation of Seal Symbols

Seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

Diagrams Explaining the Seal Symbols

Cross - Scripture

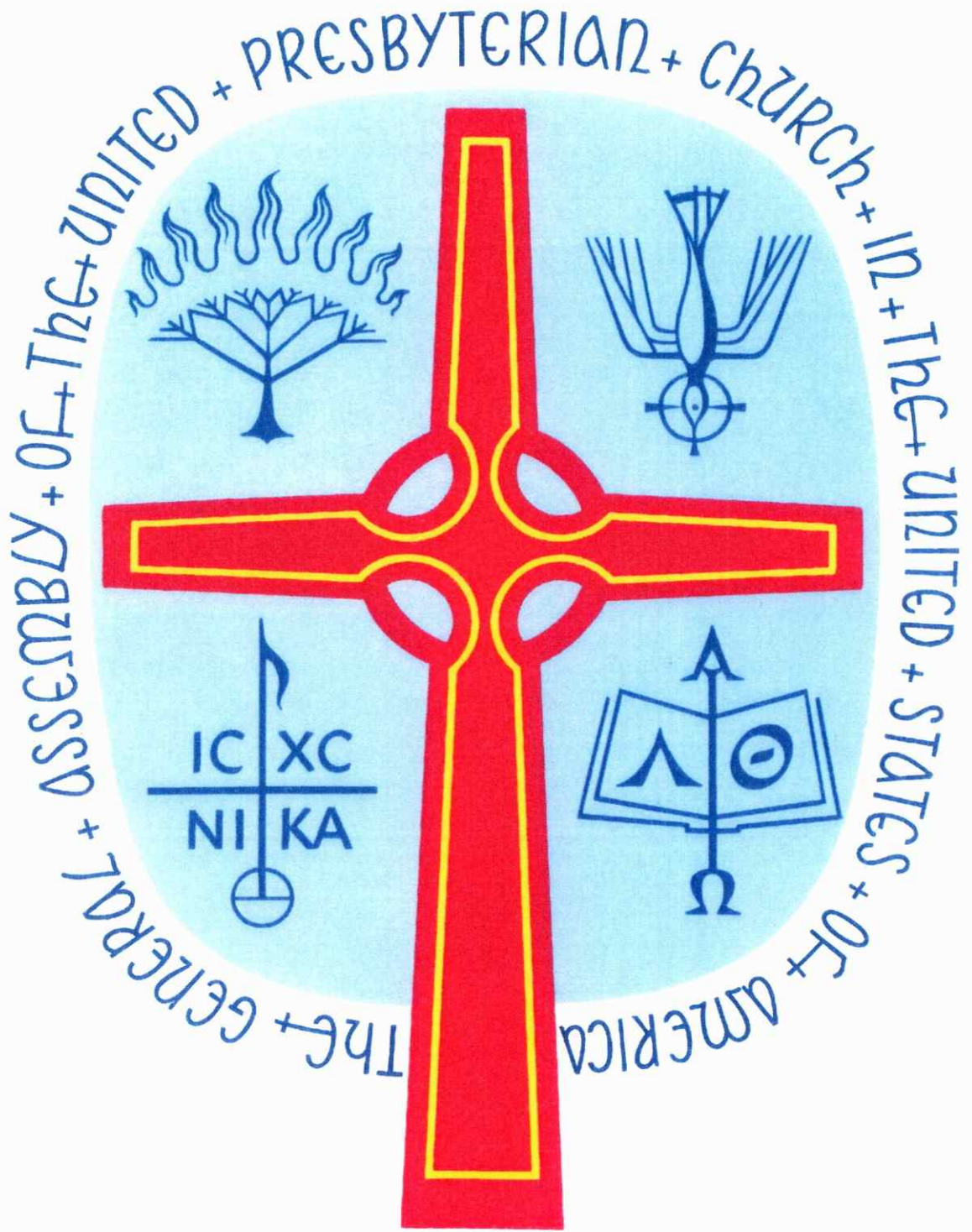
Dove - Flames

Triangle - Fish

Baptismal Font

Mosaic Celtic Cross Brochure

(pocket of back cover)



S E A L

of

THE UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S.A.

The dominant feature of the seal is an adaptation of the Celtic Cross. The symbols are the burning bush, the dove, the cross and orb, and the Bible and arrow.

THE CELTIC CROSS. The Celtic Cross has long been associated with Celtic Christians who trace their origins to the earliest Christian centuries. Notable examples of this form of the cross are found in Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. The design of the cross in the seal tends to focus attention on the head, or the junction between the shaft and cross-piece, which is enclosed within a circle. This circle is the most distinctive feature of the Celtic Cross. Its real significance is not known with certainty, but it probably stems from a Constantinian device wherein the Chi Rho monogram was surrounded by a golden crown. The circle is in this sense the emblem of victory—of Christ's victory over sin and death.

THE BURNING BUSH. The burning bush is found in the seal of the Church of Scotland and in the seals of several other Reformed Churches. It is based on Exodus 3:2: "And lo, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed." It is suggestive of God, of the divine fire which keeps like aglow with the light of truth, of the divine call, and of the flames of persecution which the Church has endured.

THE DOVE. The dove is one of the earliest and most beautiful of the symbols which represent the Holy Spirit. In Matthew 3:16 we read: "And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and alighting on him." In the seal, the dove's head is surrounded by the tri-radiant nimbus, which is used exclusively with the Persons of the Holy Trinity.

THE CROSS AND ORB. The cross here used, with the wavy line at the head of the shaft, is sometimes called a chrism. It is the identification of Christ with the cross. The cross bears the Greek motto, IHCOTC XPICTOC NIKAI, with the name of Jesus Christ contracted into IC and XC. The motto means "Jesus Christ Do Thou Conquer." It relates to the victory of Christ over the world through the cross by means of his death and resurrection.

The Orb (bottom circle) is divided into three parts with the base of the cross at the center representing Jerusalem. It calls to mind the words of Christ in Acts 1:8: "You shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

THE BIBLE. The Bible presented opened with the Greek letter Theta (Θ) on the right-hand page and Lambda (Λ) on the left-hand page. These represent the words OEOT and OROC, meaning "Word of God." The arrow through the center of the Bible is formed by a line connecting the emblem Alpha and Omega. This is a reference to Christ based on Revelation 1:8: "I am Alpha and Omega." The arrow is the symbol of martyrdom, reminding us that many have suffered death for love of Christ who is the Word of God Incarnate.

COLOR SYMBOLISH EXPLAINED. The colors of the seal follow established Presbyterian usage, namely, Blue for background, Red and Gold for the Cross, and White beneath the lettering which borders the seal: The United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

Red is the chief of the theological colors symbolizing the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. It refers to blood, fire, zeal, and the work of the Church.

Gold is one of the colors of royalty. In Matthew 2:11 we read that the Magi presented gold to the Christ-Child. In Revelation 1:13 the glorified Christ is described as wearing a golden girdle. Gold indicates a refining process, hence purity, rejoicing, and light.

Blue has special significance for Presbyterians, for it is the background color of the seal of the Church of Scotland. It indicates God's majesty in his condescension. In ancient Scottish usage blue was the Church color from Advent to Christmas Eve, and Septuagesima to Ash Wednesday.

White, while strictly speaking not a color, is used with reference to the glorified Christ in Revelation 1:14. It signifies the throne of God, and light, and purity, and joy.



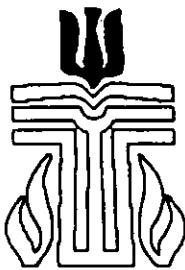
The seal of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is a symbolic statement of the church's heritage, identity, and mission in contemporary form. Its power depends on both its simplicity and complexity, as well as its traditional qualities.



The basic symbols in the seal are the cross, Scripture, the dove, and flames. The dominant structural and theological element in the design is the **cross** – the universal and most ecumenical symbol of the Christian church. The cross represents the incarnate love of God in Jesus Christ, and his passion and resurrection. Because of its association with Presbyterian history, the Celtic cross was chosen as a model for this contemporary rendering of the ancient symbol.



In experimenting with the basic lines and shapes of the cross, the contour of a **book** began to emerge in the horizontal section, and the two center lines of the cross became the representation of an open book. This integration of the horizontal dimensions of the cross with the book motif highlights the emphasis which the Reformed tradition has placed on the role of Scripture as a means of knowing God's word.



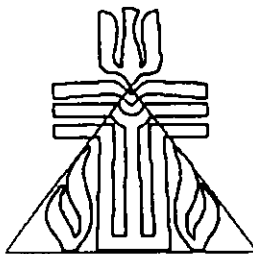
The slightly-flared shape of the Celtic cross also makes possible the transforming of the uppermost section into the shape of a descending dove. As a symbol of the Holy Spirit, the dove is intimately tied to the representation of the Bible, affirming the role of the Spirit in both inspiring and interpreting Scripture in the life of the church. The dove also symbolizes Christ's baptism by John and the peace and wholeness which his death and resurrection bring to a broken world.



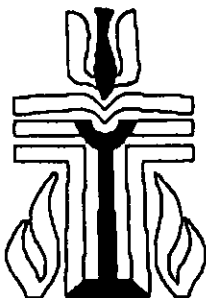
Beneath the image of the book is the suggestion of a lectern or **pulpit**, which captures the important role of preaching in the history of Presbyterian worship.



Integrated into the lower part of the design are flames which form an implied triangle, a traditional symbol of the Trinity. The flames themselves convey a double meaning: a symbol of revelation in the Old Testament when God spoke to Moses from the burning bush, and a suggestion of the beginning of the Christian church when Christ manifested himself to his apostles at Pentecost and charged them to be messengers of the good news of God's love.



The triangle also suggests the nature of Presbyterian government, with its concern for balance and order, dividing authority between ministers of the Word and laypersons and between different governing bodies. This understanding of the church was based in part on an important idea in Reformed theology, the covenant, which God establishes with people to affirm God's enduring love and to call us to faith and obedience to Jesus Christ.



Looking more closely at some of the visual components of the design, viewers may discover elements that seem to fuse with some of the more obvious theological symbols. In the shape of the descending dove, for example, one might also discern in the body of the bird, the form of a fish, an early-Christian sign for Christ, recalling his ministry to those who hunger. For some, the overall design evokes the calligraphy of Hebrew and Greek manuscripts. Others have seen a baptismal font or a communion chalice (cup).

In I Corinthians, Paul described the church as a body with many members, illustrating the pluralism of the church and the many gifts which God gives to its members. So also the seal's individual parts, when taken together, form an encompassing visual and symbolic unity, while not exhausting the richness of possible interpretations.