

CARSON CITY S.D.A. CHURCH HISTORY

- ① The Carson City S.D.A. Church was organized June 20, 1875 by Elder A. O. Burrill. On that date 19 members were baptized by Elder E. H. Root and three others joined by letter and vote making 22 charter members. Before the end of 1875 there were 36 members.

An Elder Van Deusen labored here in this area in the fall of 1874 and he is mentioned from time to time as returning to the C.C. Church as late as 1906. Also Elder E. H. Root returned in 1894.

- ② On August 21, 1876 "the church commenced building a meeting house". Prior to this the group met at the school (some at the Blackner School) and different homes for services. In the notes these services were held at the "meeting house". Some of the lumber for this church edifice came from the J. W. Miner (Mrs. DeVries grandparents) farm south of town. This farm was later owned by the Ernest Coble family who attended church here.

- ③ Other gatherings of S.D.A. in this area, Dec. 7, 1875 there was a meeting in North Shade (Gratiot County) with Elders D. M. Canright, A. O. Burrill, and J. Sisely present. It was thought best to have one organization, but have a branch at North Shade three-fourths the time.

There was a Matherton church for in Dec, 1876 "Brother J. A. Saiyer was taken into the church by a letter from the Materton Church. Also in May 1895 transferred to the Matherton Church. Also the Penn's and Dow's and later the Wood's came from Matherton.

In S.S. notes a company from Crystl visited our church and some from Carson went there.

There is mention of a district meeting at Sumner. A little old unused S.D.A. Church still stands there today.

One of our elder members can recall going to Bushnell (over toward Fenwick) for services.

The Ola Church united with the Carson City Church in 1970. Elder Loughborough was here at the time the Ola Church was built eighty years ago in 1895. Gertrude Sutton-Eggert's father, J. Sutton, donated the land which was to revert back to the owner if no longer used for a church. Frank Stevenson's father (also Harold Stevenson's grandfather and Maxine Stevenson-Mosner's grandfather) and Franklin Squares (Geo. Hayner's grandfather) built the Ola Church. They also gave the logs and lumber for it.

(Franklin Squares, I believe, maybe the Franklin Squires who joined the Carson Church in 1902 and remained a member here until his death in 1912. Also there was a Franklin Squires as elder of the Ithaca Church when it was first organized. From reading some of the early history there was a Franklin Squires quite prominent in community affairs, too, in Gratiot County.)

- ④ In the clerk's book covering 1875 to 1922 are detailed accounts of their business meetings held the Sunday following the Quarterly Services. In those early days there was much concern about the members upholding the church standards. Some of the early members were censured and later disfellowed, if necessary, for not adhering to our beliefs. Before new members joined, they were taken under the "watch care" of the church, ~~for a while~~.

Offerings were taken called "first day offering" and later

"fourth Sabbath donations". Also at the Sunday meeting following Quarterly Service, tithe was collected tracts and books were sold. They held their T. and M. meetings (Tract and Missionary) which correspond to our Lay Activities today. In reporting missionary work they reported the pages in tracts and books loaned ~~loaned~~ or given away.

⑤ Report by Carl Manning ^{ly}maining on changes and improvements made in the church.

⑥ Let's look at a few of the families of our early members. James W. Miner family, Mrs. Edna DeVries's uncle made the pulpit which is still in use today. He kept careful notes of early church activities. Her grandparents, Uriah and Matilda Miner were workers in the church. He was elder at one time. Her grandmother Matilda lived to be 98 and I remember she attended church faithfully while in her nineties, usually walking. Frank and Carrie Miner-Ayars, Mrs. DeVries's parents, had a son Ernest Ayars and wife who spent many years in mission work in S. America. Ernest Ayars's daughter Dorothy and husband Kenneth Emmerson served in Inter-America. ~~Later~~ now he is treasurer of G. C. Their daughter Anita and husband are missionaries in Central America.

Joseph and Alice Bennett, Eoen Willis's grandparents, had a daughter Issie married to M.C. Guild, a minister. Their son Cecil Guild and wife have been connected with mission work in the Southern Asia Division.

Carl Montgomery, grandson of charter members, John and Cynthia Montgomery, served as a missionary in Inter America. He was a Sabbath School secretary when a young fellow here.

Hubert Swartout, son of Charles Swartout, was connected with the Press in China and his sister Florence and husband were missionaries in India.

William and Ruth Evans who lived about a mile east of town had six children, all of whom were members here at one time. William was a local elder. Their son Irvin H. Evans was a missionary in China. A daughter Minnie married Elder Meade McGuire. Another daughter Mary Evans married Fred Clarke who was a local elder for eighteen years. Fred Clarke's son C. Fred Clarke and wife Esther spent 38 years in the educational work in Africa, Esther just died recently two weeks before they were to retire and had to be buried ^{in Africa} there. C. F. and Esther's son Wilton, married to Sylvia Nelson, have been missionaries in Tanzania. Now they are under appointment to go Beirut, Lebanon to teach at the Middle East College when Wilton ^{receives} finishes his advanced degree at the University of Iowa in December. The Williams' grandparents, Charles B. and Jane Williams, joined the Carson Church in 1875. Edgar Hutchins, our first church elder, was their great uncle.

Lucile Dobson Bobiencko* (one of my early S. S. teachers) has some of her children in ~~degin~~ denominational work. Also the Durward Wildman's.

Jane Allen, Mrs. Lera Caesar's granddaughter is now doing missionary service in Singapore.

①

We do not want to minimize the work of the faithful members in the Carson City area who have kept the home fires burning. You are the ones who have been a light in this community through the years; you are the ones who have kept this church in good repair; you have ~~seen~~ ^{supported} our missionaries and ministers and teachers that have served elsewhere; you are the ones who have rejoiced as these workers have returned.

And to you young people worshiping with us today may I challenge you as you have listened to what our forefathers have sacrificed and accomplished in the last hundred years to determine that you will keep this church as a light in this community. What this church is in the next fifty years, should time last that long, depends on you!

Song often sung---Pillar of Fire

In 1922 Matilda Miner, Alice Bennett, Ruth Evans still alive. I can remember as a child, my folks stopping on our way to church to pick up Ruth Evans, ^{then a widow} She always had so many beautiful peonies.

Baptisms and picnics at Goodells along the river near Hubbardston.

From S. S. reports back in 1920-21 we had as many as 56 S. S. members and often more than 60 in attendance. In the years 1933-35 we had 58 S. S. members--many young people.

Harvest Ingathering goal in 1921 was \$10 per member.

west

The Carson City Church is $\frac{1}{2}$ mile over in Montcalm County from Gratiot County.

Facts gleaned from our early church records and talking to older members. ~~of our church.~~

I was asked to give bits of church history between the musical numbers for the Centennial Services July 26, 1875 on Sabbath afternoon.

Prepared by
Verna Goodsite

Many typing errors
See Centennial Bulletin for other information.

July 27, 1978

Attention: Mrs. Louise Dederen

I thought you might like this information.

Please send the bulletin ~~about~~ the Centennial Services (or a copy) on to Robert Montgomery in the enclosed addressed envelope as his great grandparents were charter members here. Also his father was a member here as a young fellow. This is the last spare bulletin I have.

(Miss) Verna Goodrite

Put a r.e. of Centennial S... Aug. 4, 1978 to Hawaii.

VEN 400
JT 000246 Vault

CENTENNIAL SERVICES

CARSON CITY SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH

JULY 26 - 1975

WELCOME TO ALL OF OUR GUESTS AND TO THOSE IN ATTENDANCE

I was glad when they said unto me,
Let us go into the house of the Lord.

Psalm 122:1

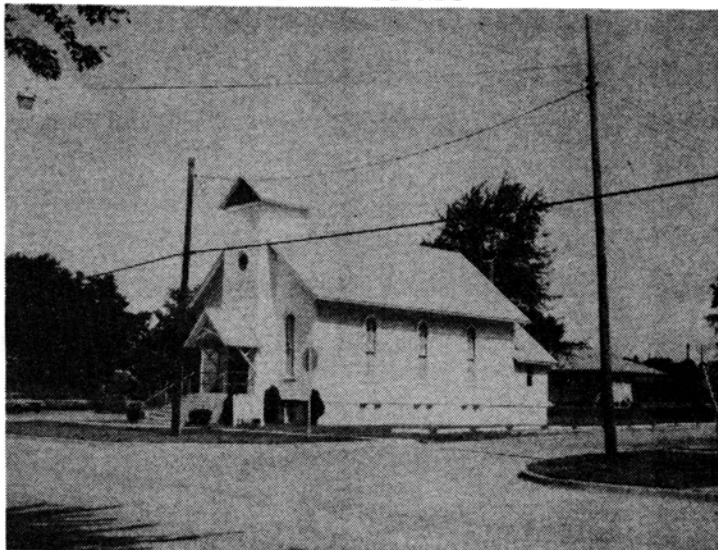
Behold, how good and how pleasant it is
for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Psalm 133:1



THE "LITTLE OLD CHURCH" *built in 1876*

AS IT NOW STANDS



CHARTER MEMBERS JUNE 20, 1875

By Baptism:

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Edgar Hutchins | 13. Abigail Gibbs |
| 2. Mary Hutchins | 14. Charlie Gibbs |
| 3. John Montgomery | 15. Leah Smith |
| 4. Cynthia Montgomery | 16. Eli Clark |
| 5. Joseph Bennett | 17. Lottie Clark |
| 6. Alice Bennett | 18. James W. Miner |
| 7. Charles Robertson | 19. J. Perry Miner |
| 8. Elizabeth Robertson | By Vote: |
| 9. C.J. Clark | 20. Frank Ayars |
| 10. Samuel Powers | 21. Cornelia Ayars |
| 11. Annie Powers | 22. Matilda Miner |
| 12. Mary Low | |

Members added before the end of 1875:

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. William Evans | 8. Flora Evans |
| 2. Ruth Evans | 9. Mercy Johnson |
| 3. Marion Miner | 10. D.J. Towner |
| 4. Charles B. Williams | 11. Polly Randall |
| 5. Jane Williams | 12. Mary Philips |
| 6. Truman Evans | 13. G. Graham |
| 7. Irvin Evans | 14. H. Graham |

CARSON CITY PASTORS SINCE 1936

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| 1. S. W. Hyde | 11. Paul Muffo |
| 2. Hugh Williams | 12. Don MacIntosh |
| 3. E. R. Potter | 13. A.W. Perrine |
| 4. Obed Klein | 14. Gordon Stecker |
| 5. E. E. Burkett | 15. David Copsy |
| 6. L. H. Sickels | 16. H. Freese |
| 7. H. A. Weaner | 17. L. Ellison |
| 8. T. I. Rush | 18. E.E. Herr |
| 9. Joe Quinn | 19. E. Schnider |
| 10. Earl Heslop | 20. F.P. Baerg |

Before 1936

Waldo Pruitt
 H. H. Hicks
 O. H. Kittle

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

July 26, 1975

9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTERS ENTER

HYMN OF PRAISE: No. 433 Congregation

INVOCATION Gordon H. Carle

OFFERING: Combined Budget of Church Expense

DOXOLOGY

DEDICATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS Sam Chrispens

HYMN OF MEDITATION Marjorie Chrispens

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 5:25-27

PASTORAL PRAYER Freberin Baerg

PRAYER RESPONSE: No. 688 Congregation

SERMON: God's Last Church on Earth Elder Carle

HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 432 Congregation

BENEDICTION Carl Manning

POSTLUDE

THE CHURCH AT STUDY

SONG SERVICE

WELCOME BY SUPERINTENDENT Verna Goodsite

OPENING SONG *When Jesus Shall Gather the Nations* Congregation

PRAYER *Dale Manning*

SECRETARY'S REPORT *Louise Wagoner*

SPECIAL MUSIC *Petersen sisters - Dorothy Shack + Sylvia Peterson*

SUPERINTENDENT'S REMARKS

MISSION REPORT *Elder Baerg - former missionary to*

CLASS PERIOD *Carl Manning*

LAY ACTIVITIES Grace Manning

CLOSING EXERCISES *Special - Madeline Kowlaski*

BENEDICTION *Alfred Peterson*

We were pleased to have you with us and
invite you to come and worship with us again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ELDER GORDON H. CARLE is the Treasurer of the Michigan Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. We welcome him to the Carson City Pulpit on this Centennial Day.

A FELLOWSHIP DINNER will be held in Bennet Park following the service today. All are cordially invited to participate.

CENTENNIAL HISTORY combined with a musical program will be presented at 3:30 p.m. today here in the Carson City church.

PRAYER MEETING will convene at 7:00 p.m. this Wednesday here in the church. All are invited to be present for this spiritual feast.

PAULINE HART of Denver, Colorado will conduct two workshops daily, Sunday through Friday, for our annual encampment at Grand Ledge.

THE LAY ACTIVITIES BOOTH is where all layman who have helped win a soul or who have been won by a layman during the past five years should register and receive a special gift at the Grand Ledge Campmeeting.

GEM THOUGHT: AA 111 "Long has God waited for the spirit of service to take possession of the whole church so that everyone shall be working for Him according to his ability."

THE ETERNITY SINGERS will present a program this evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Ithaca Seventh-day Adventist church.

CAMPMEETING WILL convene in Grand Ledge, Michigan from August 7 to August 16. There will be no church services here in Carson City during campmeeting.

HELPERS ARE NEEDED to sort clothing at the Welfare Services on Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

SUNSET TONIGHT: 9:05 SUNSET NEXT FRIDAY: 8:59

CENTENNIAL HISTORICAL MUSICAL PROGRAM

3:30 p.m.

History presented by Verna Goodsite

Music presented by Sam Chrispens

Vocal Solo	Tesser <i>Medelina Kowalski</i>
Instrumental	Shaver
Vocal Solo	Kawaski
Violin Solo	Snively
Vocal Solo	Sheline
Marimba	Wiggins
Reading	Tedhams
Vocal Solo	McClellan
Saw	Burgess
Vocal Duet	Sherwin
<i>Solo</i>	<i>Alfred Peterson</i>

CHURCH HISTORY

*19 of 22 baptized June 20,
1875 by E. H. Root*

The Carson City Seventh-day Adventist Church was organized by Elder A.O. Burrill in the year 1875 on the 20th of June with a membership of 22. It was founded as a result of evangelistic meetings held by Elders Burrill and VanDusson, and meetings at Maple Rapids by Elders Fargo and Bracket.

Some of the children of pioneer church members here in Carson City have had a prominent part in the history of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

William Evans had a son, Irvin H. Evans, who was a missionary in China for years. William Evans had a ^{daughter} ~~sister~~, Minnie, who married Mead McGuire, a prominent minister in the denomination. Mary Evans, a sister of Irvin Evans, married Fred Clarke. Their son, C. F. Clarke, and his wife have been missionaries in Africa for ³³ ~~over 25~~ years. Mrs. C. F. Clarke passed away just recently.

Frank Ayars had a son, Ernest Ayars, who together with his wife spent many years in South America. His daughter, Dorothy, and husband Kenneth Emmerson, served in the Inter-American Division for many years. He is currently the treasurer of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists. Their daughter, Anita, and her husband Bob Folkenberg are missionaries in Central America.

Joseph and Alice Bennett had a daughter, Issie, who married M. C. Guild, a minister. Their son, Cecil Guild, and his wife ^{were} ~~are~~ connected with the Southern Asia Division as missionaries. *Cecil Guild passed away about a year ago.*

John and Cynthia Montgomery had a grandson, Carl Montgomery, who served as a missionary for a long time in Inter-America.

Some of the pioneer and long time active members were: Swartout family, M.V. Moores, Alice Bennett, Perry Miner, Amos Evey and wife, Sanford and Sadie Kellogg, William and Anna Goodsite, Norman and Eva Goodell, and Rhoda Gallop. *and many more*

The Carson City Church Building has been in continuous use since 1876, with only a few changes. It has been raised and a basement put in for children's Sabbath School class rooms and the Welfare Center. A small extension was added to the rear, making a back entrance, and a few alterations have been made inside. *The steeple has been changed within the last five years.*

FIRST ELDERS SINCE 1875

1. Edgar Hutchins
2. William Evans
3. Uriah Miner
4. Charles Swartout
5. Fred Clarke
6. Charles Sanford
7. Carl Manning
8. Sam Chrispens

DID YOU KNOW. . .

- Mrs. Edna DeVries is the only direct relative of a charter member now attending church here?
- Lumber for building the church came from J.W. Miner South of Carson City?
- That Carson City once had a church school taught by Lucile Boothby, Elder Robert Boothby's sister, in the early 1900's?
- James Miner built the pulpit at the age of 16 which is still in use today?
- Mrs. Sarah DeVoe is our oldest living member and will be 100 years old November 28?

A NOTE OF GRATITUDE

To any and all who had a part in making this day a memorable one we wish to express our appreciation.