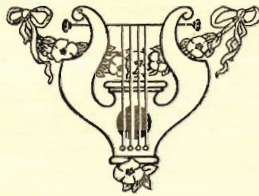


228

THE BULLETIN
OF THE
OXFORD SECOND
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.
Pastor

*Come unto me, all ye that labour and
are heavy laden, and I will
give you rest.*

*Take my yoke upon you, and learn of
me; for I am meek and lowly in
heart: and ye shall find rest
for your souls.*

*For my yoke is easy, and my burden
is light.*

Matthew 11:28-30

STATED MEETINGS OF THE CHURCH

SUNDAY SERVICES

Sunday School, 9:30 a. m.

Church Worship, 10:30 a. m.

Young People's Meeting, 7 p. m.

The Trustees meet on the first Tuesday of the month.

The Ladies Aid Society meets on the first Wednesday of the month, at 2:30 p. m.

The Lord's Supper is observed at Easter, and on the second Sundays of July, October and January.

The Annual Business Meeting comes in last week of March.

CHURCH OFFICERS

Elders—Abram Pittenger, Elisha B. Foss, Edward T. Green, Lewis Bergenback.

Trustees—Harry Miller, James Radel, George Docker, Jr., Charles Renner, Fred K. Sarson, Lewis E. Green, Edward Sharps, Charles Dux, Benjamin Green.

Treasurer—Lewis E. Green.

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SUNDAY SCHOOL

Superintendent—E. B. Foss.

Asst. Superintendent—Mrs. Edward T. Green.

Treasurer—Miss Ida Smith.

Secretary—Alvin Renner.

Organist—Elizabeth Zapp.

LADIES AID SOCIETY

Honorary President—Mrs. Charles Renner.

President—Mrs. Benjamin Green.

Secretary—Mrs. Clark Wilkinson.

Treasurer—Mrs. Lewis E. Green.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S SOCIETY

President—Emily Austie.

Treasurer—Chris Seiple.

Secretary—Helen Snyder.

CHOIR

Leader—Mrs. Edward T. Green.

Organist—Mrs. Benjamin Zapp.

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Bulletin No. 223, September 16th, 1934

Morning Worship

Doxology and Invocation

Psalm 119 sel. 45

Hymn 26

Creed and Gloria

Scripture Lesson

Prayer

Anthem

Offering

Hymn 230

Sermon

Hymn 251

Benediction

Prayer

"Lord, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in all good works, to the glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

A special meeting of the Ladies Aid Society will be held at the home of Mrs. Ben Green, Monday 17th, at 7:30 P.M.

All ladies are urged to attend this meeting as final plans will be made for the chicken and waffle supper.

The work for the church heater is most encouraging, as more than half the cost has been raised in cash and pledges. We hope the rest will be cared for this next week and the boiler ordered. A fine spirit of helping has been manifested. We welcome donations from all who may be disposed and are able to contribute.

Christmas cards are being sold by Mrs. Edward T. Green's S.S. Class, which pledged or undertook last spring to raise \$50. for the new heater. If the church members will patronize these young girls and buy their cards from them they will be able to make the full sum. The cards are very attractive and sell at the regular price.

The fall meeting of the Presbytery will take place next Tuesday, 18th, at Sussex. 9 A. I. standard time.

Teaching in Oxford 60 years Ago

By Miss Fannie DeWitt Person
of Belvidere, N.J.

Mrs. Mary Seiple Smith, of Westfield Mass. writes the Editor: "A year ago I had the pleasure of meeting you and of visiting the dear old church of my childhood days. It is especially dear to me as my mother joined the church in 1864. We were of the Jonestown clan who were the earliest settlers of Oxford.

As I remember them they were the Jones, Newmans, Seiples and Coopers.

I should enjoy hearing more about them. My father was connected with the old furnace and could give valuable information if he were alive. I enjoy the Bulletin and am sending two dollars for the renewal of my subscription. I am hoping to visit Oxford in the near future and would be glad to visit the church again."

We thank Mrs. Smith for her letter and the money. We have also received a dollar each from Mrs. Thomas Cryan and Rev. C.S. Shafer and thank them.

More about the Lukens' Band
By Miss Nellie B. Estler

Still another photograph of the Lukens' Band is awaiting recognition here in Arlington, N.J. And this one holds a place of honor in the Dental office of Dr. I.E. Estler, and is one of his most prized possessions. As is the soprano saxophone pictured, which he well remembers unpacking, at the age of 11, upon its arrival from Paris.

We were glad to hear of the other pictures held by old members. We hope more will be noted; also anecdotes and stories connected with the various trips taken by the band; for it was undoubtedly a remarkable institution for such a small community. The memory of it was long cherished by our father, also a member; for to him Oxford meant so much.

Indeed the subject of music is very dear to us--the early days which our parents enjoyed at Oxford, especially the music of the church and this band.

Our home was ever a place for all kinds of rehearsals in a music room with an organ at one end and a grand piano at the other.

We have also found a very good picture of the old furnace taken about 1839 or 1890, and it will be gladly loaned to further the interest which seems growing, to make it an historical monument.

Having been frequently asked to give some of my recollections of Oxford, as I knew it, many years ago, I have endeavored, though with hesitation, to set down some of them.

About 1871 I went to Oxford to take charge of a private school, in a room on the upper floor of an old stone building at the foot of the hill, just below the Fowler house.

There had been a school there, previous to my taking charge, conducted by Miss Ella Scranton, a schoolmate of mine at the Belvidere Seminary. The Post Office at that time occupied the first floor.

It was a very interesting school of about thirty pupils--among them the younger Scranton children, the Kingsbury, the Henry, the Lukens, the Doughty children and many other dear girls and boys. I boarded at that time in the old stone house later known as the Fowler house. It was then conducted by Mrs. Venable, a very nice, kind and motherly woman. At that time the stone house seemed to me an old and very interesting relic of old times.

The new furnace was at that time under construction and many of the workmen boarded with Mrs. Venable. I think any one would have pitied me had they known how small and insignificant I felt with all those men at the table. The old furnace was then in full blast and it was another source of great interest to me.

The Public school was at that time held in the old stone Chapel by the Presbyterian Church, with Mr. Putnam and daughter in charge. Very soon after that the new brick building, which a few years ago burned down, was built; and in 1876 I became a teacher in that building. Other teachers were Mr. Gasterline as Principal, Miss Ella Innes, Miss Jessie Glen, as teachers.

Later a Mr. Skinner became Principal with many changes of teachers. My connection with the school ceased in 1882.

We used to have some very happy times coasting at night on Church street. Perhaps not very dignified amusement for teachers, but pleasures and amusements were not very plentiful in Oxford at that time.

At one time a friend took me at night to visit the new furnace. One visit was enough. I have never forgotten it--it was horrible. We in some way got where we could look down into that seething caldron of molten iron. At another time we went to the rolling mill, which was another red hot experience, to see the men draw back and

forth those great red-hot sheets of iron until the proper degree of heat was reached.

While boarding at the Fowler house the stone building of which I spoke before, took fire in some way, and was destroyed in the year 1882. Everyone was very much excited, for it was said that the cellar was stored with kerosene belonging to the Company's store.

An amusing incident comes to my mind. The clerks from the Store boarded at the Fowler house, and of course they rushed out to the fire--among them Mrs. Fowler's son Fred. His sister being very much alarmed begged me to get down on my knees and pray for her brother's safety.

I declined to do so--selfish perhaps. My idea must have been "Safety-first," as I was vainly striving to get into my clothes and out of the house.

While I was in Oxford a fearful epidemic of Smallpox broke out. It seems Mr. G. Humphrey and I had been exposed to it.

I was having a pair of shoes repaired and when calling for them a man brought them to the door whose face was covered with sores, which later proved to be small pox. Well, dear mother Fowler, she

would put us in a little stone house on the premises, and care for us, but nothing happened. Our school attendance

dwindled to almost nothing--for days only one or two pupils. It was a doleful time, as no one in Oxford dared to close the school, but finally the County Supt, came and closed it. There was no school from May until September.

While I was at Oxford the Rev. C. Cline was Pastor of the Church and he had a large Bible class of which I was a member.

In 1875 there was much talk of the attempted robbery of the Company's Store.

A large sum of money had been brought from N.Y. to meet pay-day expenses, and in some way had been traced to Oxford. Owing wholly to the bravery and presence of mind of the Elder Searing, who was night watchman, the robbers were foiled, one man killed and the others frightened away.

I have always had a very tender spot in my heart for Oxford, and always when passing through, feel much interested.

Miss Rosalie Sarson who is responsible for this paper by Miss Person, writes that Miss Person "would be delighted to get some response from some of her former pupils, should they read this."

EDWARD T. GREEN

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