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**THE BULLETIN  
OF THE  
OXFORD SECOND  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH**

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



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Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.  
Pastor

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*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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Prayer

"O Almighty God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen."

Young People's Rally

The young people will hold a meeting tonight at 7 P.M. They ask for all our young folks to come out and help give the work a good send off.

At the close plans for the future will be discussed.

The Ladies Aid Society will hold their monthly business meeting at the Chapel next Wednesday afternoon.

Their will be quilting both morning and afternoon, and request all who can help to come early in order to finish the work begun.

Our readers will regret to hear if they have not already, of the illness of Miss Ida Smith. She has been confined to the bed for the past two weeks, but is improving and hopes to be up again before long. She is much beloved by everyone, and all pray for complete and rapid recovery of health.

The latest donations to the church furnace are

George Weber	\$3.00
Chris. Seiple	2.00
Miss Evelyn Miller	1.00
Miss Margaret "	1.00
Mrs. Alice Hunt	1.00

These gifts were all unsolicited and for that reason all the more to their credit. Let those who intend to help in this good work give as soon as possible, so that we can close the campaign and pay cash for the furnace.

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"Open House" at School.

James H. Lukens. A Tribute

Monday Night, Nov. 5th.

By Patrick Kempsey

Under the leadership of Mr. Laue our popular public School Principal, a unique event has been planned for Oxford people tomorrow evening at 7.P.M.

They have issued the following invitation to the public which explains the object and nature of the exhibit.

"You are cordially invited to visit the Oxford Central School on Monday evening Nov. 5, at 7.P.M.

"We would like every one who is interested in the school to spend the evening with us. Instead of having school in the afternoon, we are having it in the evening especially so parents and friends can come and visit.

"Each parent can cast a vote for the room his child is in, and cast as many votes as he has children in the school. Other visitors have only one vote. A prize will be given to the room having the most votes.

"We also want to call your attention to the exhibit of school antiques--books, slates, pictures, etc. If you have any of these items we would be delighted to display them in the exhibit.

"For the first hour-and-a-half you may visit any room you wish and see what is going on. Then there will be 20 minutes to visit with the teachers in the lunch-room. After that a short assembly will be held in the auditorium. There will be music, singing, and a few other things of interest to all. Did we mention the refreshments? There will be enough for all grown-ups."

This kind of entertainment is something new and very attractive in plan.

The school house should be filled by Oxford citizens on this occasion.

It is fittingly timed to show Oxford's contribution to the "American Education Week." One of the mottoes of which is "Good Schools in Bad Times", with the comment, "When trouble comes we turn to fundamentals. Home becomes dearer. We understand better the mission of the church. We appreciate the services of the school. If schools are a blessing in good times, they are an imperative necessity in bad times. Let us preserve and improve our schools."

A short time ago I referred to the boiler explosion at the nail mill. It may be of interest to add that 50 years ago we had 59 boilers in operation in Oxford. Today we have only four which are in the dye plant. But with all those boilers doing duty day and night there was but one explosion--that in the nail mill--and that was due to the builders.

The man who had charge of all those boilers was James H. Lukens, who also had charge of all the machinery of the Oxford Iron and Nail Company. He was one of the most capable men in the country at that time. He was a man who was always in good humor no matter how trying the job might be. Also in case of accidents he could take care of the injured patient as well as a doctor. If any of his employees was injured he would stay by him and give him the best of aid; and the first thing the next morning he would visit the patient to see how he was and ever ready to help him in any way he could think of.

The great amount of machinery under his care--59 boilers and a score of engines and pumps of all sizes--and I think they were well cared for. He was always ready to give help to any one in need, in sickness, accident or death. He was always the first to respond also on every fourth of July evening when he would give a great display of fireworks in the lower part of the town. A few of the older folks can still remember the great crowd of people that came out to see the fireworks and the sending up of balloons.

I must say that I cannot speak too highly of this man; as I worked under his charge as a boy and until I had grown to manhood. I am glad to say that he always treated me very good and I in return gave him what little ability was in me.

Our church records show that Mr. and Mrs. Lukens came to Oxford on or before 1867, as in that year they were received into our Communion. Mr. Lukens on examination and Mrs. Lukens from the Baptist Church of Scranton, Pa. They evidently came from that place. Mr. Kempsey's warm praise of the ability and fine character of Mr. Lukens is confirmed by all the notices we have read about him. He and his wife took letters to a church in N.Y. City in 1896.

## Dates A Theory

Oxford's three historic buildings are the furnace, the Shippen mansion, and the Mill, now the Methodist Church.

It is agreed that all of them date from colonial times; and all accept the traditional date of the building of the furnace--1741 with the first cast on March 9th, 1934. This time is so definite and detailed that can not be doubted.

But the mansion house and the mill have no definite times set either in historic records or tradition, so that the dates of their erection given by historians vary widely.

Some make them of equal age, but most give the 1750s for the mansion and the revolutionary period for the mill.

These traditional dates we believe are correct, and our theory confirms them, though no specific year can be named.

One conclusion is inevitable--that the cost of building them must have been relatively for that age, very great, and the owners would not likely invest so much money in them unless the furnace at the time of their erection was very prosperous.

For example the Scranton mansion, said to have cost \$70,000., could not have been built from the profits of the furnace in any other period of its history except the Civil War in the early 1860s, when it was built, as our oldest citizens know.

By the same argument the Shippen mansion and the great stone mill must have been built from the profits of a similar unnatural stimulation of business, which nothing produces to so great a degree as War. Therefore we can safely conclude that the mansion was erected during the French-Indian War, 1754-1763; and the Mill about 1780 during the Revolutionary War.

These dates agree with traditional reports as noted above, and in the absence of definite records, taken with our theory as stated, we can feel confident that they are approximately correct.

It may be further added in support of the matter that history claims that the furnace supplied cannon balls etc., for the three Wars, the French-Indian; the Revolutionary, and the Civil War. The war of 1812 is not mentioned because it is known that the furnace was idle during that period and the Mexican war did not have much effect on business in the states.

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