



The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH


OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT
Minister



Therefore every scribe who is instructed in the kingdom of heaven, is like an householder who bringeth forth out of his treasure things new and old. Matthew 13:52.



Reunion Day Number

Morning Worship

Doxology
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Anthem by Choir
Psalm 48
Hymn 63
Creed and Gloria
Scripture Lesson
Prayer
Anthem by Choir
Offering
Hymn 195
Sermon "A Cloud of Witnesses"
Hymn 129
Benediction

Luncheon will be ready immediately
at close of the hour of worship.

The afternoon meeting begins at
2 O'clock.

Please register at the desk in
the vestibule. The lady in charge
will receive subscriptions and money
for the Bulletin.

Afternoon Meeting

Invocation
Anthem by the Choir
Hymn 26
Greeting from the Church Mrs. Yount
Chairman. Mr. Clinton E. Weston
Vocal solo. Mrs. Dr. Franklin Perkins

Then follows a series of talks in the
order of selection determined by the
Chairman. Among the speakers are

George S. Humphrey
Mrs James E. Loder
Edmund E. Perkins
Charles S. Aitkin
Richmond Searing
John Zulauf

Dr. Franklin Perkins
Samuel J. Cooper

Others to be called on.

Mrs. Perkins will sing again.

Letters of absentees read
Memorial for the departed

Frederick K. Fowler

George R. Searing

Mrs. Mary Docker

Dr. O. B. Tunison

Hymn 370 and benediction

The Bulletin and Reunions

This is the fifth of our Reunions of which the first was held on May 3rd 1931. It came about in this manner.

In the issue of Jan. 18th, 1931 there was a statement that on the following Sabbath we should "in a way celebrate the 65th anniversary of the dedication of this house of God," and in the issue of Jan 25th, there was a two page historical account of the organization of the Church and the building and the dedication of the church edifice on Jan. 31st, 1866. It also carried the statement that "We plan to make much more of the 68th anniversary of the church organization on the 8th of May," and a promise of a fuller historical account with special services in the Church.

The matter was taken up by the Session and a congregational meeting was called for Sabbath morning after Church service on Feb. 22nd. The Congregation authorized the Session to arrange for a celebration of the 68th anniversary of the founding of the Church. Accordingly the Session met next Wednesday evening and "It was decided to hold the exercises on the first Sabbath of May (3rd). And all the former members were to be invited."

The first Reunion was a complete surprise to all in the great number in attendance and the enthusiasm aroused by it.

The Bulletin had already a rapidly growing circulation among former members and a multitude of names and addresses were sent in to whom copies should be sent, and thus notified of the Reunion.

The weekly visits of the little paper giving letters and historical items and information of the happy old times of Oxford and the Church, created ever increasing interest, and the good news spread far and wide among former citizens.

The expectation that the interest would soon wane has been disappointed for more each year attend the Reunions and the list of subscribers continues to grow longer.

The Editor is grateful to all who help with money and articles and letters to make it what it is, but with a growing circulation and decreasing revenue a serious situation is developing, which can be met only by our readers.

Also weekly reading matter must be supplied regularly as in the past by those who can write of their own knowledge and experience. Shall we carry on?

Official Record of the Organization of the Second Presbyterian Church of Oxford, New Jersey. May 8th, 1863 (Copied from the original Sessional Record, as inscribed by the first Pastor the Rev. J.B. Hopwood).

"Minutes of the meeting of the Committee appointed by the Presbytery to organize The Second Presbyterian Church of Oxford Furnace, N.J.

"A memorial signed by Selden T. Scranton, Henry A. Kingsbury, Elisha Beers, Charles Scranton, Samuel Race, William Stout, Fred Wolfinger, Mrs. Ellen C. Scranton, Mrs. Jane A. Scranton, Mrs. Rachel S. Beers, Miss Ellen A. Scranton, Miss Lavina Beers, and Mrs. Sarah R. Kingsbury was duly presented by Charles Scranton to the Presbytery of Newton, sitting at the Greenwich Church, setting forth their desire to be formed into a new Church to be called 'The Second Presbyterian Church' of Oxford, N.J. The prayer of the petitioners was unanimously granted and a committee consisting of the Rev. Geo. C. Bush, of Hackettstown, N.J., Rev. Wm. H. Kirk, of Belvidere, Rev. Dr. A. H. Hand of Greenwich, and Elders Jno. M. Sherrerd of Belvidere, James Hiles of Oxford 1st. and Joseph Roseberry of Washington, were appointed to meet at Oxford Furnace on Friday, May 8, 1863 to organize a new Church. The day being somewhat stormy the meeting was not called to order until 11 o'clock A.M. The opening prayer was offered by the Rev. Geo. C. Bush.

"The entire exercises which were taken part in by Rev. M. Bryan of Washington, Rev. Dr. Hand, Elder Jno. M. Sherrerd and Rev. M. Kirk, were highly interesting.

"Twenty three (21) members, (for specification see Church Register under date of May 8/63) of the 1st. Presbyterian Church of Oxford were unanimously dismissed by the Session to organize the new Church.

"Messrs Selden T. Scranton, Elisha Beers and Henry Kingsbury were chosen Elders and immediately ordained to that office.

"The Rev. Geo. C. Bush then declared the Church duly organized and the meeting closed by singing the Christian Doxology in I.M. 'Praise God etc.', and the Benediction."

The 21 charter members referred to above were: Mrs Francis Addis, Elisha Beers, Miss Margaret Beers, Miss Lavina Beers, Henry A. Kingsbury, Mrs. Sarah R. Kingsbury, Mrs. Margaret Meriath, Mrs. Elizabeth Poole, Selden T. Scranton, Mrs. Ellen C. Scranton, Charles Scranton, Mrs. Jane A. Scranton, (over)

Mrs. Margaret Stout, William Stout,
Mrs. Sarah Stout, Miss Rebecca Van Sycle,
Henry Wolfinger, Frederick Wolfinger,
Mrs. Mary Young, Miss Ellen Scranton.
Mrs. Rachel S. Beers.

The first Pastor of the new Church was Rev. J. B. Hopwood who served as supply for two years, and was succeeded by Rev. E. Clark Cline who remained with the church for 21 years, the longest of all the pastorates. The in order came Rev. Irving Maxwell, Rev. Wm. Mewhinney, Rev. George R. Merrill, Rev. Frank B. Schoonover, Rev. Wilbur A. Wagar, and Rev. D. Linton Doherty. The present pastorate began in December 1924.

Church Edifices

The first place of worship erected was the old Stone Chapel built in 1848, and was a mission of the Oxford 1st. Church, during the pastorate of the Rev. Frederick K. Knighton.

The Present brick Church was erected in 1865 and dedicated January 31st, 1866. The frame chapel was dedicated early in 1886. The Manse was built about the year 1870. All the Church properties are without debt, and all insured.

The present membership numbers 180, with the Sunday School enrollment of 120.

The highest numbers reported in the history of the church were along the 1890s, when the church had 250 members and the Sunday School 350.

Missionaries

The Church has an honored roll of missionaries. Mrs. W. H. Belden and her sister Mrs. G. S. Humphrey (Misses Ellen and Caroline Scranton) were sent to Turkey and Bulgaria in 1879. Miss Carrie B. Lanterman went to Japan in 1890, where she died after two years of happy and successful labor. Miss Gertrude Lukens became a missionary teacher in Brazil in 1910. Mr. Amos Hoagland had noted success in Y. M. C. A. work in China for several years prior to the World War and Mrs. Dr. Lindsay S. B. Hedley, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George S. Humphrey was a missionary for years in China, along with her husband. This is a rare and glorious record for our Church. May others follow in their paths?



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EDWARD T. GREEN

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

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CHARLES RENNER
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Church Treasurer

LEWIS E. GREEN



Sunday School

<i>Superintendent</i>	E. B. FOSS
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	MRS. EDWARD T. GREEN
<i>Treasurer</i>	MISS IDA SMITH
<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Organist</i>	MISS ELIZABETH ZAPP



Ladies' Aid Society

<i>President</i>	MRS. BENJAMIN GREEN
<i>Secretary</i>	MRS. EDMUND ORAM
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN



Choir

<i>Leader</i>	MRS. E. T. GREEN
<i>Organist</i>	MRS. BENJAMIN ZAPP

