

#165

The Bulletin
OF THE
Oxford Second
Presbyterian Church
OXFORD, NEW JERSEY



Rev. Andrew Gilbert Yount, Ph.D.
Pastor

*Be careful for nothing; but in everything
by prayer and supplication with
thanksgiving let your
requests be made
known to God*

*And the peace of God, which passeth all
understanding, shall keep your
hearts and minds through
Christ Jesus
Philippians IV, 6, 7*

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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.
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Bulletin No. 165 April 30th, 1933
Morning Worship

Doxology
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Psalm 89 sel. 37
Hymn 48
Creed and Gloria
Scripture Lesson
Prayer
Anthem
Offering
Hymn 148
Sermon
Hymn 125
Benediction

Prayer

"Be merciful, O God, to all who need thy mercy, and let the Angel of thy Presence save the afflicted: Be thou the Strength of the weary, the Comfort of the sorrowful, the Friend of the desolate, the Light of the wandering, the Hope of the dying, the Saviour of the lost, for Jesus' sake."

"How shall we Pray" is the topic for the young people's meeting tonight at seven o'clock. Margaret Miller will lead.

Last Monday night the Chapel was livened by the presence of over 90 young folks, mostly from Washington and Oxford. The occasion was the monthly meeting of the Wash. district of the Warren Co. Young People's Association. The exercises consisted of a devotional period, and a business session. Then followed an hour of social enjoyment that kept all present till after 10 o'clock.

The Pastor was directed by the Session to invite Rev. Frank B. Schoonover, a former pastor of this church, to give the sermon at the morning worship on May 14th, and Mr. Schoonover has sent word that he expects to come, bring with him his talented wife, who will surely help out in the music. This will be good news to their many admirers and friends made during the period of their stay in Oxford thirty years ago.

Mr. Schoonover is Pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Unionville, N.Y.

We are mailing the Bulletin to quite a number of former members of the church who are not on our regular mailing list, hoping that they may be led to attend the reunion on May 14th. They are all thus specially invited to come and renew old acquaintances.

Reunion Notes

Sunday May 14th, the 70th Anniversary of our Church, will be celebrated with a reunion by present and former members.

Two years ago over 100 former members attended the reunion, some of them coming upwards of 100 miles. The great success and enjoyment of that meeting led many to desire another reunion this year, and such has been planned.

There will be the hour of morning worship, at 11 A.M. daylight saving time.

This will be followed by a luncheon in the chapel for all who wish have it.

At 2 P.M. there will be a public meeting of which the theme will be Old Oxford Memories.

The principal speakers for the day will be: Rev. Frank B. Schoonover, who will deliver the sermon at the morning service. Mr. Schoonover was pastor of the Church from 1910 to 1914, and it will give great pleasure to all to see and hear him again.

For the afternoon meeting the principal addresses will be made by persons well chosen for the occasion.

Mr. George S. Humphrey, who lived in Oxford from 1875 to 1885, is a scholarly gentleman, and has made a thorough study of Oxford history, and is probably best informed on the subject of any living person.

Mr. Clinton E. Weston was born and raised in Oxford; and has an intimate knowledge of the people and affairs during the most prosperous period of its history.

He has belonged to a lecture bureau as a public entertainer, and will give us a delightful talk.

Mrs. Dr. Lindsay S. B. Hadley is well fitted every way to speak on this program. Dr. Hadley will be well remembered for his remarkable address two years ago and is one of the Secretaries of our Foreign Missionary Society. They were missionaries in China for many years.

Mrs. Hadley is an experienced and effective speaker and the men will have to look after their laurels. Mrs. Hadley is the daughter of Mr. Humphrey and the granddaughter of Charles Scranton, and spent much of her early life in Oxford.

The meeting will be open for other speakers as well, either to volunteer or may be called on. We invite all the citizens of Oxford, as well as former residents to attend this gathering.

Old Oxford Legends, By George S. Humphrey The Burial Place of the Delaware Indians. (Concluded)

"Now we are about to return to our Villages, but we place one injunction upon you, - Until the ice has formed and melted ten times in this Pond, and until ten Summers have past, you must not tell any man of what you have seen and heard this night; nor must you disturb the ancient burial place of our fathers. In order that you may be one of us, one of the young men will draw blood from your arm and from mine.

The blood will be mingled, even as you are to be mingled with us. Then upon your breast will be placed the tortoise which is the mark, not only of the Leni Lenape, but of the clan of the Turtle. We make thee a brother to us; make us thy brothers and be thou faithful!"

Having finished his talk, the chief called one of the young men, who with the sharp point of a fish bone, drew blood from my arm and that of the chief and mingled them in a small well burned clay dish.

The young man led me to a shady spot in the woods, and bidding me lie on the mossy bank, began to tattoo the tortoise on my breast. The work was long and painful, making me faint and ill. When it was completed the young man brought me a deer skin bag filled with parched corn; each one of the party shook my hand and silently moved off on the trail. I fell asleep from weariness, and when I awoke the sun had set and the moon was coming up over the hills across the Pond. Going down to the big spring I took a long draught of the cold pure water, ate some of the corn and felt refreshed. I stayed at the Pond until late the next day when I returned to the charcoal swamp in Sykes Gap. As you all know, never a word about my adventure has escaped my lips; but ten times has the ice formed and melted in the Clear Pond; ten times have the forest trees put forth new leaves. Today the Sun has finished his course to the North and begins his Southern journey. When I began my story the pointers were straight above the Pole Star as they were just as the Indians completed the burial of the old Chief, whose resting place I have never disturbed. So I have kept the faith with my red brothers, and am proud to belong to their clan.

The furnace men had listened attentively, and the story was absorbed into the body of legends which were repeated from time to time for three generations.

Soon after the Red Swede related the adventures some of the younger men or boys about the furnace endeavored to find the burial place in Sykes Gap, but without success.

Years ago, a kindred spirit and myself searched carefully for the sacred cave; but while there are several caverns among the rocks in the Gap, we could never find this one. And while we have slept many a night on the site of the old charcoal camp, among the ruins of the burners' hut, and have seen many wierd sights and heard many strange sounds, no spirit of the old Leni Lenape ever appeared to us, nor has the voice of a Delaware sounded in our ears.

The end.

Readers of Mr. Humphrey's beautiful story may not all know the location of Sykes Gap. It the valley across the mountain from the Swamp to Jackson's valley, about a mile eastward from funnel hill gap. A county map made in 1854 gives it that name. It was long used as the location of charcoal ovens for the Furnace. Clear Pond is now Mountain Lake, and the big rock is on the west side near Buchmeyers.

We have been told that this story, and also the story of the Revolutionary period is being made use of in the history class of our public school. We have no doubt many local readers will visit Sykes Gap to hunt for relics of the past, and even to seek for the concealed cave.

That the story is enjoyed is indicated by the fact that more than 25 extra copies for each installment have been made and practically all have been called for.

Another legend of old Oxford by Mr. Humphrey will be given in the bulletin after a few months.

Mr. Alvin Lugg of Rutherford, N.J. and Miss Hazel Hachtman of Cornish were united in marriage Saturday, April 29th, at the home of the bride's parents in Cornish. There was a goodly company of relatives and friends present, and the happy married couple received the hearty congratulations and best wishes of all.

The Bulletin acknowledges the receipt of generous provision for postage from Mrs. Mary Docker of Boundbrook, N.J.

Mrs. Docker became a member of our Church April 7th, 1867, and spent much of her life here in Oxford.

GENERAL BLACKSMITH

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