

#173

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.
Trustees—Harry Miller, James Radel, George Dock-er, Jr., Charles Renner, Fred K. Sarson, Lewis E. Green, Edward Sharps, Charles Dux, Benjamin Green.
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Bulletin No. 173. June 25th, 1933

Morning Worship

Doxology
Invocation and Lord's Prayer
Psalm 143 sel. 54
Hymn: 317
Creed and Gloria
Scripture Lesson
Prayer
Anthem
Offering
Hymn 189
Sermon
Hymn 233
Benediction

Prayer

"O Lord God, in whom we live and move, and have our being; Open our eyes that we may behold thy fatherly presence ever about us. Draw our hearts to thee with the power of thy love. Teach us to be anxious for nothing, and when we have done what thou hast given us to do, help us, O God our Saviour, to leave the issue to thy wisdom. Take from us all doubt and mistrust. Lift our thoughts up to thee in heaven, and make us to know that all things are possible to us through thy Son our Redeemer. Amen."

"Does the Liquor Problem Affect Young People To-day?" is the topic for the evening meeting of the young people. Seven oclock sharp. Chris Sciple will lead.

Many of the young folks are planning to attend the all-day meeting of the Warren County Association for Young People, at Wash, N. J. in the 1st Presbyterian Church, next Friday, June 30. Those who expect to go for the day, or part of it, should report at the meeting tonight.

The Summer Communion Service will be held on July 9th. Baptism will be administered to adults and infants, and new members will be received. The pastor should be notified.

The Newton Presbytery will meet next Tuesday, June, 27th, 9:30 A.M. Standard time. in the Stillwater Presbyterian church. The Pastor and an Elder will attend.

Sunday School Picnic

The Sunday Annual picnic will be given about the middle of July at Butler's Park, on the Musconetcong river near Chagewater. This was decided last Thursday evening at a meeting of the S.S. Board. The general desire of the School was to go to an amusement park at some distance from Oxford, but as the state of the treasury is such that busses cannot be hired, a nearby place had to be selected. Butler's Park is growing in popularity, and our School has never picnicked there, so it will have the lure of a new experience.

The distance is about 7 miles, and the problem of transportation will have to be solved by volunteer offers of cars. Two have already been offered, and an appeal is hereby made to all who are interested in the children of the Church to help out in the matter. Cars owners need not spend the day there if business requires otherwise, but the trip there and back in about an hour, to take them and get them home in the evening, should not be very hard for many to arrange.

So we earnestly request as many as possible to plan to help in this free transportation of the School. Please let the Supt. E.B. Foss, know how many cars can be depended upon by next Sabbath.

A ten cent treat will be given to the children as in past years, and parents who are not members of the school desiring to go, and wish transportation, may if they will, contribute to the picnic fund treat.

The exact date will be announced in the next issue of the Bulletin.

We are glad to report that Mr. Elmer Frome, who has been quite ill for the past three weeks, is now rapidly gaining in strength, and is able to sit up and help himself in many ways. His complete recovery is expected.

Money for mailing the Bulletin to Dr. Lewis E. Estler, of Arlington, N.J. is hereby acknowledged with thanks; and his message that he enjoys every word of the paper, is very pleasing to us.

Our mailing list has grown to 91, of whom 80 are former citizens of Oxford. Thus we have quite a large family circle, apart from the hundreds of readers who still reside in Oxford.

Those who write for the paper should be glad to know that so many old friends will read their words.

OLD OXFORD DAYS--The Tunnel.

By Clinton E. Weston

The splendid article on the tunnel by Patrick Kempsey suggests a few more comments on the same subject. Before the tunnel was built the road belt ran directly over the tunnel and along the southerly side of the hill and past the old brick school house, then, making a westerly turn, it ran back of the old stone blast furnace where the brick station stood; and my impression is that O.N. Perry was the Agent. This house was afterward occupied by a family of the name of Freemantle.

Continuing, the road ran close by the Fowler House where the old road bed is still to be seen.

When the tunnel was built it was considered wide enough for the passing of trains, but when the road was standardized in the early '80s the passing became dangerous--some being side swiped--and it became necessary to let but one train through at a time.

The house situated at the eastern end was occupied by a family of the name of Devine, and it was in this house that I fiddled for my first dance. The road over the tunnel was through the woods and at night was dark as Egypt. Going home at about eleven, and when about half way thro' an owl gave an unearthly screech. Then how my two cylinders began to work! Such speed reminded me later of the two darkies who were discovered in a chicken house, and as they ran through the field one darkey said to the other, "Say nigger: what am all them flies following us for?" and the other replied, "Them's not flies---them's buck shot." Next a scared rabbit started ahead of the first darkey and he yelled, "Hey brer rabbit, git out'n the way an' let some one run what kin".

The Western end of the tunnel was watched by Andy McCarty and Michael Haley. The watchmen at both ends made frequent trips through the tunnel to look for any obstructions, such as rocks that may have fallen. Numerous springs were located over the tunnel and the water came seeping through, causing a continual sprinkling, and formed into small brooks on either side of the tracks. This water was clear and cold, and in the hot and sultry days of the summer we often went thro' to refresh ourselves. The air was cool and on account of the moisture very little gas and smoke accumulated. There was a fine spring about two hundred feet from the westerly approach, and it was from this spring we

carried water one bitter cold winter when the snow was deep. To go to the tunnel on a hot summer day was equal to going to a summer resort. Telegraph tower were placed at either end in the late '80s Eugene Linnaberry being at the east end and A.L. Angle at the west end.

On the bank at the western end were several houses occupied by track workers,

One of these families had a visitor direct from Ireland who spent most of his time watching the trains enter the tunnel

Some one asked him one day why he spent all his time watching the trains, and, after a moment's hesitation replied,

"Sure, I was just thinkin' if one of them trains missed the hole what an awful smash there would be."

The road over the tunnel was a favorite Sunday walk and picnic parties there were numerous. When the moon shone through the trees and the soft summer breeze wafted fragrant odors that are found only in the woods--when nature was at its brightest, sweetest and loveliest, here was to be found romance that was romance. It was an ideal location to beckon the call to arms, and usually the arms went to WAIST.

While we are on the subject of the tunnel we would like to print all available information, and request all who know of men who worked upon it to send us the names to make the record as complete as possible. Mrs. Dan Pittenger tells us that her father, Steven Lanning, was employed on it as a sharpener of drills.

Mr. Kempsey has another article on the Tunnel, giving additional facts of interest; this will be printed soon.

Here is a note about the Company Store taken from a news paper clipping, sent by Mr. Searing. The date is August, 1897:-

"The Oxford Iron & Nail Company's store at Oxford will hereafter be known as the Oxford Store Association. This store, which was purchased with the Oxford works more than a year ago, by the D.L. and W. R.R. Co., has been sold to Messrs, Charles Creveling, Fred Fowler & Co., who already have the store in their charge. The purchase price has not been made public, but the stock has been valued at \$15,000. This transfer took place some months ago but the fact was not generally know."

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