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The
BULLETIN

SECOND PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OXFORD, NEW JERSEY

By

A. G. YOUNT
Minister



Oxford Historical Record

Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they toil not, neither do they spin; and yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.
---Matthew VI:28-29

" O God, we thank thee for this universe, our great home; for its vastness and its riches, and for the manifoldness of the life which teems upon it and of which we are part. We praise thee for the arching sky and the blessed winds, for the driving clouds and the constellations on high. We praise thee for the salt sea and the running water, for the everlasting hills, for the trees, and for the grass under our feet.

We thank thee for our senses by which we can see the splendor of the morning, and hear the jubilant songs of love, and smell the vital breath of springtime. Grant us, we pray thee, a heart wide open to all this joy and beauty, and save our souls from being so steeped in care or so darkened by passion that we pass heedless and unseeing when even the thornbush by the wayside is aflame with the glory of God."

"The Story of Presbyterianism in Oxford" will be the theme of the address by the Pastor next Sabbath morning at the Reunion.

The Church was organized 75 years ago, on May the 8th, 1863.

But Presbyterian worship was begun here almost a hundred years ago, certainly over 20 years before organization. The old records of Oxford First Church at Hazen take us back 150 years, and newly found old furnace records show that the owner of the Furnace tract even before it was built was a Presbyterian, and continued the same until 1809.

This will be a new feature of our history, and will be told in a simple story form that all can understand.

Reunion Next Sabbath

May 15th, (dst)

Program Morning worship 11.

Luncheon 12 noon

Popular Meeting 2 P.M.

Clinton E. Weston Chairman, who sends this message:---

"One week from to-day all roads lead to Oxford for the reunion which all have been eagerly looking forward to. The afternoon meeting program has been completed and a number of interesting talks will be given by people who have heretofore not been heard.

"These reunions, unique in character, bring together many former residents of Oxford who come from eight or nine States, many from long distances, year after year to greet old time friends and to glory in the days of long ago.

"Word has been received that some will attend this year who have been unable to come before, and the indications are that the attendance this year will exceed all former reunions. For example, Mr. Ed Stout of Cleveland wires me he is coming with a party of 6 or 8, and wishes reservations for luncheon on the 15th. The afternoon meeting begins at 2 o'clock and everyone is invited. Come early and enjoy a day that will live long in memory.

The luncheon charge will be 40¢ and the Ladies will seat as many as possible at the first table.

The S. T. Scranton house in the famous Chestnut grove will be at the service of guests who wish to spend one or more nights here, and meals will be served there, except on Sabbath luncheon. The charge will be very reasonable. Those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity should wire or get word to the Pastor not later than the 12th or 13th.

By arrangement of the Presbytery the churches are to exchange pulpits on May 22nd, and the Rev. Fred Schell of Stillwater, will preach here.

Prayer-Meeting Topics' Card
For the Young People Society, C. E.
1899-1900

Abram Pittenger has found an old C. E. Topic card for the six months from November 1899 to April 1900, inclusive, which has a list of names that will interest many readers.

The officers were Cortland Cook, President; Newman Jones, Vice-Pres; Miss Lizzie Raddatz Secretary; Mrs. Fred Fowler Treasurer; Miss Anna Pittenger, organist.

Other names on the committees and Leaders are:--
Miss Olga Johnson; Miss Lizzie Lanning; Mrs. Charles Creveling; John Cook; L. T. Stinson; G. P. Dreisbach; Fred Cook; Mrs. Carolyn E. Zapp; Miss Leila F. Childs; Miss Lizzie Tunison; Wm. C. Pittenger; Fred Fowler; Miss Flora Dreisbach; Henry Scharrer; Mrs. E. T. Lukens; Miss Alvina Raddatz; Miss Anna Raddatz; Miss Mary Cook; Miss Jennie Creveling; Miss Clara Cook; Miss Fannie Bigelow; Miss Lydia Dreisbach; Miss Flora Dreisbach, Mrs. Margaret Cardner; Miss Ella Harling; G. R. Searing; S. J. Cooper; Miss Frances S. Cooper; John Potts; Miss Minnie Badrow; Abram Pittenger; Miss Jennie A. Gardner; Miss Ida Smith; Miss Annie D. Lapelt; Mrs. G. P. Dreisbach; Mrs. Daniel Pittenger.

Of the forty odd names about one third belong to those who have died, more than half of them have moved away from Oxford, and only two still live in Oxford and remain members of our Church--Elder Abram Pittenger and Mrs. Daniel Pittenger.

A noticeable omission on this card, is that of a Pastor, and most readers will understand that from 1895 to 1901 the Church had no regular Pastor, and services were conducted by various supplies.

During this period the Iron Works were completely shut down and there was a general exodus of citizens.

There has been but two generations since the above card was made and the church has lost practically all of them. Time flies, and, alas, what changes it makes!

Mrs. Lizzie Ward Godschalk writes:

"If there is space in the next issue of the Bulletin you may print this, in reply to Mr. Samuel Cooper's article on the S. S. S.

" The only surviving member of the S. S. S. acknowledges your salute! It is received with great satisfaction and, if I may say so, deep pride in being the upholder of so worthy a cause.

To have made so great an impression on stronger sex, not to mention arousing their curiosity, is more than we dreamed of so many years ago. However, I must speak on behalf of my associates and tell you that you do not give the "Sweet Sixteen Sisters' credit for the dignified vocabulary that was theirs. 'Stop Speaking Slang' is entirely too unworthy for such a noble society. No, you are very wrong again, but may it ever be a source of mental stimulus and delight in one of life's unsolved mysteries."

In a separate note Mrs Godschalk adds: " I expect to come to the Reunion on May 15th--also my daughter. Those days are most delightful and a Sabbath well spent. Many thanks to you and the Church Family."

The work of restoring the old Furnace will start sometime this summer. We have letters from the State Commission on Historic Sites which show the matter is receiving special attention. As soon as the plans and specifications have been completed for the contractors, it will be opened for bids. This will take several weeks.

The Commission is working with the State Director of the WPA, and will have the services of Mr. Carl R. Woodward, of Rutgers University who is well advised on the matter of the Restoration of old furnaces.

The Director of the Commission states that he will come to Oxford in the near future to consult with architects and contractors, and those interested in the matter.



CHURCH OFFICERS

The Session

A. G. YOUNT, *Moderator*

Elders

ABRAM PITTENGER
EMMANUEL KELSKY

ELISHA B. FOSS
LEWIS BERGENBACK



Board of Trustees

JAMES RADEL
GEORGE DOCKER, JR.
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HAYDEN DOCKER



Church Treasurer

LEWIS E. GREEN



Sunday School

<i>Superintendent</i>	E. B. FOSS
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	KENNETH BELL
<i>Secretary</i>	ALVIN RENNER
<i>Treasurer</i>	VIRGINIA ZAPP
<i>Organist</i>	FLORENCE WILDRICK



Ladies' Aid Society

<i>President</i>	MRS. DELMAR GREEN
<i>Vice-President</i>	MRS. LELAND BAYLISS
<i>Secretary</i>	MRS. VIOLET BELL
<i>Treasurer</i>	MRS. LEWIS E. GREEN

