

REDEDICATORY PROGRAM

OF

The First  
Congregational Church  
Friend, Nebraska



JULY THE TWELFTH  
NINETEEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY ONE



1875 — 1931

Who is left among you that saw this house in  
her first glory? and how do ye see it now?  
—Haggai, 2:3.



REV. WM. BECKER



The First  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH  
and  
SUNDAY SCHOOL  
Friend, Nebraska

## SERVICES OF REDEDICATION

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 1931

10:00 A. M. Special Rededication program of the Sunday School and Social rooms of the church, by the Sunday School.

10:30 A. M. Morning Worship.

Organ Prelude, "Summer Dawn," \_\_\_\_\_ Stulta  
Doxology.

Invocation, closing with Lord's Prayer.

Hymn, "I Love Thy Kingdom Lord."

I love thy kingdom, Lord,  
The house of thine abode,  
The church our blest Redeemer saved  
With his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God!  
Her walls before thee stand,  
Dear as the apple of thine eye,  
And graven on thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall;  
For her my prayers ascend;  
To her my cares and toils be given;  
Till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy  
I prize her heavenly ways,  
Her sweet communion, solemn vows,  
Her hymns of love and praise.

Scripture Reading.

Solo, "Open the Gates of the Temple," \_\_\_\_\_ Knapp  
Bernard Doherty.

ACT OF REDEDICATION. (Officials Standing)

Pastor—Having been prospered by the good hand of our God, and enabled by His grace and power to rebuild this house of worship to be used for the glory of His name, we will now in His holy presence Rededicate the building to Him.

To the Glory of God our Father, from whom cometh every good and perfect gift;

To the honor of Jesus Christ, His Son, our Lord and Saviour;

To the praise of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter, source of light and life.

Officials Standing (Led by Mr. A. H. Teale, President of Church Board)—We, the officers of this church and congregation, recognizing that there has been committed to us a sacred trust, relying upon God for wisdom and strength, do solemnly covenant together, to sacredly guard, uphold and perpetuate the Scriptural doctrines and principles upon which this church is founded and by which it has been maintained through all its history down to the present day; that we will study the peace and unity of this church to the end that this house may ever serve for the assembling together of the rich and the poor for the worship of Him who is the maker of us all; for the preaching of the Word of God in its fullness and for the proclamation of our Lord Jesus Christ as the only Saviour of men.

CONGREGATION WILL RISE

Pastor—Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity; three persons and one God.

Congregation—To Thee we rededicate this house.

Pastor—Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; our Father which art in heaven:

Congregation—To Thee we rededicate this house.

Pastor—Son of God, the only begotten of the Father, head of the body which is the church; head over all things to the church; prophet, priest and king; whose glorious appearing shall be to all people:

Congregation—To Thee we rededicate this church.

Pastor—God the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son; given to be our abiding teacher, sanctifier and Comforter; Lord and giver of life:

Congregation—To Thee we rededicate this house.

Pastor—For the comfort to those who mourn; for the strength to those who are tempted; for the instruction and training of children and youth; for the sending forth of the Gospel to the uttermost parts of the earth.

Congregation—We rededicate this house.

Pastor—Arise, O Lord, into Thy rest, Thou and the ark of Thy strength. Let Thy servants be clothed with righteousness, and let Thy people shout for joy. Put Thy name into this place. Let Thine eyes be open toward it; and harken unto the supplication of Thy people when they pray in this place and hear Thou in heaven, Thy dwelling place and when Thou hearest, forgive.

Congregation—Amen.

Rededicatory Prayer, \_\_\_\_\_ Dr. H. W. Hewitt

Hymn by Congregation, "The Church's One Foundation."

The church's one Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is His new creation By water and the Word;  
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy Bride;  
With His own Blood He bought her, And for her life he died.

Elect from every Nation, Yet one oe'r all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, One Faith, One birth;  
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won;  
O happy one's and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.  
Amen.

Announcements.

Offertory, "After Glow," \_\_\_\_\_ Norman

Anthem by the Choir, "God Is My Salvation," \_\_\_\_\_ Nolte

Sermon: The House of God. 11 Chron. 2:5.

Reception of members.

Communion Service.

Hymn, "Bless be the Tie That Binds."

Benediction

Organ Postlude, "A Song of Happiness," \_\_\_\_\_ Mallard



## SUNDAY EVENING SERVICES

7:00 P. M. Christian Endeavor meeting. This will be a great union service of the young people of Friend. A special program is being prepared, that will be of real help and inspiration to young people. We are hoping that Rev. Inglis and others will be present and speak.

8:00 P. M. Evening Church Service.

Organ Prelude. "Festival March," \_\_\_\_\_ Teilman  
Hymn, "O Worship the King."

O worship the King, all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his power and his love;  
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark in his path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail;  
Thy mercies how tender! how firm to the end!  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

Silent Devotion.

Evening Prayer, \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. Ervine Inglis.

Organ and Cello Duet, "Holy City," \_\_\_\_\_ Adams  
Mary Opal and Eleanor V. Crone

Scripture Reading.

Solo, "Blessed Are the Meek," \_\_\_\_\_ Stephens  
Bernard Doherty.

Announcements and Offering.

Offeratory, Organ and Piano Duet.  
Meditation from "Thais," \_\_\_\_\_ Massenet

Miss Mary Opal Crone and Mrs. A. E. Hughes  
Anthem: "Crown Him," \_\_\_\_\_ Woodcock

Sermon: Rev. Ervine Inglis, pastor, Vine Congrega-  
tional church, Lincoln.

Hymn No. 461, "How Firm A Foundation."

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word;  
What more can he say than to you he has said:  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

In every condition, in sickness, in health  
In poverty's vale or abounding in wealth,  
At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,  
"As thy days may demand, shall thy strength ever be.

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."

"The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!"

Benediction

Organ Postlude, "By Still Waters," \_\_\_\_\_ Horspool

## BUILDING COMMITTEES

### BASEMENT AND HEATING PLANT

F. R. Locke, Chairman

A. H. Teale, Sec. and Treas.	Mrs. Frank T. Hamilton.
J. C. Newcomb.	Mrs. H. Heatherington.
John Ferguson.	Miss Bertha Spence.
D. M. Spence.	Mrs. Elva Aitken.
Ogden Easley.	Miss Phebe Moon.
Wm. Yokel.	Mrs. F. R. Locke.
Rev. Wm. Becker.	Mrs. John Ferguson.

### AUDITORIUM AND SUNDAY SCHOOL ROOM

Mr. J. C. Newcomb, Chairman and Treasurer

Elva Aitken.	D. M. Spence.
John Stewart Sr.	Dr. Frank T. Hamilton.

### WIRING AND FIXTURES

William Yokel, Chairman

John Ferguson.	Rev. Wm. Becker.
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### CARPET COMMITTEE

Mrs. John Ferguson, Chairman

Mrs. John Stewart, Sr.	Mr. W. W. Smith.
Mrs. George Haberman.	Mr. John Ferguson.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Rev. Wm. Becker, Chairman.	D. M. Spence.
Dr. Frank T. Hamilton.	Mrs. Frank T. Hamilton.
Mr. John Ferguson.	Mrs. John Ferguson.

## CHURCH OFFICERS

William Becker _____	Pastor
Dr. Frank T. Hamilton _____	Church Clerk
J. C. Newcomb _____	Church Treasurer
Mrs. A. E. Hughes _____	Organist
Emrys Jones _____	Assistant Organist
Miss Thelma King _____	Choir Director
A. H. Teale _____	Auditor and Chairman of Church Board
F. R. Locke _____	Organ Custodian
Lester Cogswell _____	Head Usher
Glenn Warner _____	Assistant Usher
D. M. Spence _____	Usher for Funerals
J. A. Johnson _____	Church Custodian

### OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES FOR 1931

DEACONS: A. H. Wood, Alex Eurich, H. C. Nelson, Henry Zieg,  
Frederick Johansen, H. M. Warner.

DEACONESSES: Mrs. H. A. Moeller, Mrs. Elizabeth Evans, Mrs.  
Phebe Moon.

TRUSTEES: A. H. Teale, E. J. Lawson, John Stewart, D. M.  
Spence, J. H. Weber, Elza Cogswell, Ogden Easley, John Fergu-  
son, Elva Aitken.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 1932: D. M. Spence, H. C. Nel-  
son, Mrs. O. L. Jewitt, Mrs. J. C. Newcomb, Mrs. John Krebs.

FLOWER COMMITTEE: Mrs. Frederick Johansen, Mrs. A. H.  
Wood, Mrs. E. Kahm, Mrs. Glen Warner.

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE: Mrs. J. C. Newcomb, Mrs. F. L.  
Bollen, Mrs. Art Walston.



MUSIC COMMITTEE: E. Jones, Mrs. A. E. Hughes, Mrs. Harry Volz, Mrs. Chas. Andrew, Mrs. F. R. Locke.

CHURCH VISITATION COMMITTEE: Miss Phebe Moon, Mrs. Elizabeth Evans, Mrs. J. H. Weber, Mrs. Elza Cogswell, Mrs. H. L. Heatherington, Miss Mamie Krebs, Mrs. H. M. Warner, Mrs. H. C. Nelson, Mrs. John Stewart, Mrs. Nels Barney.

## Church Organization

### Sunday School

William Yokel	Superintendent
Henry Miller	Assistant Superintendent
Bertha Spence	Supt. Primary Department
Mrs. Elva Aitken	Supt. of Cradle Roll, Asst. Supt. of Primary Department.
Phyllis Gordon	Secretary and Treasurer
Doris Aitken	Asst. Secretary and Treasurer
Erma Hamilton	Missionary Treasurer
Vera Miller	Pianist

### Christian Endeavor

Donald Aitken	President
Hilda Becker	Vice President
Erma Hamilton	Secretary
Homer Bender	Treasurer

### Dorcas Federation

Mrs. Frank T. Hamilton	President
Mrs. Lester Cogswell	Secretary
Mrs. Harry Volz	Treasurer
Mrs. Wm. Warner	Missionary Supt.
Mrs. Wm. Yokel	Social Superintendent

### Dorcas Meetings

The Meeting of the Missionary Division, First Tuesday, (afternoon) of each month.

The Meeting of the Social Division, Third Tuesday, (afternoon) of each month.

## Regular Meetings

### Sunday

Sunday School	10:00 A. M.
Morning Worship	11:00 A. M.
Christian Endeavor	7:00 P. M.
	6:30 from October 1st to April 1st
Evening Services	8:00 P. M.
	7:30 from October 1st to April 1st

### Tuesday

Prayer Meeting and Bible Study	8:00 P. M.
Choir Rehearsal	8:00 P. M.
	7:30 from October 1st to April 1st

## CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

### A

- \* Mr. Elva Aitken
- \* Mrs. Elva Aitken
- Doris Aitken
- Donald Aitken
- Harold Aitken
- Lola Aitken
- \* Mrs. Sarah Ahl
- Miss Moreane Alldritt
- Mrs. Geo. Allen, Sr.
- Dorothy Allen
- George H. Allen, Jr.
- \* Mrs. Lou Andrew
- \* Mrs. Mary Andrew
- \* Mr. C. H. Andrew
- \* Mrs. C. H. Andrew
- Eleanor Andrew
- Glen Andrew
- Russell Andrew
- Miss Wilma Andrew

### B

- \* Mr. Emil Barney
- \* Mrs. Emil Barney
- Miss Anna Barney
- Allen W. Barney
- \* Emil M. Barney
- \* Mrs. Emma Barney
- \* Mr. August Barney
- \* Mrs. Esther Bulwan
- \* Mr. John Barney
- \* Mrs. John B. Barney
- \* Mrs. Hannah Barney
- Miss Pearl Barney
- Miss Selma Barney
- \* Mr. W. J. Barney
- \* Mrs. W. J. Barney
- \* Mrs. Mae Bartlett
- Harold Bartlett
- \* Rev. Wm. Becker
- Mrs. Wm. Becker
- Albert Becker
- Hilda Becker
- William E. Becker
- Mrs. Louise Behrens
- \* Mr. J. H. Bender
- \* Mrs. J. H. Bender
- Armin Bender
- Homer Bender
- Raymond Bender
- \* Mrs. Helen Wlyde-Brown
- Mrs. Venice Bouchard
- \* Mrs. Maggie Beggs
- Miss Ethel Beggs
- \* Mrs. Sarahett Billing
- \* Mrs. Martha Blanchard
- \* Mr. Floyd L. Bollen
- Mrs. Floyd L. Bollen
- Mr. F. Lowell Bollen
- Miss Elizabeth Burnett
- \* Mrs. B. Burth
- \* Mr. James Butcher

\* John E. Barney

### C

- \* Mr. Elza Cogswell
- Mrs. Elza Cogswell
- Mr. Lester Cogswell
- Mrs. Lester Cogswell
- Everett B. Cogswell
- George Haskell Cogswell
- Mr. Orville Cogswell
- Mrs. Orville Cogswell
- Miss Verda Cogswell
- Mrs. Agnes Cooper
- \* Miss Jennie Currie
- \* Mrs. Katherine Currie
- Morris Currie
- Iola Currie

### D

- Mrs. Josphine Derry
- Charles E. Derry
- Donald D. Derry
- Millard L. Derry
- Wesley C. Derry
- \* Mrs. Sarah Dine
- \* Mr. J. P. Dunlap
- Mrs. J. P. Dunlap
- Raymond Dunlap
- Theodore M. Dunlap

### E

- Mr. Guy Easley
- Mr. Ogden Easley
- Mrs. Ogden Easley
- Mrs. Mildred Easley
- Evelyn Easley
- Jeanette Easley
- Helen Engel
- Leona Engel
- Margaret Engel
- Mr. Alex Eurich
- \* Mrs. Alex Eurich
- \* Mr. Albert Eurich
- Mr. Conrad Eurich
- Esther Eurich
- Mr. Henry Eurich
- Mrs. Henry Eurich
- Irene Eurich
- \* Mr. John Eurich
- \* Mrs. John Eurich
- \* Mr. Lyman Eurich
- Ruth Eurich
- Wayne Eurich
- \* Mrs. Elizabeth Evans

### F

- \* Mrs. Rose Farquharson
- Mr. Walter W. Farrow
- \* Mr. John Ferguson
- \* Mrs. John Ferguson
- Mrs. Doris Fischer
- Miss Anna Forman

\* Deceased



## G

\* Mr. Arthur Gibson  
 \* Mrs. Arthur Gibson  
 \* Clyde A. Gibson  
 \* Charles L. Gibson  
 \* Mr. Earl Gibson  
 \* Mrs. Earl Gibson  
 \* Irene Gibson  
 \* Lloyd Gibson  
 \* Raymond E. Gibson  
 \* Russell Gibson  
 \* Mr. John Gallup  
 \* Mrs. John Gallup  
 \* Mr. Wm. Graham  
 \* Hugh Gray  
 \* Mrs. Hilda Goodblood  
 \* Miss Edith Gifford  
 \* Mrs. Alma Gordon  
 \* Miss Phyllis Gordon  
 \* Mr. Geo. Greer  
 \* Mrs. Marguerite Grothe  
 \* Leona Grothe

## H

Mr. Chris Haberman  
 Mrs. Chris Haberman  
 \* Mr. Geo. Haberman  
 \* Mrs. Geo. Haberman  
 \* Mr. Carl Hagelin  
 \* Dr. Frank T. Hamilton  
 \* Mrs. Frank T. Hamilton  
 \* Dorothy Hamilton  
 \* Erma Hamilton  
 \* Harriet Mary Hamilton  
 \* Robert Moeller Hamilton  
 \* Mrs. Gary Hall  
 \* Mr. D. E. Hardin  
 \* Mrs. D. E. Hardin  
 \* Bernard Hardin  
 \* Mr. James Harling  
 \* Mrs. James Harling  
 \* Mrs. G. L. Hewit  
 \* Helen P. Hewit  
 \* Mr. Harry Heatherington, Sr.  
 \* Mrs. Harry Heatherington  
 \* Harry Heatherington, Jr.  
 \* Herbert Heatherington  
 \* Mr. A. L. Heywood  
 \* Mrs. A. L. Heywood  
 \* Miss Hazel Heywood  
 \* Mr. Walter Howarth  
 \* Mr. Jacob Huber  
 \* Mrs. Jacob Huber  
 \* Mr. John Huber  
 \* Mrs. John Huber  
 \* Mr. A. E. Hughes  
 \* Mrs. A. E. Hughes  
 \* Miss Libbie Humphrey  
 \* Mrs. Anna Hurlburt

## J

\* Mrs. Emma Jewitt  
 \* Miss Josephine Jirsa  
 \* Mr. Frederick Johansen

Floyd R. Johansen  
 Oliver G. Johansen  
 Willard Johansen  
 \* Mr. Fred Johnson  
 \* Mrs. Fred Johnson  
 \* Mrs. Caroline Johnson  
 \* Irene Johnson  
 \* Mr. J. A. Johnson  
 \* Mrs. J. A. Johnson  
 \* Mrs. Winifred Johnson  
 \* Mrs. Caroline Jones  
 \* Mr. Charles Jones  
 \* Mrs. Charles Jones  
 \* Mr. E. G. Jones

## K

Mr. Chas. Kable  
 Mrs. Chas. Kable  
 Earl Kable  
 Melvin Kable  
 \* Mr. E. Kahm  
 \* Mrs. E. Kahm  
 \* Miss Vera Kahm  
 \* Erma Kesler  
 \* Helen Kesler  
 \* Mr. Chas. L. Klein  
 \* Mrs. Chas. L. Klein  
 \* Miss Lena Klein  
 \* Mr. John Krebs  
 \* Mrs. John Krebs  
 \* Mrs. Jacob Krebs  
 \* Miss Mamie Krebs

## L

\* Mr. Chas. Larsen  
 \* Miss Ida Larsen  
 \* Mrs. Nick Larsen  
 \* Mrs. Sarah Lautzenheiser  
 \* Mr. E. J. Lawson  
 \* Mrs. E. J. Lawson  
 \* Marion Lawson  
 \* Robert Lawson  
 \* Mr. C. W. Lehman  
 \* Mrs. C. W. Lehman  
 \* Mrs. Opal Lewis  
 \* Mr. F. R. Locke  
 \* Mrs. F. R. Locke

## M

Mrs. J. K. McDowell  
 Miss Alice Miller  
 \* Mr. Harry Miller  
 \* Mr. Henry Miller  
 \* Miss Lillian Miller  
 \* Miss Vera Miller  
 \* Mrs. Myrta Milton  
 \* Helen Milton  
 \* Robert Milton  
 \* Mrs. Irvin Miller  
 \* Mr. Reo Miner  
 \* Miss Leone Miner  
 \* Ella Mae Miner  
 \* Mrs. Harriet A. Moeller

\* Miss Phebe Moon  
 \* Mr. N. F. Morris  
 \* Mrs. N. F. Morris  
 \* Mr. John Morris  
 \* Mr. Theodore Morris

## N

\* Mrs. Effie Nelson  
 \* Mr. H. C. Nelson  
 \* Mrs. H. C. Nelson  
 \* Gilbert Nelson  
 \* Luella Nelson  
 \* Viola Nelson  
 \* Mr. J. C. Newcomb  
 \* Mrs. J. C. Newcomb  
 \* John S. Newcomb

## O

Miss Fern Olmsted

## P

\* Mrs. Mary C. Packard  
 \* Mr. Ervin Parks  
 \* Dora Pratt  
 \* Mr. Frank Ptak  
 \* Mrs. Frank Ptak  
 \* Mr. Fred Ptak

## R

\* Mrs. Louvina Rinehimer  
 \* Mrs. Lillian Racicky  
 \* Mr. Chas. Range  
 \* Mrs. Chas. Range  
 \* Mr. G. F. Range  
 \* Mrs. G. F. Range  
 \* Mr. Glen Range  
 \* Mr. Robert Range  
 \* Mr. Paul Rogers  
 \* Mrs. Paul Rogers  
 \* Mrs. Marie Ruehl  
 \* Mrs. Bessie Rule

## S

\* Mr. W. H. Scamman  
 \* Mrs. W. H. Scamman  
 \* Miss Hilma Scamman  
 \* Mrs. Belle Schmidt  
 \* Mr. Fred W. Schmidt  
 \* Mr. Earl Sims  
 \* Mrs. Earl Sims  
 \* Bernard Sims  
 \* Leland Sims  
 \* Dr. Carl Schlumberger  
 \* Frederick Schlumberger  
 \* Mr. J. H. Schuster  
 \* Mrs. J. H. Schuster  
 \* Mrs. Gladys Southwick  
 \* Mr. D. M. Spence  
 \* Mrs. D. M. Spence  
 \* Mr. Clarence Spence  
 \* Mrs. Clarence Spence  
 \* Miss Bertha Spence  
 \* Mable Spence  
 \* Mr. W. W. Smith  
 \* Mrs. W. W. Smith  
 \* Donald Smith

Bernice Stewart  
 Mr. Frank R. Stewart  
 Mrs. Frank Stewart  
 Mr. John P. Stewart  
 \* Mr. John R. Stewart  
 \* Mrs. John R. Stewart  
 \* Mrs. Hugh Stewart  
 \* Mr. Robert Stewart  
 \* Mrs. Robert Stewart  
 \* Merna Stewart  
 \* Mr. Chas. Strobe  
 \* Mrs. Chas. Strobe  
 \* Marie Strobe  
 \* Mrs. Hulda Swanson

## T

\* Mr. A. H. Teale  
 \* Mrs. A. H. Teale  
 \* Miss Helen Teske  
 \* Lloyd Teale  
 \* Miss Ruth Teale

## V

Bennett Voltz  
 \* Mr. Harry Voltz  
 \* Mrs. Harry Voltz  
 \* Mr. Henry Voltz  
 \* Mrs. Henry Voltz

## W

Mrs. Roy Walker  
 Margaret Walker  
 Mr. Glenn E. Warner  
 Mrs. Glenn E. Warner  
 Mr. Harold M. Warner  
 Mrs. Harold M. Warner  
 Miss Lucile Warner  
 \* Mr. Wm. E. Warner  
 \* Mrs. Wm. E. Warner  
 \* Mrs. Lizzie Walston  
 \* Mr. John H. Weber  
 \* Mrs. John H. Weber  
 \* Rachel A. Weber  
 \* Mrs. Maurine Welch  
 \* Mr. Linus H. Welch  
 \* Mrs. Linus H. Welch  
 \* Mr. John Wildick  
 \* Mrs. Lavina Winslow  
 \* Mr. Albert H. Wood  
 \* Mrs. Albert H. Wood  
 \* Mrs. R. B. Wood

## Y

Mr. Wm. Yokel  
 Mrs. Wm. Yokel

## Z

Alma Zieg  
 Edna Zieg  
 Emma Zieg  
 Mr. Henry Zieg  
 \* Mrs. Henry Zieg  
 \* Mr. Jacob Zieg  
 \* Mrs. Jacob Zieg  
 \* Margaret Zieg



## CHARTER MEMBERS

H. F. Moeller, charter member and the leading spirit in organizing the church and keeping it going during the years of hardships and struggles, served as Deacon of the church



MRS. HARRIET A. MOELLER  
Only Living Charter Member



DEACON H. F. MOELLER

from 1878 until he was called to be with the Lord in 1908. He was Trustee of the church for many years and also served as clerk until 1899.

## HISTORY

Our church records convey the fact that the Congregational people were holding meetings in the schoolhouse with Rev. B. G. Page of Dorchester as pastor for sometime prior to the organization of the church.



On May 15, 1875, Mr. and Mrs. Anson Paine, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Harrison, and Mr. and Mrs. Herman F. Moeller met in the schoolhouse at Friendville to consider the advisability of forming a church, as there was none here at that time. A committee was appointed to co-operate with the pastor Rev. B. G. Page to council with neighboring churches.

On June 15 of the same year the committee called a meeting at the Frantz Hall. By a unanimous vote it was declared expedient to organize a church and it should be a Congregational Church, with the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Harrison, Congregational Church at Exeter; Mr. and Mrs. Herman F. Moeller, Congregational Church at Gape Grove, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Anson Paine, Congregational Church at Dorchester; and Henry Harrison, on profession of faith in Christ.

In the afternoon the congregation met in the school house with the representatives of nine churches in council. The proceedings in regard to the formation of a Congregational Church, together with creed, covenant, and constitution, were submitted to the council, read and approved.

A service of recognition was arranged to take place immediately. Rev. Simon Barrows, of Osceola, who was present, was invited to preach the sermon, Rev. Gates to read the covenant and prayer, Rev. Bates the charge to the church, and the right hand of fellowship to be extended by the Rev. Bross. The benediction was pronounced by the Rev. Mr. Page whose labors had been blessed in the organization of this church.

They continued to hold meetings in the school house until the fall of 1877. Then in October the building of the church was let by contract; the carpenter work with exception of window frames to be done for two hundred and ninety-five dollars.

During this winter the meetings were held in the Frantz & Brickley Hall. In the spring the church was plastered and painted.

It might be interesting to note that when the location of the church was decided upon, there was much opposition, as most everyone was certain that the town would not grow beyond the draw but would grow to the north and west. But the Lord, as in many times since in the history of this church, knowing the future, guided the minds of those who made the final decision, and the years since have proved it to be an ideal location.

If one could picture the town as it was then, only a few streets, a few scattered dwellings most of which were north of where the church now stands, a large draw to the south and east of it, one could more fully realize the wisdom of depending on the Lord for guidance.

Rev. Page lived in a dugout on the slope of ground where the Warren Memorial Hospital now stands. One dark night while he was going to the store of E. Slagg and the house of Mrs. E. J. Hurl-



burt to arrange for some church singing, he fell into an open cellar way. He was injured so badly that he was an invalid until his death the following November. He was buried in the Whitcomb Cemetery in the North part of town. During his three years as pastor, the church membership increased from 7 to 29. He is remembered as one of the beloved pastors and left in the hearts of those who knew him a benediction of kindness.

In July the church because of Rev. Page's continued illness, accepted his resignation, and called Rev. Fred Alley of Wilber, who was scribe at the organization of the church, to be pastor for three months.

In November B. J. Chase was called to preach until July 1879. During this time with many prayers and much sacrifice the little first church was paid for, not a finished product that we see in the

#### FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, DEDICATED DEC. 1880



picture for not even the bell and tower were on it as we will see later. As they felt they could, they made additions.

Rev. Winslow came in October 1879. In 1880, after buying a new organ in September, and a stove in November, they made arrangements to dedicate the church in December. The Methodist closed their morning service and came to the dedicatory service, the Methodist pastor assisting in the services. In the fall of 1881 a new bell was purchased and a tower built for it.

In April 1883, Rev. Winslow resigned and in July Rev. Orville Clark was called at a salary of \$1,000.

In August of the same year, when an addition was built to the church to be used for prayer room and pastor's study, we read the following in the church records: "Robert Sands, Sr., and H. P. Moel-

ler, trustees of the church, this day negotiated a loan with Mr. L. E. Southwick for \$225.00 with 10 percent interest in advance for one year, giving their personal note for \$250.00, to pay for the building attached to the church."

We also note that the church which began with seven members had now grown to fifty members.

In May 1885, Pastor O. C. Clark resigned because of ill health and Mr. Thome, a student from Oberlin supplied the pulpit for two months. In August, the church called Rev. Sydney Strong, who commenced his pastorate in September at a salary of \$800.

In the clerk's report for 1886, he said this was their most prosperous year in the history of the church. Thirty-seven new members had been added, and the church had been enabled to assume self support through the use of the envelope system.

In May 1887, Rev. Strong resigned, and Wm. E. Davidson of Central Park, Chicago, began his pastorate in October. During his pastorate he was ordained in the Congregational church of Friend. Rev. Sharrett from England was the next pastor but he stayed only a few months.

#### SECOND CHURCH, DEDICATED SEPTEMBER 21, 1902



Rev. Dada came in July 1889 as pastor at \$500 with parsonage. He was pastor for five years, the longest pastorate in the history of this church. In the last November of his pastorate, the Methodist and Baptist joined the Congregational church in revival meetings. Mr. Billings was the evangelist and Mr. Byers as singer. As a result of these meetings, this church received twenty-one new members.



The pastor preached his farewell sermon in July 1894, and the clerk at the end of this year said in his report that it had been a year of trials and discouragement. They were without a pastor the last half of the year, and the failure of crops crippled them financially, but thanks to the Ladies Home Circle they were almost out of debt.

The church, in February of 1895, having a pastor in view, asked aid of Home Mission Society, but they were unable to help them.

Finally, in September, after having had church whenever they could get supplies, they called Rev. Amos Dean of Crete to preach every Sunday morning, with a salary of \$250.00 a year. For a year and a half he served the church, still making his home at Crete although they had hoped he would move to Friend. Whenever he was unable to come, he would send President Perry of Doane College or some of the college students who were preparing for the ministry. Deacon Moeller, living on the road from Crete to Friend, was generally the one to entertain them, since they usually came by horse and buggy.

At the beginning of 1897, the church decided to do without a pastor until their finances were better. For the next six months, Dr. Hewit, H. M. Smith, and H. F. Moeller took turns in conducting the services and reading sermons.

In October of this year, they were happy to have Rev. Wm. B. Payne, with his able wife and three children take up their abode in the parsonage, where for three years he and his wife ministered very efficiently to a grateful people. Mrs. Payne was a wonderful worker among young people. It wasn't long until she had a large Sunday School class of young men and women. Also she organized a Junior Christian Endeavor Society, which met every Saturday afternoon at the church, so that the children from the country could attend. While they were here a living-room and bedroom were added to the parsonage and the church was repaired.

The many years of sacrifice and struggle seemed from now on to be at an end, and we see only progress—material prosperity, gain in membership, and spirituality. However, behind the latter I would put a question mark, for I believe we would have a long way to go to attain the faith, courage and earnestness that was in our pioneer fathers, who made this country and these churches what they are. Indeed, we have had a rich heritage. Are we living true to it?

Rev. W. W. Hart came as pastor in October 1900, and soon after they began to talk about building a new church, because the old church needed so much repair, and was inadequate for their needs. In August 1901 it was decided to build a new church edifice. A building committee was appointed and given full power to sell or use the old building as they deemed best. On Sunday, September 21, 1902, the new church building was dedicated. Rev. Sydney Strong, pastor of a large church in Oak Park, Illinois, a former pastor, preached the dedicatory sermon. In this service additional pledges, amounting to \$600.00, were raised, which made it possible to dedicate the building free from debt.

The following February Rev. Houser conducted Evangelistic meetings in the new church building, in conjunction with the Baptist, Methodist, and German Congregational churches. In March, Rev. Hart resigned and Rev. Perry A. Sharpe became our pastor in June, faithfully serving the church for three years. During this time, a pipe organ was installed due to the encouragement and liberal gift toward it of Mr. Wm. Southwick, a staunch friend of the church for many years.

In 1906, a new parsonage was built and was ready for use, when Rev. J. S. Hamilton came the following October. Rev. Hamilton was with us for nearly four years but on account of ill-health thought it best to go to another field. He is the only one of our

pastors who have been here since 1897 to be called to his reward. It was a great shock to the many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton to hear of their untimely demise, due to an automobile accident in June 1930. One in paying tribute to Mr. Hamilton, after his death, said that he was very lenient to the faults of others, but most strict as to his own conduct.

Mrs. Hamilton organized the Woman's Missionary Society of which she was president until they moved away. Mr. Hamilton's ministry here was one of spiritual growth, for the church we well filled at Sunday services and the prayer meetings were well attended, as it was also during the pastorate of his successor Rev. Edwin F. Wright, who began his labors here in August 1910, leaving in June 1914.

Mrs. Wright reorganized the Junior Christian Endeavor, which had been discontinued for some time because of lack of leadership. Mr. Wright taught a teachers training class and several completed the work and obtained a teacher's certificate.

Dr. H. H. Price came as our pastor in September 1914, remaining here until December 1917. He resigned to go as chaplain in the army. During his ministry, the church celebrated its Fortieth anniversary.

Rev. Leon Moore served as pastor here from February 1918 to 1920. After he left, Rev. Geo. R. McKeith served as pastor until August 1923.

During Rev. Ralph Pinkham's ministry (November 1923 to July 1928) this church and the Blue Valley Association celebrated together in our church, their fiftieth anniversary. Rev. J. S. Hamilton was the speaker for our church.

Our present pastor, Rev. Wm. Becker came November 1928. Since his coming many new members have been taken into the church. Two successful Evangelistic campaigns have been carried on, which have greatly revived the spiritual life of the people.

For some time nearly every department of the church has felt the need for more room. The women needed a larger kitchen, more room to serve suppers and for the social life of the church. The Sunday School especially was handicapped for more room.



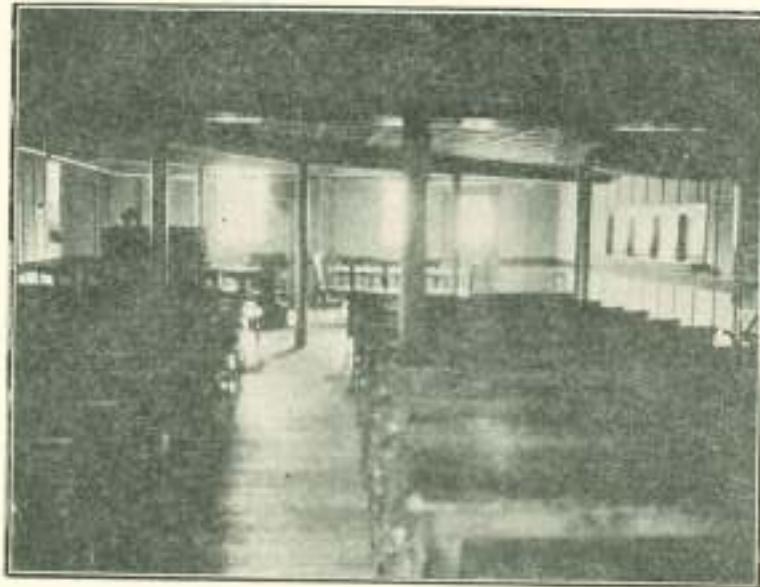
REV. J. S. HAMILTON

When the building committee started work it was planned only to install a new heating plant and fix over the furnace room with the necessary changes this would require. As work progressed, the necessity of a more extensive building program became evident, and



the church board gave their consent and provided for the necessary committees, who have faithfully carried out their duties until at the present time a church can be presented for rededication in splendid repair and adequate for the needs of the church for several years.  
—MRS. FRANK T. HAMILTON.

#### REMODELED AND ENLARGED BASEMENT ROOM OF CRURCH



### HISTORY OF MINISTERS

- Rev. B. G. Page, June 15, 1875 to June 29, 1878. (3 Mo. and 14 days).  
Rev. Fred Alley, June 1, 1878 to Oct. 1, 1878. (4 months).  
Rev. B. J. Chase, Nov. 8, 1878 to June 1, 1879. (8 months).  
Rev. Jacob Winslow, Oct. 15, 1879 to Mar. 6, 1883. (3 years and 6 Mo.)  
Rev. Orville Clark, July 1, 1883 to May 1, 1885. (1 year and 10 Mo.)  
Rev. Sydney Strong, Aug. 18, 1885 to May 1, 1887. (1 year and 10 Mo.)  
Rev. Wm. E. Davidson, Oct. 10, 1887 to May 27, 1888. (8 months)  
Rev. James Sharrett, Oct. 7, 1888 to April 14, 1889. (8 months)  
Rev. E. T. Dada, June 14, 1889 to June 14, 1894. (5 years)  
Rev. Amos N. Dean, Oct. 1, 1895 to Jan 1, 1897. (1 year and 3 Mo.)  
Rev. Wm. E. Payne, Oct. 1, 1897 to Oct. 1, 1900. (3 years)  
Rev. W. W. Hart, Oct. 18, 1900 to April 18, 1903. (2 years and 6 Mo.)  
Rev. Perry A. Sharp, June 1, 1903 to June 30, 1906. (3 Yrs. and 1 Mo.)  
Rev. Jos. S. Hamilton, Oct. 1906 to April 14, 1910. (3 Yrs. and 7 Mo.)  
Rev. Edwin Wright, Aug. 1, 1910 to June 1, 1914. (3 years and 10 Mo.)  
Rev. H. H. Price, Sept. 1, 1914 to Dec. 13, 1917. (3 years and 3 Mo.)  
Rev. Leon Moore, Feb. 1, 1918 to April 1, 1920. (2 years and 2 Mo.)  
Rev. Geo. R. McKeith, May 1, 1920 to Aug. 31, 1923. 3 Yrs. and 3 Mo.)  
Rev. Ralph Pinkham, Nov. 1, 1923 to Jul. 29, 1928. (4 Yrs. and 10 Mo.)  
Rev. Wm. Becker, Nov. 1, 1928 to the present.



Other Foundation Can No  
Man Lay than That Is  
Laid, Which Is Jesus Christ  
1 Cor. 3:11.