

First Congregational Church
Friend, Nebraska
1875-1950



SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION
October 11-15, 1950

Our Church

THIS IS MY CHURCH.

I love it,
I believe in it,
It is like home to me—
I want to serve it.
I want to be worthy of it.
It has a place for me,
It needs me—
It needs me—
I will not neglect it.
I believe in its teachings
That show me how to do God's work,
My Church is my friend.

THIS IS YOUR CHURCH.

I believe you love it
And will be true to it.
This makes us comrades
And companions.

THIS IS GOD'S CHURCH.

He hears the prayers we make;
He is with us when we sing,
And He sees the work we do.

THIS IS OUR CHURCH—

YOUR CHURCH,
MY CHURCH,
GOD'S CHURCH.

Here we may all work together
To help this world become a better place,
Let us be glad we may work together with God
Let us rejoice that we have our Church,
Where we seek to learn
The work and the ways of God.

—FRANCES M. MORTON

HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory"

1. God of grace and God of glory,
On Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient Church's story;
Bring her bud to glorious flower,
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
For the facing of this hour;
For the facing of this hour.

2. Lo! The hosts of evil round us,
Scorn Thy Christ, assail his ways.
Fears and doubts too long have bound us,
Free our hearts to work and praise,
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
For the living of these days,
For the living of these days.

3. Cure thy children's warring madness,
Bend our pride to thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness;
Rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal.

4. Set our feet on lofty places;
Gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces
In the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, Grant us courage,
That we fail not man nor Thee,
That we fail not man nor Thee.

5. Save us from weak resignation
To the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation,
Be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
Serving Thee whom we adore,
Serving Thee whom we adore.

ANNIVERSARY SERVICES

Wednesday, October 11th:

Followship Dinner at 6:30 P. M. in the church parlors for all members and friends. Lay Leader presiding. Marimba music by Elaine Warner.

7:30 P. M. Service in Sanctuary—ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE _____ Miss Mary Warner
PROCESSIONAL AND HYMN, "God of Grace and God of Glory"
Verses 1 and 2
INVOCATION _____ Rev. Henry Demler
YOUNG MEN'S QUARTET
SCRIPTURE READING _____ Rev. Roy Reynolds
DUET _____ Albert and Harriett Becker
OFFERTORY
VOCAL SOLO _____ Mrs. Fred Preston
SERMON _____ Rev. Albert Becker, Hastings, Nebr.
VOCAL SOLO _____ Mrs. Fred Preston
PIANO DUET _____ Judith Lee and Gale Cogswell
CHIMES AND ORGAN POSTLUDE _____ Miss Mary Warner

Thursday, October 12th:

8:00 P. M. Service in Sanctuary—ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE _____ Miss Ila Rule
PROCESSIONAL AND HYMN, No. 143 "I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord"
INVOCATION _____ Rev. Henry Demler
MALE QUARTET
SCRIPTURE READING AND PRAYER _____ Rev. Robert L. Embree
SOLO _____ Mrs. Herbert Roth
SERMON _____ Rev. F. W. Leavitt, Crete, Nebr.
ORGAN AND PIANO DUET
OFFERTORY
SOUND FILM _____ "We Would Be Building" a 23 minute color film
HYMN _____ "God of Grace and God of Glory", verses 1, 4, 5
BENEDICTION _____ Rev. Leavitt
CHIMES AND ORGAN POSTLUDE _____ Miss Ila Rule

Friday, October 13th:

8:00 P. M. Service in Sanctuary—ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE _____ Mrs. Russell Leach
PROCESSIONAL AND HYMN _____ "Faith of Our Fathers", No. 219
INVOCATION _____ Ernest Horner
SPECIALS _____ Gibson Brothers
SCRIPTURE READING AND PRAYER _____ Rev. Percy Johnson
MALE QUARTET
OFFERTORY
WOMEN'S QUARTET
SERMON _____ Rev. Moore Bell, Wray, Colo.
SPECIAL MUSIC _____ The Bell Family
BENEDICTION _____ Rev. Bell
CHIMES AND ORGAN POSTLUDE _____ Mrs. Russell Leach

Sunday, October 15th:

United Service Beginning at 10:30 A. M.—ORDER OF WORSHIP
ORGAN PRELUDE Miss Marian Yokel
PROCESSIONAL HYMN "O Worship the King", No. 4
THE INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER
RESPONSIVE READING "His Benefits", No. 515
HYMN NO. 140 "The Church's One Foundation"
SCRIPTURE READING
PASTORAL PRAYER
ANNOUNCEMENTS, OFFERTORY AND DOXOLOGY
CHOIR ANTHEM "The Lord Is My Light"
ANNIVERSARY AND COMMUNION MESSAGE, Rev. Henry Demler
COMMUNION ANTHEM
COMMUNION SERVICE Rev. Roy Reynolds, assisting
OFFERING FOR MINISTERIAL RELIEF
HYMN NO. 380 "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee", vs. 1, 2, 4
BENEDICTION
CHIMES AND ORGAN POSTLUDE Miss Marian Yokel

7:30 P. M. Service in Sanctuary—ORDER OF WORSHIP

ORGAN PRELUDE Miss Lena Klein
PROCESSIONAL HYMN No. 141, "Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"
INVOCATION Rev. F. W. Leavitt
SPECIALS ON MARIMBA Elaine Warner
SCRIPTURE READING Rev. Wm. Bohi
WOMEN'S TRIO, "Hear Our Prayer", Miss Lena Klein, accompanist
PRAYER Rev. Jacob Balzer
MALE QUARTET
RECOGNITIONS, Letters and Telegrams from former pastors, former members and friends
CHOIR ANTHEM "Let Mount Zion Rejoice"
MESSAGE by Dr. Arthur Taylor, Minister of the Nebraska Congregational Conference
OFFERING to help build and strengthen other churches
PIANO DUET Miss Lena Klein and Mrs. Murray Dilley
REDEDICATION SERVICE FOR CHURCH AND PEOPLE
HYMN "God of Grace and God of Glory"
BENEDICTION Dr. Taylor

THE OFFICIAL CHURCH BOARD

MINISTER: Henry Demler
CLERK OF CHURCH: Mrs. John E. Barney.
CHURCH TREASURER: Mr. Ralph Jewitt.
ORGANISTS: Miss Mary Warner, Miss Marian Yokel, Alternating.
BENEVOLENCE TREASURER: Miss Ida Larsen.
CHOIR DIRECTOR: Mrs. Harry Volz.
CHURCH AND ORGAN CUSTODIAN: Mr. Ralph Jewitt.
CHURCH CABINET: Mr. Gilbert Blanchard, Chairman.
SEXTON OF THE CHURCH: Rev. Roy M. Reynolds.

THE DEACONS: Life member, Mr. Henry Klein, Arthur Swanson, '52; Oliver Johansen, '52; Melvin Nelsen, '52; O. V. Easley, '51; John R. Klippenstein, '51; Harold Nelson, '51; Harold Warner, '50; Lester Cogswell, '50, Senior Deacon.)

THE DEACONESSES: Life Member, Mrs. Rose Farquharson, Mrs. Natalia Warner, '52; Mrs. Tessie Aitken, '51; Mrs. A. L. Heywood, '50.

THE TRUSTEES: Evert Surber, '52; George Barney, '52; Murval Thompson, '52; Allan Barney, '51; Harry Volz, '51; Gilbert Blanchard '51; William Houser, '50; George Kohout, Jr., '50; George Frankforter, '50. (Co-Chairmen of the Board of Trustees are Murval Thompson and William Houser.)

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL: Frank Stewart, General Superintendent; Gilbert Blanchard, Assistant; Secretary-Treasurer, Vern Worden assisted by Wm. Warner; Mrs. H. R. Wood, Superintendent Junior Department; Mrs. Evert Surber, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Harold Warner, Superintendent, Primary Department; Mrs. William Houser, Assistant Superintendent; Mrs. Albert Stewart, Superintendent, Cradle-Roll Department, Mrs. Oliver Johansen, Assistant Superintendent; Miss Mamie Krebs and Miss Ida Larsen, Superintendents of Home Department.

THE DORCAS MISSIONARY SOCIETY: Mrs. William Yokel, President; Mrs. Herbert Roth, Vice President; Mrs. John Rule, Secretary; Mrs. John Krebs, Treasurer; Miss Ida Larsen, Missionary Treasurer; Mrs. Lester Cogswell, Missionary Superintendent; Mrs. William Houser, Social Superintendent; Mrs. Henry Volz, Mrs. Raymond Gifford, Mrs. Clyde Gibson, Assistant Social Superintendents.

Youth Fellowship Officers

THE PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP: Jack Klippenstein, President; Donald Cogswell, Vice President; Mary Beth Cogswell, Secretary; Betty Surber, Corresponding Secretary; Vern Worden, Treasurer; Darlene Thompson, Assistant Treasurer. Social Committee, Beverly Stewart, Gene Rule, Mary Warner. Mrs. William Yokel, Sponsor. (Meets in Chapel every Sunday at 7:00 p.m.)

THE JUNIOR PILGRIM FELLOWSHIP: David Thompson, President; Josephine Svehla, Vice President; Junior Wattles, Secretary; Connie Surber, Treasurer. Vern Worden and Rev. Henry Demler, Sponsors. (Meets in East Room each Sunday at 6:00 P. M.)

Regular Church Committees and Ushers

AUDITING COMMITTEE: Frank Stewart, E. J. Lawson, Mrs. John E. Barney.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Harold Warner, Chairman; Allen Barney; Mabel Kohout; Esther Conner, Norris Frankforter.

MISSIONARY COMMITTEE: Mrs. J. H. Weber; Mrs. Warren Cunningham; Mrs. Roy Surber; Mrs. Margaret Sims; Mrs. Virgil Conner.

MUSIC COMMITTEE: E. J. Lawson; Lena Klein, William Warner; Mrs. Haskell Cogswell; Mrs. H. Volz; Mrs. Lester Cogswell; Mrs. George Barney, Mrs. Evert Surber.

FLOWER COMMITTEE: Mrs. E. B. Cogswell, Chairman; Mrs. Anna Walker; Mrs. Luther Easley; Marie Bender; Mrs. Mae Bartlett; Mrs. O. V. Easley.

VISITATION COMMITTEE: Mrs. A. L. Heywood; Mrs. T. Aitken; Miss Mamie Krebs; Mrs. Clarence Spence; Rev. R. Reynolds; Mrs. R. Reynolds; Mrs. N. Warner; Mrs. E. B. Cogswell; Miss Ida Larsen; Mrs. Effie Nelson; Mrs. Matthew Segner; Mrs. Henry Demler, Mrs. Will Miner.

USHERS: William Houser, Head Usher; Willard Johansen; John Huber, Jr.; Norris Frankforter; Irvin Range; Floyd Johansen; Gene Easley; Paul Huber.

FUNERAL USHERS: O. V. Easley, Head Usher; Fred Weber, Jr.; Henry Zieg; Clarence Spence; J. H. Weber.

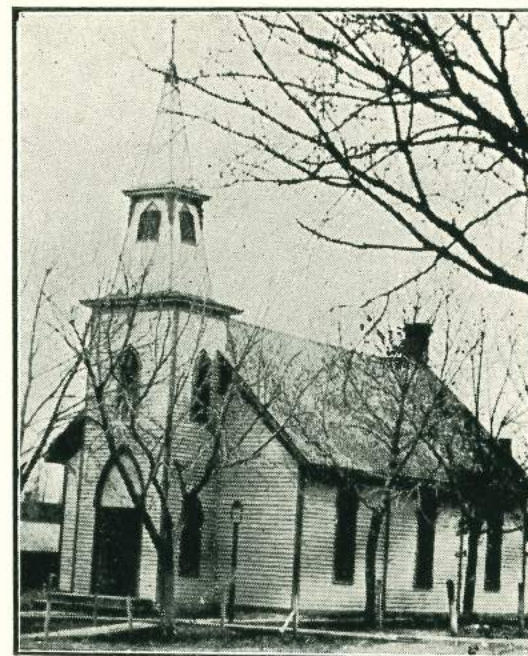
Anniversary Committees

HISTORICAL: Mrs. Lester Cogswell, Chairman; Mrs. Natalia Warner; Mrs. Clarence Spence; Mrs. Tessie Aitken; Mr. Arthur Swanson; Mrs. John E. Barney; Rev. Henry Demler.

PROGRAM: Mr. Harold Warner, Chairman; Mrs. Harold Warner; Mr. J. H. Weber; Mrs. J. H. Weber; Mr. Wm. Yokel; Mrs. Wm. Yokel; Mrs. Harry Volz; Mrs. Margaret Sims; Miss Mamie Krebs; Mrs. Henry Demler; Henry Demler.

PUBLICITY: Mrs. J. H. Weber; Miss Mamie Krebs; Mrs. Margaret Sims; Mrs. Clarence Spence.

RECEPTION: Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Houser; Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Yokel; Mr. and Mrs. Ogden Easley; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Klippenstein.



The First Congregational Church of Friendville, Dedicated 1880



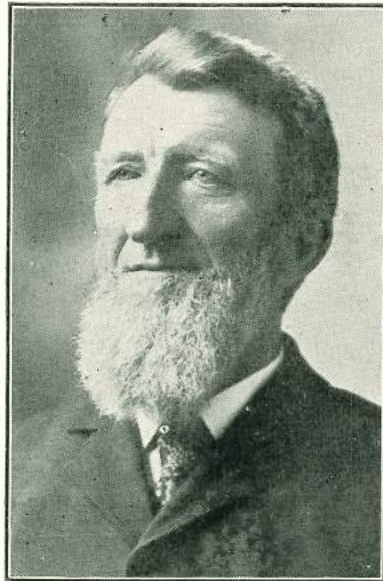
The New Church Dedicated in 1902



Remodeled Church Dedicated in 1932
The Church of 1950 Is Illustrated on Cover Page



Rev. B. G. Page
First Minister
1875-1878



Deacon H. F. Moeller
Charter Member



Rev. Moore Bell and Family 1950
Pastor 1935-1940



Rev. Wm. Becker
Pastor 1928-1935 and 1945-1947



Rev. Henry Demler
Present Pastor

HISTORY

OF THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA

Early records of our church reveal a sincere desire on the part of Christian people of Friendville to get together for worship in the early 1870's. These records state that Christian people of this community were holding meetings in the school house with Rev. B. G. Page of Dorchester, as pastor for a time 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 school house at Friendville to consider the advisability of forming a church, as there was none in the community at that time. A committee was appointed to work with the pastor, Rev. B. G. Page, and 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 that it was to be a Congregational church with the following charter members: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Harrison, of the Congregational Church at Exeter; Mr. and Mrs. Herman F. Moeller of the Congregational Church at Gape Grove, Illinois; Mr. and Mrs. Anson Paine of the Congregational Church of 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 head 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 Rev. Page whose labors in the organization of this church had been richly blessed.

This newly organized church 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 \$295.00. During this winter the meetings were held in the Frantz and Brickley Hall. In the Spring the Church was plastered and painted. The seats for the church, which are now in the Sunday school room, were donated by a church in Missouri.

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 what is now known as Sucker Creek draw, but would grow to the north and west. But the Lord, knowing the future, guided the minds of those who made the final decision, as He has many times since in the history of the church, and through the years the location has proved to be an ideal one.

If one could picture the town as it was then, with 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 home on the slope of ground where the Warren Memorial Hospital now stands. One night as he was walking to the E. Slagg store and the home of Mrs. E. J. Hurlburt to arrange for some church singing, he fell into an open cellar way. He was injured so seriously 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 pastorate, the church membership increased from the seven

charter members to twenty-nine. He is remembered as one of the beloved pastors and left in the hearts of those who knew him a benediction of kindness.

During the time of Rev. Page's illness, the church called Rev. Fred Alley of Wilber to be pastor for three months. He was present as Scribe at the organization of the church. In November 1877 Rev. B. J. Chase was called to preach until July 1879. During this time, with many prayers and much sacrifice, the little church was paid for. It was not a finished product, for not even the bell and tower were on it, but additions were made to it as the members felt able to make them.

Rev. Winslow came in October 1879. A new organ was bought in September of the year 1880 and a new stove in November. Arrangements were then made to dedicate the church in December. The Methodist friends closed their morning service and came to the dedicatory service in which their pastor assisted. In the Fall of 1881 a new bell was purchased and a tower built for it.

In April 1883 Rev. Winslow resigned and Rev. Orville Clark was called in July at an annual salary of \$1,000.00. In August of the same year an addition was built to the church to be used for prayer room and pastor's study. We find the following in the church records regarding this addition: "Robert Sands Sr. and H. F. Moeller, trustees of the church, this day negotiated a loan with Mr. L. E. Southwick for \$225.00 with 10% interest in advance for one year, giving their personal note for \$250.00 to pay for the building attached to the church."

By this time the church membership had grown to fifty. In May 1885, Rev. 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 began his pastorate in September at a salary of \$800.00. In the clerk's report for 1886, he said this was the most prosperous year in the history of the church. Thirty-seven new members were added and the church was enabled to assume self-support through the use of the envelope system.

In May of 1887, Rev. Strong resigned and Rev. W. E. Davidson of Central Park Chicago, began his pastorate in October of that year. During his pastorate he was ordained in the Congregational Church of Friend. Rev. Sharret from England was the next pastor, but he stayed only a few months. Rev. Dada came in July 1889 as pastor at a salary of \$500.00 and parsonage. He was pastor for 5 years, the longest pastorate in the history of the church up to this time. In the last November of his pastorate, the Methodist and Baptist churches joined the Congregational church in revival meetings. Mr. Billings was the evangelist and Mr. Byers the singer. As a result of these meetings, this church received twenty-one new members.

At the annual meeting of 1891, the members were greatly surprised and pleased by the presentation of a beautiful silver communion set by Mr. H. K. Johnson. The pastor preached his farewell sermon in July, 1894, and the clerk, at the end of the year, said in his report that it had been a year of trials and discouragement. The church was without a pastor the last half of the year 1894 and the failure of crops crippled them financially, but thanks to the Ladies Home Circle, they were almost out of debt.

In February of 1895 the church had a pastor in view and asked aid of the Home Mission Society, but they were unable to help them. Notwithstanding the extreme liberality of the members and the people of the town, when compared to their incomes during the years 1894 and 1895, they were unable to employ a minister so Mr. H. F. Moeller, Mr. H. M. Smith and Dr. H. W. Hewitt took turns in conducting services and reading sermons thus holding the church together until a minister was available.

Finally, in September 1895, 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.

Rev. Frederick Leavitt, who served our church very efficiently as a supply minister from August to November 1899, was one of these college students who served our church in 1896. Deacon Moeller, living on the road from Crete to Friend, was generally the one to entertain these ministers since they usually came by horse and buggy. Rev. Dean served the church in this way until January 1, 1897.

For several months at the beginning of 1897, because of the serious financial depression preceded by drought and crop failures the staunch Christian laymen of the church conducted the services and kept the church alive. The faith and courage of those pioneer Christians has challenged us in times of stress to a larger and more consecrated Christian service.

In October of 1897 the church was happy to have Rev. W. B. Payne, with his able wife and three children, come to serve them. 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. She also organized a Junior Christian Endeavor Society, which met every Saturday afternoon at the church, so that the children from the country might attend. While they were here a living room and bedroom were added to the parsonage and the church was repaired.

Rev. W. W. Hart came as pastor in October 1900 and soon after, they began to discuss plans for the building of a new church, since the old church needed so much repairing, and was inadequate for their needs. The country was becoming more prosperous by this time and the church took on new life. In August 1901 it was decided to build a new church and a building committee was appointed and given power to dispose of the old building or use it in whatever way they saw fit. Consequently, the first building was moved back and turned to face the North and this became what is now known as the chapel. The present sanctuary was then constructed, including a small basement with kitchen and dining room facilities. The primary department of the Sunday school and Junior church were to use the basement also.

As a result of great effort, the new church building was completed at a cost of about \$7,000.00 and on Sunday, September 21, 1902, it was dedicated free of debt. Rev. Sydney Strong, a former pastor, preached the dedicatory sermon.

While the church was in progress of construction, the question of a larger bell was discussed. The old bell was sold to a party of Utica and the balance of about \$300.00 yet needed was raised by subscription. The bell was purchased and placed in the belfry ready for use at the dedicatory services.

About the time that the new church building was being talked about, it was thought that it would be a fine thing if the church could own the entire half-block upon which the church and parsonage were located; so the B and M. Land Co. was consulted and they gladly gave the church the remaining two lots which they owned. The other lot to the west of the church belonged to Dr. F. C. Hinman, and he kindly consented to transfer it to the church, thus making the church the owner of the complete half block upon which the church and parsonage are now located. Dr. E. A. Watson conceived the idea of setting out trees and making it a park for all meetings of a moral character.

The splendid showing of material prosperity is but incidental to the real object of the church, which, as stated in the constitution, is to bring people to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and is founded upon the broad principle of loving the Lord with all your mind and heart, and loving your neighbor as yourself. That this our church, in its brave and worthy past, did not fail in this its greatest object, is attested by the fact that from 1875 to 1907 a total of 382 persons united with the church either by confession of faith or by letter of transfer.

In February, 1903, a Rev. Houser conducted evangelistic meetings in the new church together with the Baptist, Methodist and German Congregational churches. In March, 1903, it was voted to make an effort to unite the Baptist and Congregational churches into one body, but no agreement could be reached. In March Rev. Hart resigned and Rev. Perry A. Sharpe became our pastor the following June, faithfully serving the church for three years.

In 1905 Mr. W. O. Southwick, a staunch friend of the church for many years, conceived the idea that the church ought to have a pipe organ and by his very liberal contribution and effort the organ was purchased and installed. After dedicating the new church free from debt and with prosperity returning it was decided in 1906 that there should be more commodious quarters for the pastor, so the old parsonage was sold and the present structure built at an approximate cost of \$3500.00. The new parsonage was ready for use when Rev. J. S. Hamilton came in October of 1906. Rev. Hamilton served the church for nearly four years but because of ill health thought it best to go to another field. Rev. Hamilton's ministry here was one of spiritual growth for the church was well filled at Sunday services and the prayer meetings were well attended. Mrs. Hamilton organized the Women's Missionary Society of which she was also president until they moved away.

Rev. Edwin Wright came on August 1, 1910, and served the church until June 1, 1914. He taught a teacher's training class and several completed the work and obtained teacher's certificates. Mrs. Wright organized the Junior Christian Endeavor, which had been discontinued for some time because of lack of leadership.

Dr. H. H. Price came as pastor in September, 1914, remaining here until December 1917, when he resigned to serve as a Chaplain in the army. On September 15, 1915, during his ministry, the church celebrated its Fortieth Anniversary with appropriate and inspiring services. In the Anniversary booklet, then published, there were listed the names of 174 persons as constituting the active membership of our church at that time.

Rev. Leon Moore served as pastor here from February, 1918, to April 1, 1920. After he left, Rev. G. R. McKeith served as pastor from May 1, 1920, to August 31, 1923. Rev. Ralph Pinkham was the next minister to serve the church. His ministry was from November, 1923, to July, 1928. He recognized the value of the young people in the church's organization. It was during his ministry on May 15 through May 17th, 1925, that this church and the Blue Valley Association of Congregational churches celebrated together in this church, their Fiftieth Anniversary. Rev. J. S. Hamilton a former pastor, was the speaker for the church on this occasion. Word was received by some of our members of Rev. Pinkham's death in January 1950.

Rev. Wm. Becker came to this church on November 1, 1928, and with Mrs. Becker and their fine family, served the church long and well. Rev. Becker's first pastorate here still holds the record for the longest pastorate in the history of the church. Two very successful evangelistic campaigns conducted by the Misses Stockton and Gould, were carried on which greatly revived the spiritual life of the people. During Rev. Becker's first ministry

of 6 years and 7 months, there was a membership increase of 240 souls.

For some time nearly every department of the church had felt the need for more room. The basement was very inadequate. A larger kitchen was needed and more room to serve suppers and for the social life of the church. The Sunday school was especially handicapped because of so little room.

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 faithfully carried out their duties. The basement was greatly enlarged and remodeled and the walls in the chapel and sanctuary were re-decorated with celotex in addition to installing a new type of heating plant. At the completion of this extensive remodeling project, on Sunday, July 12, 1931, a rededication service was held.

Because of his intense interest in rescue mission work, Rev. Wm. Becker left Friend on June 1, 1935, to become superintendent of the People's City Mission in Lincoln. On June 16, 1935, Rev. Moore G. Bell, having been extended a call by this church, began his ministry here. This was his first charge upon graduating from the seminary. A few weeks after he started his ministry here, he married and brought his bride to our parsonage to establish their first home. Both Rev. and Mrs. Bell added much to the music of the church and worked tirelessly especially with the young people. Rev. Bell also organized the men's brotherhood. It was during this period that drouth and financial depression again made it extremely difficult to carry on, but with courageous leadership and consecrated effort on the part of all, we struggled through this period to another period of prosperity. Rev. Bell left us on December 8, 1940, to accept the call of the Presbyterian church in Schaller, Iowa. He had served our church for 5 years and 5 months, the second longest pastorate in the church's history thus far.

On March 23, 1941, Rev. Peter Friesen began his ministry at this church. Because of more prosperous times we were able during his ministry to burn the mortgage on the church leaving the property free of debt once more. Rev. Friesen left our church on December 28, 1944, and together with about 51 members from this church, established the Friend Bible Church in Friend. Our membership at the close of his ministry was 314.

Rev. Wm. Becker, who was serving the Congregational church at Ogallala, Nebr., accepted our call and came to serve our church and began his second ministry here on March 4, 1945. Rev. "Sandy" Fales, then of Grafton, Nebr., served our church very efficiently as interim pastor for the first two months of 1945 until Rev. Becker was able to come.

Since it was becoming increasingly difficult to obtain repairs for the old pipe organ, it was voted to remove the old organ and donate it to the Children's Home of Henderson, Nebr., where there were several people who understood the repairing of musical instruments and where many children could still enjoy the instrument. In its place here, a Hammond electric organ was purchased and installed. The space formerly occupied by the pipe organ was beautifully re-decorated and added to the choir loft.

Rev. John Alber, an architect and builder, designed and built the new pulpit furniture consisting of a communion table, pulpit, lectern, rostrum chairs and collection plates, all according to Scriptural symbolism. The floors were sanded and refinished throughout the entire church. The old brick sidewalks were removed and new cement ones constructed around the entire north and east sides of the church property.

Rev. Becker's health began to fail soon after he returned for his second pastorate, but in spite of great pain which he suffered, he still labored with every ounce of strength he possessed. This church's and particularly his Lord's business, was his chief concern. After many months of suffering, his kind and gracious Heavenly Father called him home on November 10, 1947. His funeral was held in this church and his burial was in Lincoln Memorial Park. It has been said of him that he was a tireless and devoted worker and that his pastorates in Friend were of great benefit to his church and community in general.

During Rev. Becker's illness and after his death, Rev. H. W. Wagner, a retired Methodist minister and long time friend of the church, graciously filled our pulpit whenever he was called upon.

Dr. Edwin T. Settle, a professor from Doane College came as interim pastor from November, 1947, until the close of the College term in May 1948. Dr. Fred E. Stemme came June 1, 1948, as our pastor. During his pastorate a new gas heating system was installed in both the church and the parsonage. Mrs. Stemme worked enthusiastically with the Junior Pilgrim Fellowship group. On July 31, 1949, Dr. Stemme accepted the call of the Congregational church at Hayes Center, Nebr.

Rev. Roy Reynolds, of our congregation and community, Mr. Ernest Horner of the Methodist church, and Rev. Robert L. Embree, pastor of the local Methodist church, have been very helpful to our church whenever the need arose.

Rev. F. W. Leavitt, a retired Congregational minister residing at Crete, Nebr., supplied our pulpit as interim pastor from August through November, 1949. Though he first supplied the pulpit here 53 years ago as a student, his outlook on life still endears him to young and old alike. Since there had been no formal dedication service for the organ, chimes and chancel appointments, Rev. Leavitt set to work and arranged such a service. This was held on November 6, 1949, at which time the following memorials were dedicated:

The Deagan Chimes, Mrs. Nels Barney, for her husband and sons Louis and John.

The Choir Chairs, Irvin and Herbert Range, for their parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Range.

The Altar and Communion Table, Mrs. Hugh Stewart, for her husband.

The Pulpit, Lectern and Rostrum Chairs, Mrs. John Barney, for her husband and herself.

The Cross and Candlesticks, Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Wakeman, for her mother, Mrs. Henry Klein.

The organ was purchased from a special organ fund to which nearly all members and some friends responded generously.

The collection plates were a gift from the Senior Pilgrim Fellowship.

Rev. Henry Demler came to us on December 1, 1949, as our pastor. Both Rev. and Mrs. Demler have taken a very active part in the choir and helped greatly in both the Junior and Senior Pilgrim Fellowship groups. A nursery has been maintained in the basement during church under the sponsorship of Mrs. H. R. Wood, to make church attendance for mothers with babies and small children more possible.

The church steps have been rebuilt and a lovely fireplace with seats about it built on the terrace below the church, from the bricks and cement blocks salvaged from the old steps. The Pilgrim Fellowship youth group sponsored this project.

The parsonage has been beautifully re-decorated and remodeled with the Demler's donating a very generous amount of improvements. The church basement, including kitchen and rest rooms have been beautifully redecorated. The Sunday school paid for the basement redecorating, the Dorcas for the kitchen

and rest rooms. People of the church did all the work. As this goes to press, plans are under way to completely redecorate the church sanctuary, chapel and choir rooms thus fulfilling a desire and project which was begun by the Pilgrim Fellowship and in which they have generously helped and contributed funds which they earned.

Our church history would not be complete without mentioning a few significant facts. On our church membership rolls, we still have two of the children of two of the charter members, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Moeller. They are Mrs. Rose Farquharson and Mrs. Natalia Warner. Mrs. Farquharson has the distinction of being a member of this church for 65 years, which is the longest membership record of any living member. Mr. Moeller's faithfulness is proven by the fact that, though his home was three miles in the country, he was a regular attendant at the midweek prayer meeting and both the morning and evening services of the church, no matter how hard the labors of the day or how inclement the weather, in a day when all traveling had to be done with horses and buggy. Surely his faithfulness should inspire us to greater loyalty.

Another fact is that we have had five generations of one family in our church, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Pierce, Mr. and Mrs. D. M. Spence, Mr. Clarence Spence, Mrs. George Kohout, and Kathleen and Linda Kohout. There are several four generation families.

We have had our deep sorrows and our times of great joy and are grateful to God for all the experiences we have shared together in this His and our Church. On this occasion of its 75th Anniversary, we feel that we stand at a high pinnacle of its experience. Its glorious and worthy past challenges us to move forward to greater consecration and endeavor in the future, building upon the Rock, Christ Jesus.

THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE.

YOUTH, TODAY AND TOMORROW

BY VERN WORDEN

Youth, today and tomorrow,
Hath always the knowledge of Christ to borrow;
For in their Christ-like steps today
They lead the Christians in the way.

Youth grows old with the march of time,
Being their elders that made these last;
They accept the challenge that they see,
To keep the church firm and the nation free.

Youth grow old with the march of time,
But there are more youth close behind;
Who then must be taught to give their most
To serve the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Youths today, fill many of our church needs;
Youths tomorrow, will carry further their deed.
So look to the future you youthful dreamers,
Christ will always be your souls redeemer.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL—1950

Aitken, Donald, 1926	Crowder, Erma, 1949
Aitken, Mrs. Donald, 1939	Cunningham, Warren, 1946
Aitken, Mrs. Tessie, 1921	Cunningham, Mrs. Warren, 1946
Andrew, Charles, 1910	Cunningham, Dean, 1946
Andrew, Mrs. Charles, 1913	
Axline, Mrs. James, 1943	Demler, Rev. Henry, 1949
	Demler, Mrs. Henry, 1949
Barney, Emil, 1927	Divoky, William, 1944
Barney, Mrs. Emil, 1927	Divoky, Mrs. William, 1944
Barney, Allen, 1927	Divoky, Robert, 1944
Barney, Mrs. Allen, 1947	Drake, Erwin, 1950
Barney, Emil Millard, 1927	Drake, Mrs. Erwin, 1950
Barney, George, 1932	
Barney, Mrs. George, 1932	Easley, Mrs. Luther, 1912
Barney, Harold, 1944	Easley, Gene, 1945
Barney, Mrs. Hannah, 1924	Easley, Joan, 1943
Barney, Mrs. John E. 1938	Easley, Odgen, 1914
Barney, Mrs. Nels, 1924	Easley, Mrs. Odgen, 1907
Barr, Mrs. Leone, 1922	Eich, Mrs. Keith, 1945
Bartlett, Mrs. Mae, 1911	Engel, Floyd, 1934
Bartlett, Harold, 1930	Engel, Marie, 1934
Beggs, Ethel, 1929	Eurich, John, 1930
Bender, Henry J., 1929	Eurich, Mrs. John, 1930
Bender, Mrs. Henry J. 1929	Eurich, Albert, 1930
Bender, Marie, 1945	Eurich, Franklin, 1945
Benson, Raynor, 1945	Eurich, Lyman, 1930
Benson, Mrs. Raynor, 1924	Eurich, Mrs. Lyman, 1946
Billing, Mrs. Sarahett, 1925	
Blanchard, Gilbert, 1946	Farquharson, Mrs. Rosalia, 1885
Blanchard, Mrs. Gilbert, 1946	Flood, Mrs. Ray, 1947
Bode, Bud, 1950	Frankforter, George, 1946
Bode, Mrs. Bud, 1950	Frankforter, Mrs. George, 1946
Bodwalk, Mrs. Basil, 1935	Frankforter, Arnold, 1946
Brown, Wilmer, 1935	Frankforter, Norris, 1946
Brunsen, Diedrich, 1949	Frankforter, Mrs. Norris, 1949
Brunsen, William, 1931	
Brunsen, Mrs. William, 1950	Gallup, Mrs. John, 1912
Buckingham, Mrs. Willard, 1926	Gibson, Arthur, 1930
Bulwan, Mrs. John, 1925	Gibson, Mrs. Arthur, 1930
Bulwan, Ruth, 1948	Gibson, Clyde, 1931
Burford, Mrs. A. D. 1935	Gibson, Mrs. Clyde, 1932
	Gibson, Donald, 1949
Cain, Bertus E. 1947	Gibson, Mrs. Earl, 1929
Cain, Mrs. Bertus E., 1947	Gibson, Charles, 1929
Cogswell, Mrs. Elza 1921	Gibson, Raymond, 1929
Cogswell, Everett, 1944	Gifford, Mrs. Ray N. 1949
Cogswell, Mrs. Evertt, 1944	Greger, Mrs. Jack, 1931
Cogswell, Haskell, 1929	Hager, Wayne, 1947
Cogswell, Mrs. Haskell, 1938	Hager, Mrs. Wayne, 1950
Cogswell, Lester, 1922	Hager, Ruby, 1950
Cogswell, Mrs. Lester, 1931	Hall, Mrs. Gary, 1924
Cogswell, Charles, 1946	Hansen, Jorgen, 1947
Cogswell, Donald, 1945	Hansen, Mrs. Jorgen, 1947
Cogswell, Mary Beth, 1946	Hansen, Myrna, 1948
Collier, Mrs. Harvey, 1930	Hannah, Mrs. Garth, 1929
Combs, Mrs. Paul, 1947	Hardin, Mrs. Bessie, 1929
Conner, Virgil, 1945	Hardin, Bernard, 1929
Conner, Mrs. Virgil, 1930	Harris, Mrs. Roy, 1935
Constantino, Mrs. Ben F. 1930	Henke, Leon, 1950
Cooper, Mrs. Paul O. 1917	Henke, Mrs. Leon, 1950
Crane, Mrs. Hope, 1945	Hewitt, Mrs. G. L. 1922
Crowder, Joseph, 1949	Heywood, A. L. 1928
Crowder, Mrs. Joseph, 1949	Heywood, Mrs. A. L. 1928

Heywood, Hazel, 1941
Heywood, Jessie, 1944
Horner, Mrs. Arthur, 1945
Houser, William H. 1947
Houser, Mrs. William H. 1930
Huber, John, 1927
Huber, Mrs. John, 1927
Huber, Hilda, 1945
Huber, Irma, 1945
Huber, John D., 1935
Huber, Paul, 1945
Humphrey, Libbie, 1901

Jewitt, Ralph W., 1939
Jewitt, Mrs. Ralph W., 1939
Jewitt, Janice, 1946
Jewitt, John, 1950
Johansen, Fred, 1930
Johansen, Mrs. Fred, 1946
Johansen, Floyd, 1929
Johansen, Oliver, 1929
Johansen, Mrs. Oliver, 1926
Johansen, Roger, 1948
Johansen, Willard, 1930
Johansen, Mrs. Willard, 1950
Johnson, J. A., 1930
Johnson, Mrs. J. A. 1930
Johnson, Norma, 1945
Johnson, Homer A., 1946
Johnson, Mrs. Homer A., 1946

Kable, Charles, 1929
Kable, Mrs. Charles, 1929
Kahm, Mrs. Henry, 1943
Kalina, Albert D., 1949
Kinsel, Wilcott, 1947
Kinsel, Mrs. Wilcott, 1947
Kinsel, William, 1947
Klein, Mrs. Charles, 1905
Klein, Lena, 1922
Klein, Henry, 1946
Klippenstein, John, 1940
Klippenstein, Mrs. John, 1940
Klippenstein, John Jr., 1950
Kohout, George, 1935
Kohout, Mrs. George, 1926
Krebs, Mrs. John, 1911
Krebs, June, 1932
Krebs, Mamie, 1903

Ladman, Louis, 1949
Ladman, Mrs. Louis, 1949
Larsen, Ida, 1921
Lawson, E. J., 1930
Lawson, Mrs. E. J., 1930
Lawson, Robert, 1930
Lawson, Mrs. Robert, 1942
Lind, John, 1933
Lindsay, Dana, 1949
Lindsay, Mrs. Dana, 1949
Losh, Clarence R. 1949
Losh, Mrs. Clarence R. 1949

McBride, Mrs. Amzi, 1930

Miller, Harry, 1929
Miller, Vera, 1925
Milligan, Mrs. Elsa, 1944
Milton, Mrs. Myrta, 1930
Milton, Robert, 1930
Milton, Mrs. Robert, 1946
Miner, Alice, 1946
Miner, Esther, 1946
Miner, Reo, 1921
Morris, John, 1929

Nelsen, Mrs. Effie, 1922
Nelsen, Dwayne, 1941
Nelsen, Mrs. Dwayne, 1950
Nelsen, James, 1950
Nelsen, Melvin, 1935
Nelsen, Virgil, 1945
Nelson, H. C., 1925
Nelson, Mrs. H. C., 1925
Nelson, Gilbert, 1925
Nelson, Mrs. Gilbert, 1941

Ondracek, Joe, 1942

Parks, Ervin, 1920
Pollard, Jessie, 1947
Pollard, Mrs. Jessie, 1947

Range, G. F., 1931
Range, Mrs. G. F., 1931
Range, Glenn, 1931
Range, Robert, 1931
Range, Mrs. Robert, 1949
Range, Herbert, 1946
Range, Irvin, 1946
Range, Mrs. Irvin, 1946
Ratliff, Lila Mae, 1946
Roberts, Mrs. Gerald, 1944
Ross, Mrs. Will, 1932
Ross, Raymond, 1932
Ross, Mrs. Raymond, 1947
Roth, Herbert, 1935
Roth, Mrs. Herbert, 1930
Rule, Eugene, 1948
Rule, Mrs. John, 1911
Rule, Ila, 1946
Rule Sarah, 1939
Scammon, Mrs. Lottie, 1907

Scott, Frances,
Searby, Mrs. C. R., 1933
Segner, Matthew, 1932
Segner, Mrs. Matthew, 1923
Segner, Matthew, Jr., 1950
Sims, Mrs. Margaret, 1933
Sims, Bernard, 1930
Spence, Clarence, 1907
Spence, Mrs. Clarence, 1906
Spence, Bertha, 1908
Southwick, Mrs. H. J., 1912
Stewart, Albert, 1945
Stewart, Mrs. Albert, 1922
Stewart, Beverly, 1945
Stewart, Frank, 1919
Stewart, Mrs. Frank, 1930
Stewart, Everett, 1945

Stewart, Mrs. Hugh, 1902
Stewart, Hugh L., 1947
Stewart, Mrs. Hugh L. 1950
Stewart, John, 1896
Stewart, Mrs. John, 1903
Stewart, Merna, 1927
Stewart, Robert, 1924
Stewart, Mrs. Robert, 1924
Stewart, John H., 1935
Stewart, Katherine, 1935
Stewart, Margaret, 1935
Stewart, Robert, Jr., 1935
Surber, Ben, 1944
Surber, Evert, 1944
Surber, Mrs. Evert, 1944
Surber, Betty, 1946
Surber, Roy, 1944
Surber, Mrs. Roy, 1944
Swanson, Arthur, 1940
Swanson, Mrs. Arthur, 1926
Swanson, Edward, 1950
Swanson, Mrs. Edward, 1950
Swanson, Mrs. Alfred, 1930
Taylor, James, 1949
Taylor, Mrs. James, 1949
Teale, Mrs. A. H., 1919
Thompson, Mrs. Elmer, 1946
Thompson, Darlene, 1946
Thompson, Murval, 1947
Thompson, Mrs. Murval, 1927
Vavra, Mrs. Steve, 1927
Vejraska, Mrs. Charles, 1950
Volz, Harry, 1925
Volz, Mrs. Harry, 1917
Volz, Henry, 1931
Volz, Mrs. Henry, 1949
Voss, Donald A., 1949
Voss, Mrs. Donald A., 1949
Vossler, Frederick, 1947
Vossler, Mrs. Frederick, 1947
Vossler, George H., 1933
Vossler, Mrs. George H., 1933

Vossler, Darlene, 1946
Walker, Mrs. Henry, 1944
Walker, Mrs. Roy, 1930
Walker, Frederick, 1939
Walker, Mrs. Frederick, 1942
Walker, Richard, 1939
Walston, Arthur, 1946
Warner, Harold, 1922
Warner, Mrs. Harold, 1929
Warner, Mary, 1943
Warner, William, 1941
Warner, Mrs. Natalia, 1896
Wattles, Donald, 1939
Weber, Benjamin, 1933
Weber, Mrs. Benjamin, 1938
Weber, Fred, Jr., 1933
Weber, Mrs. Fred, Jr., 1933
Weber, John H., 1921
Weber, Mrs. John H., 1921
Weber, Wayne B., 1950
Weber, Mrs. Wayne B., 1950
Wilson, Sam, 1942
Wilson, Gayle, 1942
Wilson, Mrs. Gayle, 1950
Wilson, Rex, 1942
Witulski, Mrs. Donald, 1941
Wood, H. R., 1948
Wood, Mrs. H. R., 1948
Wood, Mrs. R. B., 1909
Worden, Mrs. Mable, 1936
Worden, Vern, 1949
Yokel, William, 1929
Yokel, Mrs. William, 1922
Yokel, Marian, 1946
Yokel, Wayne, 1946
Zieg, Henry, 1925
Zieg, Mrs. Henry, 1924
Zieg, Jacob, 1927
Zieg, Mrs. Jacob, 1927
Zieg, Alma, 1927
Zieg, Alvina, 1927
Zimmer, Mrs. Clyde, 1930

The 1950 Committee charged with the task of revising the Church Membership Roll included the Church Deacons, Deaconesses, Church Clerk, Church Treasurer and Pastor. It is possible that we or the printer may have unintentionally omitted some member's name. If such be the case, please notify Mrs. John Barney, Church Clerk.

MINISTERIAL RECORD

- B. G. Page, June 15, 1875, to June 29, 1878 (3 years)
- Fred Alley, June 1, 1878, to October 1, 1878 (4 months)
- B. J. Chase, November 8, 1878, to June 1, 1879 (8 months)
- Jacob Winslow, October 15, 1879, to March 6, 1883 (3 years and 6 months)
- Orville Clark, July 1, 1883, to May 1, 1885 (1 year and 10 months)
- Sidney Strong, August 18, 1885, to May 1, 1887 (1 year and 10 months)
- Wm. E. Davidson, October 10, 1887, to May 27, 1888 (8 months)
- James Sharret, October 7, 1888, to April 14, 1889 (8 months)
- E. T. Dada, June 14, 1889, to June 14, 1894 (5 years)
- Amos N. Dean, October 1, 1895, to January 1, 1897 (1 year and 3 months)
- Wm. E. Payne, October 1, 1897, to October 1, 1900 (3 years)
- W. W. Hart, October 18, 1900, to April 18, 1903 (2 years and 6 months)
- Perry A. Sharp, June 1, 1903, to June 30, 1906 (3 years and 1 month)
- J. S. Hamilton, October, 1906, to April 14, 1910 (3 years and 7 months)
- Edwin Wright, August 1, 1910, to June 1, 1914 (3 years and 10 months)
- H. H. Price, September 1, 1914, to December 13, 1917 (3 years and 3 months)
- Leon Moore, February 1, 1918, to April 1, 1920 (2 years and 2 months)
- G. R. McKeith, May 1, 1920, to August 31, 1923 (3 years and 3 months)
- Ralph Pinkham, November 1, 1923, to July 29, 1928 (4 years and 10 months)
- Wm. Becker, November 1, 1928, to June 1, 1935 (6 years and 7 months)
- Moore Bell, June 16, 1935, to December 8, 1940 (5 years and 5 months)
- P. Friesen, March 23, 1941, to December 28, 1944 (3 years and 9 months)
- Wm. Becker, March 4, 1945, to November 10, 1947 (2 years and 5 months)
- E. T. Settle, November, 1947, to May, 1948 (interim, 6 months)
- F. E. Stemme, June 1, 1948, to July 31, 1949 (1 years and 2 months)
- F. W. Leavitt, August 1, 1949 to November 30, 1949 (interim 4 months)
- Henry Demler, December 1, 1949 to present

O Church Of God!

IS THIS the time, O church of God, to sound

Retreat? To arm with weapons cheap and b'unt

The men and women who have borne the brunt

Of truth's fierce strife and boldly held their
ground?



Is this the time to halt when all around
Horizons lift, new destinies confront;

Stern duties wait our people, never wont
To play the laggard, when God's will was
found

No, rather strengthen stakes, and lengthen cords.

Enlarge thy plans and gifts, O thou elect,

And to Thy Kingdom come for such a time.

The earth with all its fullness is the Lord's;

Great things attempt for Him, great things expect.

Whose love imperial is, whose power sublime.

—The Challenger.

You are invited

To the Seventy-Fifth Jubilee Celebration of the Founding of the First Congregational Church, Friend, Nebr.

Wednesday, October 11th:

6:30 P. M. Fellowship Dinner in Church parlors for all members and guests. Lay Leader presiding. Marimba music by Elaine Warner.

7:30 P. M. Service in Sanctuary with Rev. Albert Becker of Hastings, Nebraska, as speaker. Miss Mary Warner, organist. Special music including male quartet, vocal duet, piano duet and two numbers by Mary Preston.

Thursday, October 12th:

8:00 P. M. With Rev. F. W. Leavitt, Crete, Nebraska, as speaker. Also a 23 minute sound film in color entitled "We Would Be Building". Special music by Male Quartet, Mrs. Herbert Roth, and organ and piano duet. Marian Yokel, organist.

Friday, October 13th:

8:00 P. M. Service with Rev. Moore Bell of Wray, Colorado, as speaker. Mrs. Russell Leach, organist. Special music by the Gibson brothers, Women's Quartet, Male Quartet, and the Bell family.

Sunday, October 15th:

10:30 A.M. United Service including Sacrament of Holy Communion. Led by church pastor, Rev. Henry Demler, assisted by Rev. Roy Reynolds. Anthems by Church Choir. Miss Marian Yokel, organist.

Final climaxing service at 7:30 p. m. with Dr. Arthur Taylor, minister of the Nebraska Congregational Conference, as speaker. Miss Ila Rule and Miss Lena Klein, organists. This service will include recognitions, letters and telegrams from pastors and friends, an offering for others, choir anthem, women's trio, piano duet, quartet and Marimba music and rededication service.

An anniversary booklet containing the history of the church, pictures, present membership and officers, programs, etc., will be available at the services. Free will offerings will be received.



WELCOME

RESPONSIVE SERVICE OF REDEDICATION (in connection with 75th Anniv. Oct. 15, 1950)

MINISTER: To the glory of God, by whose favor our fathers have built this house; To the honor of Jesus Christ, Son of the living God; To the praise of the Holy Spirit, source of light and life,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER: For worship in prayer and song;
For the ministry of the Word,
For the celebration of Holy Sacraments,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER: For comfort to those that mourn;
For strength to those who are tempted,
For help in right living,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER: For the uplifting of family life,
For the guidance of children,
For the consecration of youth,
For the inspiration of men and women,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER: For wholesome social life,
For joyous fellowship,
For Christian education and training,
For the World Mission of the Church,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER: In grateful remembrance of all who have loved and served this church; with hearts tender for those who have passed on; we give thanks and praise for their work and service.,

PEOPLE: We dedicate this house

MINISTER AND PEOPLE: We now, the people of this church and congregation, compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worthy worship of God in this place and the constant service of God in the Christian service to mankind.