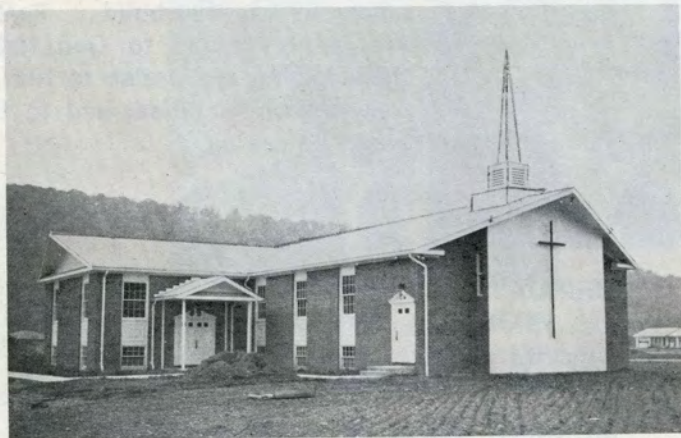


DAY OF DEDICATION

OCTOBER 28, 1973



BETHLEHEM COVENANT CHURCH Warren, Pennsylvania

REVEREND PAUL J. WEBSTER, PASTOR

GILBERT CHECK - CHOIR DIRECTOR

LINNEA CHECK - ORGANIST

Guest Speakers

REVEREND PAUL W. ANDERSON
Executive Secretary of Home Missions

REVEREND HARRY SWANSON
Middle East Conference Superintendent

Sunday Services

Church School 9:45 A.M.

Morning Worship 11:00 A.M.

Dedication Service 3:00 P.M.

Fellowship Hour Following



PASTOR PAUL J. WEBSTER

"Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build . . . Psalm 127:1 We humbly come to God today with thanksgiving and praise to Him, for our new church facilities, and to the challenge before us.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER TWENTY-EIGHTH

Church School 9:45 A.M.
Mr. James Davidson, Superintendent

MORNING WORSHIP — Eleven O'Clock

.....
"O send out thy light and thy truth; let them lead me; let them bring me unto thy holy hill, and to thy tabernacles. Then will I go unto the altar of God, unto God, my exceeding joy; yea, upon the harp will I praise Thee, O my God."
.....

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Prelude and Fugue in A Minor" Bach
CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP
*Hym 27 "What Joy There is in Coming" Runeberg
*INVOCATION and the LORD'S PRAYER
*GLORIA PATRI
WELCOME and CHURCH CALENDAR Rev. Paul J. Webster
ANTHEM "Do You Really Care" Bill Cates
RESPONSIVE READING No. 45
CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER
PRAYER
ORGAN RESPONSE
ANNOUNCEMENTS and OFFERING of TITHES and GIFTS
OFFERTORY
*DOXOLOGY
ANTHEM "How Lovely is This Place" Hayden Morgan
Hym 93 "Great Hills May Tremble" Sandell
SERMON Rev. Paul W. Anderson
Hym 246 "The Sign of the Cross" Ahnfelt
THREEFOLD AMEN
ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Psalm XIX" Marcello

* Congregation Standing



REV. PAUL W. ANDERSON
Executive Secretary of Home Missions

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

Minister:

Dearly beloved in the Lord. We have assembled this Lord's Day to set apart this building to be a house of God. We believe that God has put it into your hearts to erect this church, and we know that the Lord has guided your minds and strengthened your hands for the task. Believing that this house of worship is a gift of God's love, it is with joyful hearts that we desire to dedicate this edifice to its sacred purpose.

People:

We do now with gratitude and joy solemnly consecrate this house of worship.

Minister:

To the everlasting God, our Father, in whom we live and move and have our being; from whom cometh every good and perfect gift; who so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

To Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, who loved us and gave Himself for us in the death on the cross; who rose again and liveth evermore, the way, the truth, and the life.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

To the Holy Spirit, our comforter and guide, by whom alone is wrought the renewal of the heart; who leadeth to repentance; who worketh love; who giveth the new life of faith in the Son of God.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

For worship in prayer and praise; for the ministry of the Word of God and the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ as the Saviour from sin; to the salvation of souls and the upbuilding of the church in the grace and knowledge of our Lord; for the administration of the holy sacraments.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

For the instruction of children and youth in the truths of the Christian faith; for the sanctification of the family; for the promotion of Christian character.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

For comfort to those who mourn; for strength to those who are tempted; for help in Christian living.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

For sympathy and fellowship with the needy; for brotherhood with all men; for the essential unity with all believers in Jesus Christ.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister:

For missionary endeavor at home and abroad; for worldwide evangelism and Christian education, till all the kingdoms of this world become the kingdom of our Lord and His Christ.

People:

We dedicate this house.

Minister and the People:

We now, the people of this church and congregation, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifices of the fathers, consecrate ourselves anew to the worship of God in spirit and in truth, and to the service of our fellowmen in the spirit of Christ, and we dedicate this entire building with all its furnishings and furniture in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

SERVICE OF DEDICATION — Three O'Clock

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Fantasia in C Minor" Bach

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP:

"Enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise; be thankful . . . and bless His name."

Hym 66 "Our Mighty God Works Mighty Wonders"

Swedish Folk Melody

INVOCATION and LORD'S PRAYER

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Great is the Lord"

Herbert

SCRIPTURE READING

I Corinthians 3:8-23

Rev. Harry Swanson, Middle East Conference Superintendent

Hym 553 "All Things are Thine"

Whittier

GREETINGS FROM FORMER PASTORS

ANNOUNCEMENTS and OFFERING

OFFERTORY SOLO

James Eldridge

SOLO: "Forward to Christ" Gib Check

O'Hara

DEDICATION SERMON

Rev. Paul W. Anderson

Executive Secretary of Home Missions

PRESENTATION OF THE CHURCH

Robert LaBar

Chairman of Building Committee

ACCEPTANCE OF THE CHURCH

John Manderville

Chairman of the Church

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Harry Swanson

Hym: "To God be the Glory"

To God be the glory — great things He hath done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin
And opened the Life-gate that all may go in.

Chorus:

Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord,
Let the people rejoice!
O' come to the Father through Jesus the Son
And give Him the glory,
Great things He hath done!

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL AMEN: "Allelujah"

ORGAN POSTLUDE: "Allegro Vivace" (Water Music Suite) Handel

* Congregation Standing

— Fellowship Hour in Social Hall following service. —

THANK YOU

How can we adequately express our gratitude to all the people who have worked so diligently to bring our new church to fruition? We think of the men who worked through the long winter months, rebuilding and refinishing our church pews; those who spent many hours raking and seeding the new church lawn; those who spent countless hours on the phone, tying up loose ends, and of the building committee, who gained much experience in decision-making. Also, we thank those who have helped in the choir today. Most of all, we thank God for the willingness to serve which He has placed in each heart. Thank you, each and every one. May God's richest blessings be yours!

ABOUT OUR CHURCH

Today marks the fulfillment of a dream for many of us. On October 22, 1972, ground was broken for our new church home; and today, just a year later, we are worshipping in this beautiful edifice. It was erected by Olson Builders of South Dayton, New York, at an approximate cost of \$130,000. The style is contemporary colonial.

Our former building was over a hundred years old and had served us well, but was well overdue for retirement. Built in 1866 by the Presbyterians, it was their church home for some 32 years. Under the guidance and zeal of Rev. Frank Nelson, the Swedish Congregational Church (as we were then known) purchased the building from the Presbyterians for the sum of \$5,000. The following pastors have shepherded our flock:

Frank Nelson	1901-1906	P. E. Landerdahl	1943-1946
J. A. Isaacson	1906-1912	David Carlson	1947-1953
N. J. Wessel	1912-1918	P. J. Peterson	1953-1961
A. G. Eklund	1918-1921	C. J. Fredeen	1961-1962*
J. H. Lundgren	1921-1928	F. J. Hagberg	1962-1965
C. H. Peterson	1928-1934	J. T. Johnson	1966- *
J. C. Bengtson	1935-1942	A. F. Hearl	1966-1969
Erik Dahljelm	1942-1943*	P. J. Webster	1969-

* (Interim)

Even as Christ, in Gallilee of old, called to His service two pairs of brothers, so has He honored our church. Raymond Swanson, in the midst of preparation for the ministry, was called to higher service. Harry Swanson serves as superintendent for the Middle East and Michigan conferences. Sheldon Anderson is pastor of the Covenant Church in Richland, Michigan. Daniel Anderson's pastorate is the Miami Covenant Church, Miami, Florida. Terry Reynolds has recently spent nine months in Alaska with radio station KICY.