

## **TIME LINE OF THE TRADITIONS OF TRINITY**

**By Joe F. Weininger**

- 1846 Ohio Synod reports a Reformed Congregation in McCutchenville, Ohio.
- 1854 Reformed and Lutheran interests cease in McCutchenville and a Presbyterian Church begins.
- 1864 South Bend Cemetery (Bethel) founded.
- March 28, 1906 In Salem Church, Seneca Township, by a committee of Tiffin Classis, having plenary power Trinity Reformed congregation of McCutchenville is organized.
- May 6, 1906 Reverend A. C. Shuman preaches the first sermon to the new congregation in the Tymochtee Schoolhouse (Colossians 1:18).
- May 20, 1906 Reverend J. R. Rust preaches the second sermon (Luke 12:32) and the theme was "The Mission of the Church."
- August 26, 1906 The cornerstone is laid for the new building, items are placed in the copper box in a receptacle in the stone and rain causes service to move to the Methodist Church.
- February 24, 1907 First communion service is held at Tymochtee Schoolhouse, Florence Pauline, daughter of Frank J. and Grace Weininger is first child baptized by new Trinity congregation.
- May 19, 1907 New church is consecrated on Pentecost Sunday and adult choir has thirty-one members and youth choir has twenty-two.
- November 1909 Synod evangelist H. S. Stoner conducts two weeks of Evangelistic Church Services and basement drain problems exist.

- 1910 Consistory appoints Charles Weikert to place asbestos above the furnace to comply with state inspector's order.
- March 13, 1910 Jubilee Service to burn financial notes, \$7,716.48 is cost of new church building, money earned from corn huskings, sale day dinners, socials, and pledges, first Bible donated by Mrs. Mary Long.
- 1913-1916 Many new members gained from Salem Reformed Church when it closes.
- 1914 Added a third elder to consistory as a result of large inflow from Salem Church.
- 1915 New lighting in church.
- 1919 128 members and financial difficulties.
- 1920 Added one more elder and one more deacon and balance of \$59 in church treasury.
- 1921 McCutchenville churches attempt to unite and failure of this union results in many new members for Trinity.
- December 20, 1921 Phileathea Class of only women adopts their Constitution. Braca-Phileathea was a national Bible Class movement of thousands of classes across the country in early 1900's.
- 1924 Purchase of manse (parsonage) next to the school.
- 1925 200 members under the pastorate of Rev. Roy Klingaman and Vacation Bible School with approximately 150 campers in new McCutchenville School. (This community tradition lasts for many years.)
- 1928 Gospel Team of Heidelberg College holds services in absence of full-time minister, Rev. Loucks preaches twice a month, Sycamore Reformed Church sends letter requesting union. (We vote no.)
- May 18, 1929 Congregation goes on record of favoring union of Scutch churches.

- 1930's                      Difficult financial times for Trinity during the Depression.
- 1930                        Decide to print and send an information bulletin to each family monthly.
- 1932                        Consistory decides to borrow \$250 from a Tiffin bank to pay off a note at McCutchenville Bank and Rev. Settlege is great with children.
- 1933                        Total budget \$1,495, pastor salary \$1,300 and Rev. Settlege proposed if church would raise the \$400 owed to him by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September he would give back \$100. (He turned in his resignation at next meeting.)
- 1934                        Merger of the Reformed Church with the Evangelical Church, Anna E. Fritz donates bell in memory of Oneida Mae Fritz (bell was from the old Bethel Church), Pastor's salary \$750, church services held every other Sunday and no services in August.
- 1934-1937                Church Sanctuary and Sunday School rooms redecored and painted.
- 1935                        Rev. Lammers promotes families sitting together for church.
- March 1935                Three McCutchenville churches hold weekly joint Lenten services on Thursday night and rear church door blown off its hinges.
- 1937                        Consistory initiates First Harvest Home Festival and Rev. Doerres opposes commercialization of Christmas.
- 1938                        A. S. Peeler hired after second trial sermon and a tie vote after first sermon and consistory to pay minister every two weeks when possible.
- 1940                        Idea of Men's Brotherhood and a new young married Sunday School class discussed.

- 1942 Consistory passed that Trinity have a bulletin every Sunday and would pass communion through the pews.
- January 21, 1942 Sudden death of Rev. A. S. Peeler.
- 1942-1945 Rev. Kissel offers comfort and inspiration in World War II, forty-five men and women from Trinity in World War II and church adopts Eastern War Time.
- 1944 Young people's class grades dirt around new cistern and church, Girl's Guild is active for young girls.
- February 1944 No church services because of scarlet fever epidemic.
- 1945 Last Thanksgiving Dinner by Trinity.
- 1946 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrated by dedicating new altar and Chancel furniture, making our church an altar centered church, first reference to Kum-Join-Us Class and furniture for pulpit (which was made in Tiffin) is hauled by members in Gilliland's stock truck.
- October 13, 1946 First Trinity rose dedicated to birth of Charles Warren Weininger.
- December 4, 1947 Formal organizational meeting of Men's Brotherhood held.
- 1948 22 boxes weighing 378 pounds of clothing shipped to war torn Europe.
- 1949 Women's Guild sends crayons and books to Iraq plus \$100 and Youth Fellowship goes to East Harbor State Park.
- 1952 Old parsonage next to McCutchenville School sold for \$6,200 and new parsonage dedicated, cost of new parsonage and garage was \$13,500, final \$1,500 War Bond cashed to help pay off building of parsonage and garage, the Methodist Church proposes a union with Trinity, (they would come to our building if we would become Methodists), Rev.

Chidester of our Synod recommends against this action and we followed his recommendation.

- August 10, 1952 Installation of Rev. Paul Deppen and Trinity gains 42 new members during his five-year pastorate.
- 1953 Trinity continues to sponsor Fort Wayne Orphan's Home and Sunday School harvests Gier Weininger's crops.
- October 16, 1953 Pioneer Banquet held to bring back early church members.
- 1954 Congregation approves program for \$16,000 to remodel church basement and bulletin board erected in front of church.
- May 16, 1954 100th Trinity rose dedicated to birth of Lynn Dye.
- 1955 Church fair project begins, young adult class renamed Wel-Come-In Class, pastor salary is \$3,300 and Women's Guild serves seven banquet dinners.
- 1956 "The Year of Remodeling", church services are held in Scutch school, entire church remodeled for approximately \$25,000, 256 members and an average Sunday School attendance of 164, stop paying coal bills and start paying gas bills.
- 1957 United Church of Christ born, fair project receipts \$6,654.61, membership 258, Women's Guild furnishes new kitchen, Sunday School picnic at Upper Sandusky Park and Consistory President no longer the minister.
- April 28, 1957 Congregation votes to raise \$21,000 needed for new addition.
- May 17-19, 1957 Fellowship banquet, worship service, and service of rededication to celebrate 50 years of Trinity.
- 1958 Camp Temple Hills dedicated, Trinity has two Women's and four Men's bowling teams, average church attendance 173, total Sunday School attendance of 8,700 for the year and Kum-Join-Us

submits bid to Wyandot County Fair Board to use dining hall, Methodist Church celebrates Centennial and church helps harvest Dick Hayman's crops.

- June 22, 1958 Ordination of Rev. Gene Hegemier.
- August 14, 1958 Picnic and swimming at East Harbor again.
- 1959 New Conn "Artist" organ purchased, Home Service Class collects sales tax stamps, sells greeting cards, makes 120 rag rugs, and peels potatoes to support building fund, goal for 1959 is to reach average Sunday School attendance of 180, an average of 45 Bibles are brought to Sunday School each Sunday and United Church of Christ Statement of Faith adopted.
- January 4, 1959 New Young Adult Sunday School class meets for first time.
- January 11, 1959 202 people worship at Trinity.
- May 1959 Wel-Come-In has first Progressive Dinner.
- 1960 First dart ball team forms, fair project uses four beef, six hogs, 50 hams, a ton of potatoes and 60 people on one shift, fair project receipts \$8,236.88, profit \$4,179.52, Youth Fellowship to St. Louis, 88 enjoy outing to East Harbor and Men's Brotherhood charter adopted.
- 1961 Union of Evangelical, Reformed and Congregational Christian denominations to form United Church of Christ is final with Constitution in force, building project resumes and 58 children receive attendance awards.
- September 24, 1961 Laying of cornerstone for new addition.
- 1962-1963 Mohawk Schools use Trinity for kindergarten classroom.
- January 14, 1962 Dedication of education building at a cost of \$58,000 with fellowship hall, seven classrooms, pastor's study, church office and storage rooms.

- 1963 Adopt the Under Shepherd Plan, 306 members, pastor's salary \$4,800, total church receipts \$13,874.82, four members nominated for one elder position and eight members nominated for two deacon positions and church phone number is 2493.
- 1964 Four youth representatives voted to consistory, congregation declares our policy would be to accept and welcome Negro families and extensive self-study of Trinity under general chairmanship of Mrs. Stanley Hufford and Rev. Hegemeir.
- Results included average nursery roll attendance 12, nursery (2 & 3 year olds) 9, kindergarten 18, primary 12, lower junior 20, junior 18, junior high 19, middle high 24, senior high 10, older young people 15, adults 35, total teachers 24 and total average attendance 192.
- Average attendance at church activities: Family Nights 50, Sunday School Picnic 125, Youth Fellowship Picnic 65, Dart Ball 15, Softball 15, Mother-Daughter Tea 200, Father-Son Banquet 165.
- Purchase rear lots from Hayes Shireman, 62 member increase during pastorate of Gene Hegemeir, Daily Vacation Church School attended by 143 at Scutch School, Lenten services were "Cottage Meetings."
- 1965 Rev. Don Nichols is ordained as minister, final two members of Home Service Class vote to dissolve their organization, average church attendance 142 and youth consistory discontinued.
- 1966 Youth Fellowship to Washington, DC, last year of fair project, profit \$5,848.85, Women's Guild has secret sisters and Wel-Come-In play touch football at parsonage.
- 1967 Parking lot purchased for \$2,300 and cover outside steps.

- 1968 New bell tower and sanctuary renovation, installation of Rev. James Garner, Progressive Dinners common, Pearl Badger continues Cradle Roll, Ruby Kanzig starts to teach Baraca Phileathea class and Trinity sponsors Girl Scout Troop.
- 1969 Caroling by senior Youth Fellowship to shut-ins, Women's Guild continues baskets to shut-ins, funeral and business dinners (U.S. Commission, Bank, Dart Ball, Alumni, etc.), dedicate bell tower, start greeters before and after church and pastor's salary \$5,660.
- 1970 Trip to Maine, no furnace for Christmas Eve Service, total church receipts \$15,368.91, July 4<sup>th</sup> Lawn Fete continues by Sunday School classes, Adult Sunday School teachers are Ruby Kanzig--Baraca Phileathea, Mae Weininger--Kum-Join-Us, and Ruth Shober--Wel-Come-In, Pearl Badger's final year as head of Cradle Roll and association recognizes Pearl Badger as Lay Woman of the Year.
- 1971 Desmond Fund begins, start to sponsor Boy Scout Troop, install new choir pews and average downstairs Sunday School attendance 40.
- 1972 First loan provided from newly established Student Aid Fund and Rev. Garner hired to mow lawn.
- 1973 Rev. Rick Dorsch installed, Men's Brotherhood continues Easter Egg Hunt, Kum-Join-Us continues strawberry and ice cream, pork and sauerkraut, and farm sale lunches, Lowell Sanborn becomes teacher of Wel-Come-In class, young adult class organizes and has first hayride and Nira Beaschler is elected as first woman on the consistory.
- 1974 New sound system for sanctuary and fellowship hall, young adult class serves a Maundy Thursday meal and membership 325.
- 1975 Start of Small Church cluster, Wel-Come-In continues annual hamburger fry and home made ice cream meal.

- 1976 Communion table purchased, joint Thanksgiving Service with three McCutchenville churches, appears to be the last year of the July 4<sup>th</sup> Lawn Fete, Memorial Committee formed, Student Aid Fund discontinued, \$100 Plus Project for the association and 31 people rang church bell to celebrate July 4, 1976.
- 1977 Cease Desmond Fund and established Bishop/Gilliland Fund, new front doors installed, pastor's salary \$9,220, 343 members, more great steak dinners and By Laws changed to allow the consistory to appoint a treasurer.
- 1978 Church general fund goes "in the red," confirmation services continue on Palm Sunday, special steak dinner and gift giving raises balance to \$2,000 by year end, communion set and new piano purchased, Church Night changes from Thursday to Wednesday, Wel-Come-In family picnic at McGuire's in down pour and young adult class becomes Koinonia.
- 1979 Pony Express Stewardship, Neil Gilliland and Mark Bishop ordained and back "in the red."
- 1980 First Advent Hymn Sing, Rev. Jon Coddington installed, Wel-Come-In starts Christmas poinsettias, OCWM (\$4,600) and pastor's salary \$10,000.
- 1981 75<sup>th</sup> celebration, Heritage Room established, new carpet installed, Fireside Fellowships and Family Nights, Presbyterian Church closes.
- February 7, 1981 First Fish Fry by Wel-Come-In Class.
- 1982 New furnace installed, Caring Community Committee first established and Betty Jane Project starts.
- 1983 Chicken Barbeque behind church, Mae Weininger resigns as Kum-Join-Us Class teacher, Baraca Phileathea ceases to exist and joins Kum-Join-Us with teacher Ruby Kanzig and Back Bay Mission,

Fairhaven Home, and Habitat for Humanity adopted.

- 1984 Year starts with the largest membership in Trinity's history of 376 but then lost 44 members that year, reconciliation time for Trinity and new seat padding on pews.
- 1985 First Bratwurst Stand at Sycamore Fest (\$1,452.07 profit) and Tiffin Heritage Festival, Rev. Anne Kear ordained, 12 baptisms, sponsorship of Boy Scouts, LARGE PRINT bulletins start and Accessibility Committee formed.
- 1986 Constitution of Christian Education Committee adopted, Children's Worship initiated by the Barbs (Barb Stover and Barb Traxler), summer service at Camp Trinity and general fund "in the red."
- May 25, 1986 Trinity joins "Hands Across America."
- 1986-1988 Major improvements to sound system as a result of the previous system being stolen, lighting, restrooms, new stage curtains, church sign, and ramp/Elevette installed (approximately \$46,000) and doors to church are locked.
- 1988 New choir robes.
- 1989 Elevette completed.
- 1990 Women's Guild and church financially support youth camping, fire exit in basement installed, Blue Bird Express to Grand Rapids and paid bills as money becomes available.
- 1991 Trinity begins extensive time without long-term ministerial leadership, recycling program begins and pastor's salary \$22,800.
- 1992 New Galanti organ, handicapped signs installed, active children choir begins, new \$7,000 furnace, first Bratwurst Stand at Scutch Fest, St Jude's Bike-a-Thon and OCWM \$7,100.

- 1993 Purchase of new Bratwurst Stand, membership 294, average attendance 95 and 26 children participated in Rev. Hoover's last brown bag Children's Chat.
- 1994 Improvements to sound system, adopt Free Milk Program, Rev. Anne McSherley serves and basement ceiling project starts.
- 1995 Call Rev. Ken Hutchinson, North wall to church collapses and is shorn up by Clouses, Oggs and church members, stained glass windows repaired, install air conditioning, home communion kit purchased and new hymnals (Sing To The Lord).
- 1996 Church picnic at Cole's Campground, replacement of basement ceilings finished, complete tuck-pointing of bell tower, Weekday Religious Education moves to Trinity, Rev. Ward teaches confirmation class, last service for St. Paul Methodist Church of McCutchenville and Children's Church ends.
- 1997 Pave parking area north of church, Family Night replaces Mother-Daughter Tea and Father-Son Banquet, last Bratwurst Stand at Sycamore Summerfest, adopt 10:00 a.m. church time all year round, purchase advent wreath and Rev. Howell begins to serve.
- 1998 French Fry Stand at Scutch Fest, altar wall repaired, reconditioning of pews and padding costs \$14,000 while services held in Fellowship Hall, Senior and Children's Choirs combine for Christmas Cantata.
- 1999 Confirmation to Toronto and Niagara Falls and Caring Community carries on tradition of Christmas baskets for needy families.
- 2000 GOBA stop over on June 19<sup>th</sup>, new furnace installed, Elevelte working (Yea!), Memorial Committee purchases two brass candelabra and oil burning candles, Dart Ball wins Wyandot County Tournament and "2,000 Ark Avenue" is great Vacation Bible School success.

- 2001 Elevette on the blink (again), Vacation Bible School does "Veggie Tales" with 52 campers, Trinity Church Mission Statement adopted, volunteers work Hospice Christmas Tree, financial support of 9/11/01 tragedy and Special Needs and new handicap signs erected.
- 2002 First float in Christmas Parade, outdoor worship at Harrison Smith Park and Prayer Circle continues to go around.
- 2003 Elevette "red tagged" by state, choir joins Sycamore Choirs for Easter and Thanksgiving Services and summer special music continues.
- 2004 Membership 306, average Sunday School attendance 12, Easter Sunrise Service and Breakfast continues and again Women's Guild gives Bibles to Confirmands and gifts to graduates.
- 2005 Sold parsonage for approximately \$50,000, completed new church roof, tuck pointing, and resetting of cap stones and Memorial Committee purchases new Nativity Scene.
- 2006 Confirmation pictures hung in overflow room, Elevette passes "Safety and Load Test" and Trinity celebrates 100 years.