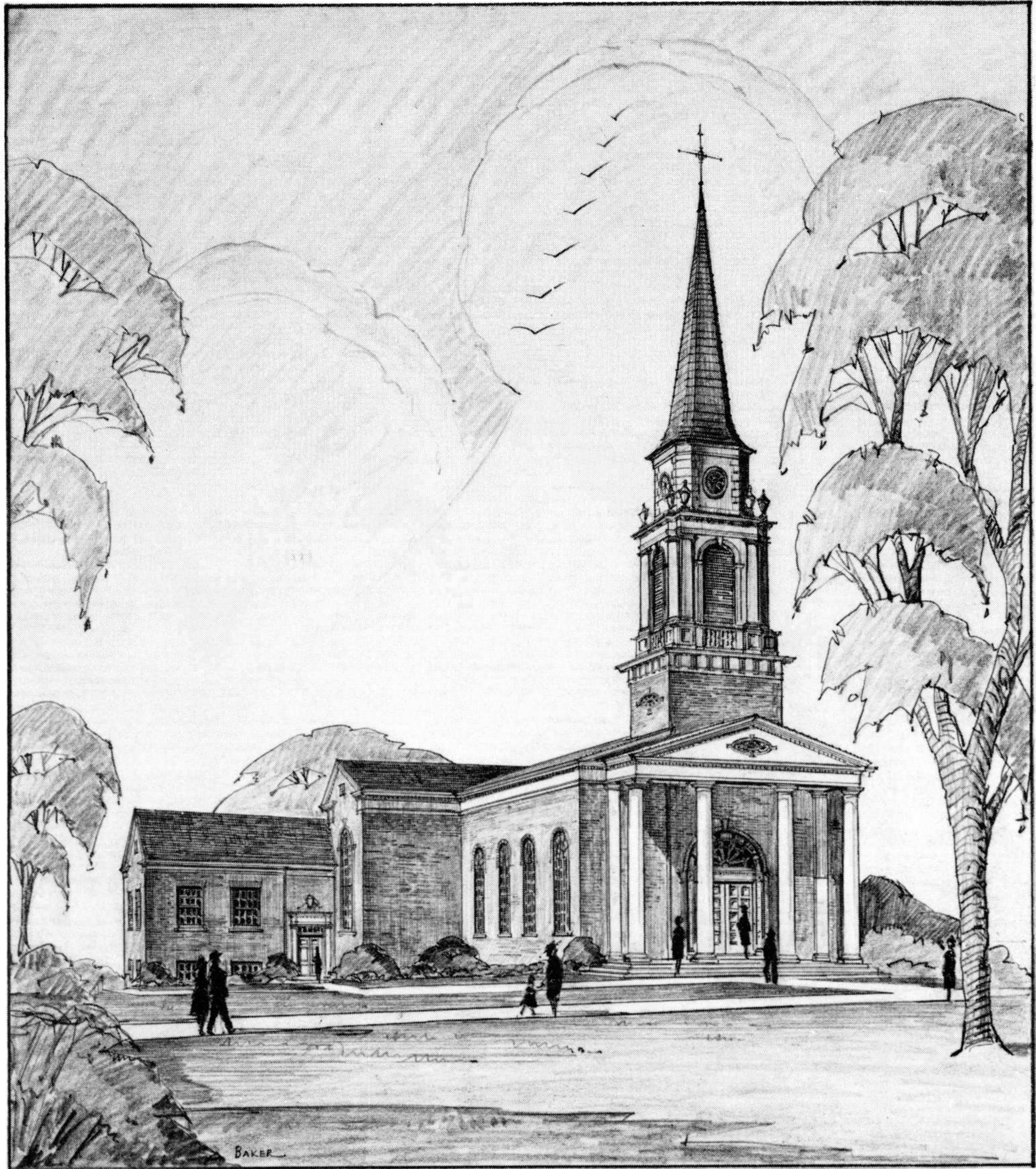


Worthington United Presbyterian Church
of
Worthington, Ohio



One Hundred Seventy Fifth Anniversary
1805 — 1980

*Published by courtesy of the
Endowment Memorial Fund
of
Worthington United Presbyterian Church*

Historical Highlights of Worthington United Presbyterian Church of Worthington, Ohio April, 1980

One hundred and seventy-five years ago in June, 1805 eleven faithful, God-fearing men and women met in the Peter Barker home and organized the First Presbyterian Church and Society of Worthington, Ohio. This date was confirmed by records in the Presbyterian Church archives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was researched by long-time member, Mary Alice Stein, in 1966. The Peter Barker house was razed in 1973 to make way for the 933 North High Street office building.

The Church has maintained its organization from that time to the present. There has never been a time when it was without a Stated Supply* or a pastor. The first minister was the Reverend Mr. Bracken who was appointed in late 1805. The first meetings of the Society were held in the homes of parishioners. As the Society outgrew the homes as a place of worship, it became necessary to secure a larger meeting place. The first location selected was the upper room of the Worthington Academy which had been established in 1808 and which became the Worthington College in 1819. It was where the Worthington Public School administrative offices now are located. The second location was a blacksmith shop which the elders and trustees made ready for services. It was probably located on the ground at the rear of the present church building. The blacksmith shop also became too small as the Society grew. The place of worship was then moved for a short period of time to the small red brick schoolhouse on Oxford Street. For six and one-half years, beginning in January, 1822, services were held (rent free) in the upper floor of the new Masonic Hall, which is now the old building of the State Masonic office buildings on High Street.



* Stated Supply ministers are appointed by Presbytery. Salary is usually paid by the church served. A pastor is a minister who has been installed by the Presbytery to have responsibility for a particular congregation.

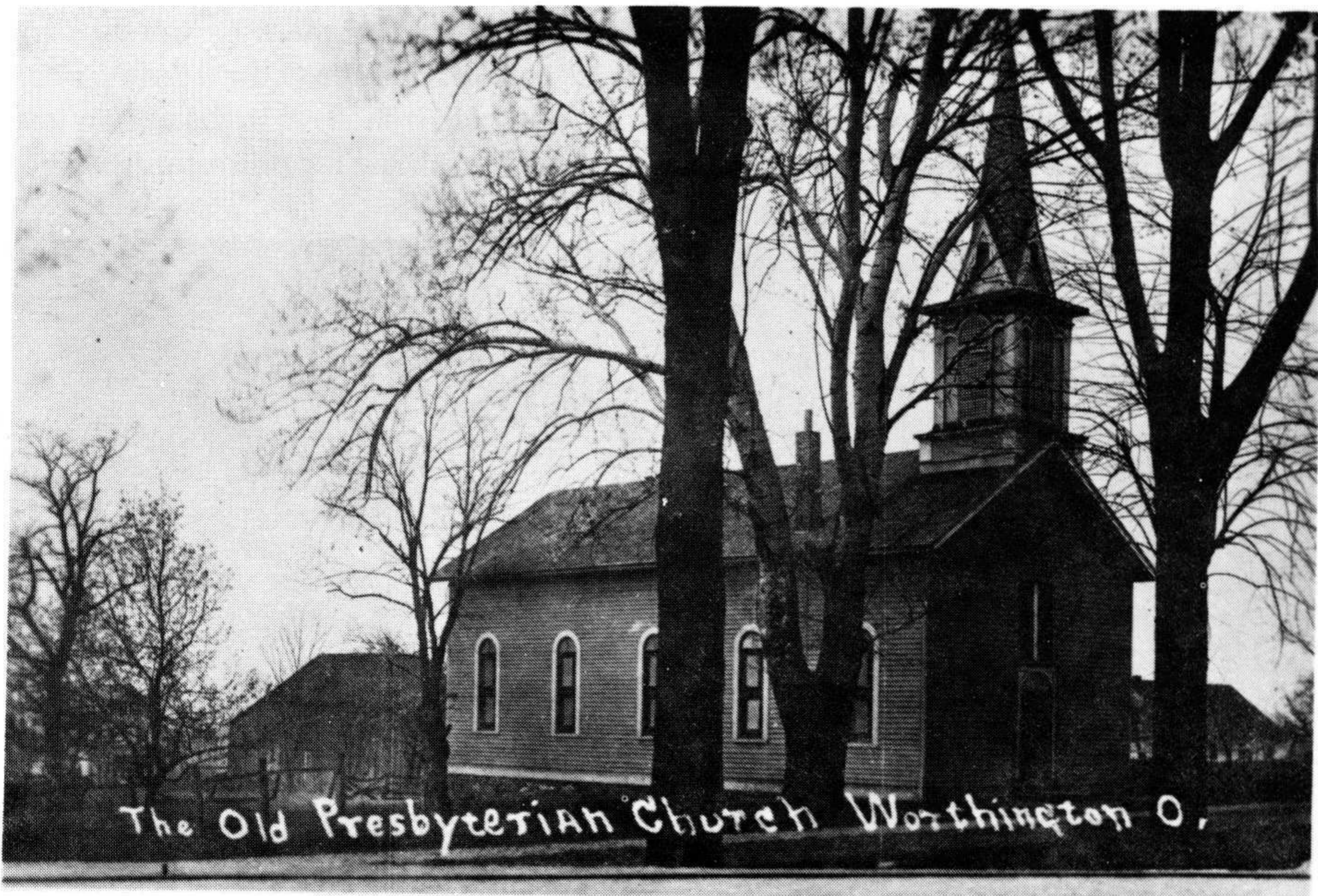
The first recorded examination of Worthington session records by the Synod of Ohio in April 1819 showed 43 members.

The first regular pastor was the Reverend Highland Hulburd who came in 1826. Shortly after his installation, the trustees began planning for a "meeting house", and a lot was purchased. A direct quotation from the deed given to the Church trustees on March 9, 1829 follows:

"Know all men by these presents, that I, James Kilbourne of Worthington in the County of Franklin and State of Ohio, for and in consideration of Forty Dollars received to my full satisfaction of Job W. Case, Samuel Abbott and Kingsley Ray, Trustees of the Presbyterian Church and Society in said Worthington, do hereby remise, release and forever quit claim unto them the said Case, Abbott and Ray in trust for said Church and Society, all the rights, title and interest which I have or ought to have in and to Inlot of the town of Worthington aforesaid Number Seventy and the North half of Number Seventy Two; as may be seen on the plat of said town, recorded in said County."

This deed, signed by James Kilbourne, March 9, 1829, was not recorded until March 5, 1848, and is in the Church files.

Reverend Hulburd made the then long and tiresome trip to the General Offices of the Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia to seek financial assistance. The trip was successful and on Reverend Hulburd's return the "meeting house" was started immediately. It was described by a good Methodist brother; "The Presbyterians are building them a house. It is small and plain without any steeple and looks like a barn." The new "meeting house" was dedicated April 17, 1830. It was located where our present building now stands, and was used as the church sanctuary for the next one hundred years.



In 1831 the membership in the Society was 31. The earliest extant local record of the Church is dated 1832, since the first book of records has never been located.

During 1832 twenty-two new members were added, bringing the total to fifty-three members. The membership was divided into seven sections; they assembled weekly for conversation meetings", each on a different evening and each with its own leader.

The Reverend Alexander Cowan, who was Stated Supply in 1822, returned as pastor in 1838 at a yearly salary of \$500. On May 8, 1838 the trustees gave "liberty to persons living at a distance to erect a horse shed on the south line of the meeting house lot, beginning at east line of said lot". They also authorized a committee to build a "good, substantial board fence around the lot on which the meeting house stands except the west end which may be made of other material deemed suitable."

In 1842 the Reverend Mr. Donaldson was installed as pastor of the Worthington and Dublin Churches. In the same year the "barn-like" building was remodeled. A spire and a balcony were added. A bell was placed in the steeple soon after the construction of the steeple was completed. The two front doors of the original building gave way to a center door in order that a stairway to the balcony could be constructed. For years this balcony was used as a storage place for dishes and other kitchen equipment, but on Sundays it became a place where from one to three Sunday School classes met.

The Sunday School was "reorganized" in December 1844. There is no record of the first Sunday School.

The Church was designated as a non-profit organization under the Ohio General Law of March 12, 1844, and given the corporate name, "First Presbyterian Church and Society of Worthington". The articles of incorporation are on file in the county recorder's office, also in the office of the Ohio Secretary of State.

Dr. Thomas Woodrow (1849-1857), the grandfather of President Woodrow Wilson, was paid a salary of \$350 a year, payable semi-annually. During these early years, a written notice was posted at the door of the usual place of worship two weeks before the annual meeting. In 1850, only one person, and in 1851, only two persons appeared for the annual meeting, so the "old" officers each time held over for another year. In 1852, the trustees "paid \$85 for care of the church, making fires, etc., and a pair of brass candlesticks."

Dr. James Hoge, an early itinerant missionary in Ohio (appointed by General Assembly in 1805), founded the system of presbyteries in Ohio. He served as interim pastor at Worthington in 1857. The Hoge Memorial Presbyterian Church on West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio is named in his honor.

The Reverend Silas Johnson (1857-1861) wrote a historic sketch of the Church in October 1861. This hand-written history is in our files and nearly all of the church history prior to 1831 comes from this document. He said in the manuscript that he got his information from the oldest members of the congregation. This could account for his ascribing 1816 as the founding date.

In the 1860's the church books provide a record of several trials. If members "imbibed too freely" or "lived in a licentious and wicked way" or "abstained from worship service" or "danced, played cards, etc.," they were ordered to appear before the session. They were counseled; and if they "confessed their faults" and "repented" they were put on probation. If they did not appear when cited, they were visited and counseled. If wrong doing still continued they were dismissed from the communion table of the Church.

In April, 1863 during the pastorate of the Reverend J. K. Kost, plans were made for a new building. At that time \$3,820 and land valued at \$500 had been subscribed. The Church records during and immediately following the Civil War are very meager, but it is concluded that due to the War this building was never built.

The Reverend David Kingery (1872-1874) served both the Dublin and Worthington Churches for the salary of \$1,000 per year. In 1874, the Church was mortgaged for \$160 to take care of a claim against it. The trustees sold ten feet off the north side of the church lot two years later for \$160 to pay this mortgage. Twenty feet was sold off the south side of the church lot for \$170 in 1890 to pay the Reverend S. P. Herron the amount owed him.

The One-hundredth Anniversary was celebrated on June 16, 17, 18, 1916. This included a reception at the S. C. Robinson home which is now church property, and three services on Sunday - morning, afternoon and evening. Dr. William Blake Hindman was the pastor at that time. He was an uncle of Hugh Hindman, athletic director at The Ohio State University.

Dr. Edward Milton Page, a retired Presbyterian minister, moved to Worthington in 1923, and was asked to revitalize the church. No services were being held. He accepted the challenge and his success was phenomenal. Under his leadership, preliminary steps were taken and funds collected (\$20,000) for the purpose of enlarging and remodelling the church building. Dr. Page's sudden and unexpected death altered those plans. Long-time member, Mrs. Zoe Brightman, is Dr. Page's daughter. For many years she was the church organist and was active in the church program.

Reverend Tom Penn Ullom was called as pastor in 1926, and under his guidance a new church was dedicated on January 2, 1927. At that time the original church was turned at right angles and moved to the rear of the new part, veneered with matching brick and became the Sunday School Department and the ladies parlor.

The Depression, plus the big debt on the new church, caused financial difficulties. During the Reverend Charles Hunter's pastorate (1930-1937) \$10,000 was borrowed from National Missions, which eased the problem temporarily. During Dr. George Parkinson's pastorate (1937-1943) financial problems became acute. The bonds, sold in 1926 for the building fund, became due and there were no funds to pay. One member, active at that time, recalls that the resolution to save the church from foreclosure was passed by a majority of **one** vote. Foreclosure was averted when a new loan was arranged. The congregation began working hard to liquidate the big indebtedness and during the pastorate of the Reverend Nelson Wright (1943-1949) the church debts were paid and the mortgage was burned on January 9, 1949. This was a dramatic moment for the members who had worked so hard.

In 1932 the session desired to establish a special Christmas service, which might become a tradition of the Church. A committee was appointed to bring in suggestions. Thus, a Moravian Twilight Service was started in 1932 on the Sunday before Christmas and continued annually until 1965. A description of this service follows this history.

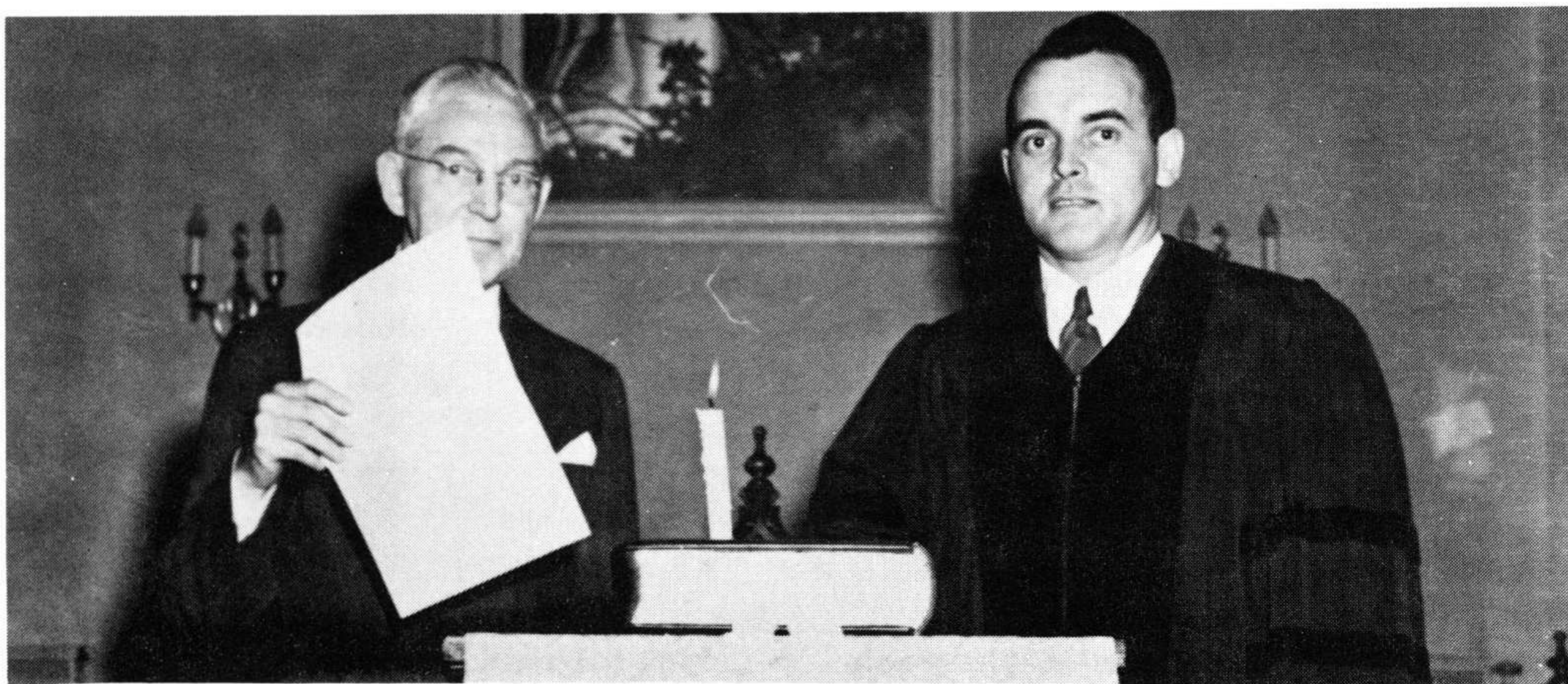
Unprecedented growth of the church and community during the pastorate of Dr. Paul Johnston (1950-1977) caused the following changes in the physical structure of the church. An educational unit with two additions was built and the sanctuary was enlarged. The old church was torn down and the present transepts took its place. The new sanctuary was dedicated September 22, 1959. To provide for possible future expansion, the Lewis, Robinson and Haering properties were purchased in 1965-68, and are currently maintained as rental property. (See diagram page16.)

With the large increases in the congregation the staff was enlarged and today includes the pastor, associate pastor, Director of Christian Education, three part-time musicians, three secretaries, two custodians, a part-time home economist and substantial volunteer help. To these should be added the many elected officers, committee members, choir members, and Sunday School teachers who give untold hours of service without remuneration.

In 1966, the One-hundred Fiftieth Anniversary of the church was celebrated. Three special services were held, at which time two former pastors, Dr. George Parkinson and the Reverend Nelson Wright, and Dr. George Sweazey of Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, St. Louis were guests in the pulpit.

The Worthington Church has been known by various names starting with The First Presbyterian Church and Society of Worthington, Ohio. In 1975 the session deemed it advisable to select an official name and the title "Worthington United Presbyterian Church" was chosen and filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Ohio, January 16, 1975.

Through the years the Worthington Church has been involved in the formation of three other Presbyterian Churches in this area; they are the Dublin, St. Andrews, and Highland Churches.



Mortgage Burning — Oscar Peterson and The Rev. Nelson Wright

Dr. Lorrin Kreider was called by the congregation to become its senior pastor in November 1978. To serve the growing needs of the congregation, specialized adult, youth, and music groups are active. All of the present groups and their activities are outlined in pages following this history.

Today the outreach of the congregation into the community is evidenced by the cooperation of its members and leadership in community organizations, such as the Worthington Pastors' Association and the Worthington Community Service Committee (with which the deacons work). The facilities of the church building are used by a dozen or more community groups.

With joy and thanksgiving we celebrate 175 years of this church's history. We rejoice in the thought that thousands of people of all ages have served God by dedicated service to this church and have grown as Christians by participating in its life. We give thanks in the knowledge that the true creator, sustainer and protector of our church has been God. We are confident that, if we are faithful to Him, He will continue to bless this band of His People who gather for worship on the northwest corner of the Worthington Green. So, we look to the future with fresh commitment and bright hope.



MINISTERS

1805-	S.S.	The Rev. Mr. Bracken	1868-1869	H. Bartholomew
1814-	S.S.	The Rev. Mr. Cunningham	1870-	S.S. M. D. A. Steen, D.D.
1817-	S.S.	Ebenezer Washburn	1872-1874	David Kingery
1819-	S.S.	John B. Whittlessey	1875-1878	Charles Pelton
1822-	S.S.	Alexander Cowan	1878-1882	J. L. Gage, D.D.
1824-	S.S.	Stephen Lindley	1882-1883	S.S. Charles Lee
1826-1830		Highland Hulburd	1885-1886	S.S. Robert L. Armstrong
1831-	S.S.	James Wells	1888-1893	S. P. Herron
1832-	S.S.	Henry Wells	1893-1894	John Bliss
1833-1834	S.S.	James Labaree	1894-1905	H. P. MacAdam, D.D.
1834-1835	S.S.	The Reverend Highby	1906-1908	Campbell L. Mackay
1835-1837		Simeon Woodruff	1908-1912	William Hooper Adams
1838-1839	x	Alexander Cowan	1913-1917	William Blake Hindman, D.D.
1839-1842		Timothy Stearns	1917-1919	David E. Craighead
1842-1846		John Donaldson	1920-	S.S. Eugene P. Edmonds
1846-1847	S.S.	S. K. Hughes	1921-1923	Hamilton B. Williams
1849-1857		Thomas Woodrow, D.D.	1923-1925	Edward Milton Page, D.D.
1857-	S.S.	James Hoge, D.D.	1926-1930	Tom Penn Ullom
1857-1861		Silas Johnson	1930-1937	Charles Hunter, D.D.
1861-1862	S.S.	James H. Gill	1937-1943	George Parkinson, D.D.
1863-	S.S.	J. K. Kost	1943-1949	Nelson J. Wright
1865-1867	S.S.	J. D. Howey	1950-1977	Paul W. Johnston, D.D.

1953-1958	Etta F. Kibler, Assistant to the Minister
1957-1959	John T. Mathison, Assistant Pastor
1959-1964	Homer McMillen, D.D. Minister of Membership,
1960-1962	Robert McQuilken, Minister of Education
1962-1964	Robert Spellman, Minister of Education
1965-1967	Norman DeWolfe, Minister to Adults & Youth
1965 (July to Nov.)	George W. Kincheloe, Minister of Membership
1966-1967	Wilbur R. Closterhouse, Associate Pastor
1967-1980	Charles B. Robinson, Associate Pastor
1970-1977	William I. Johnson, Associate Pastor
1974-	Louis M. Swartz, Interim Senior Pastor
1977-1978	Raymond F. Kent, Interim Senior Pastor
1978-	Lorrin A. Kreider, S. T. D., Senior Pastor

S. S. Stated Supply

x Alexander Cowan was a Stated Supply in 1822 and became a regular pastor sixteen years later.

All other ministers were regular pastors.

MEMBERS FOR 50 YEARS OR MORE

Name	Membership Date
Mr. Arnold Wright	January 17, 1915
Mrs. Charlene Neds	June 30, 1918
Mrs. Helen Smith	December 22, 1918
Dr. Fred Schaeffer	March 26, 1922
Mrs. Zoe Brightman	January 11, 1924
Mr. Gordon Silcott	January 11, 1925
Mrs. Virginia Silcott	January 11, 1925



The Endowment Memorial Fund

With the proliferation of memorial funds for deceased members and legacies left to the church it seemed wise to establish a unified fund to be administered by a committee appointed by the session. This was accomplished early in 1970.

Specific guidelines are outlined for the administration and use of the income from the funds; provisions are made to insure that each gift or bequest be used as the donor specifies. For this reason there are three categories - unrestricted, restricted, and designated - into which the funds are divided.

The income is to be used for the purpose of further advancement of the Kingdom of God through the Worthington United Presbyterian Church in all its activities. Specifically stated as acceptable projects are: contributions, scholarships or loans to persons entering the ministry or training for it; support of Christian colleges and theological seminaries; special memorial furnishings or church programs; and benevolences - local, national or worldwide.

In 1979, 84% of the funds distributed were given to causes classified as benevolent, and 11% were used to establish memorials in the fund for each member of the church deceased during the year.

The printing of this historical booklet was financed by the Endowment Memorial Fund.

The Moravian Service (1932-1965)

A unique feature of the Worthington Presbyterian Church during the mid-20th century was a twilight, candlelight service conducted on the Sunday before Christmas in the sanctuary. In 1932 (five years after the dedication of the first brick structure) three members, Mary Alice Stein, Vance Smith and Zoe Brightman, were appointed a committee to visit and study various Christmas services in other churches and to recommend one which could become a tradition for our church. They proposed an adaptation of the Moravian Love Feast Candlelight Christmas Service, and this was observed annually from 1932 to 1965 - although in the later years, so many changes occurred that it had largely lost its Moravian characteristics. With the enlarged congregation two consecutive services were held and the twilight setting was lost for the second service.

In a setting of undecorated live Christmas trees and live evergreen wreaths with only red or white ribbon streamers, the organist played carols as the congregation gathered at twilight. The only light was the large, tall "Jesus" candle on the communion table in front of the centered pulpit. As the bell was rung white-robed young people took light from the Jesus candle and lit the candles in the windows. The choir began singing in the dining room and continued as it processed down the center aisle, carrying candles, to its section behind the pulpit. Carol singing by congregation and choir, a short message by the minister, a Christmas offering, white gifts for the needy presented by the Sunday School children, and the distribution of small beeswax candles to the congregation by pairs of children carrying trays of lighted candles brought the service to its climax when the minister read:

"Lord, the road is long and dark the way;
I lift an unlit candle in the night;
Touch it to flame with thine own Heavenly light.

This slender waxen thing which is my faith,
Fire it, Lord with some divine white spark
Until its circle widening at my feet
Will light my certain way across the dark.

Thou wilt light my candle;
Thus assured I shall go forth;
The way can never grow too dark too long,
For I shall bear Thy light within my hand."

As he read the last line he raised a lighted candle saying: "Jesus said, 'I am the Light of the World.'" At that instant the lights were turned on, the organist struck the opening chord of "Joy to the World," and the congregation spontaneously rose singing the hymn. Many left the sanctuary carrying their lighted candles into the deepening twilight.

Hand Bells

In 1963 the Donald Shawver family purchased 2 octaves (25 bells) for the church in memory of their daughter, Signe June. In 1967 the Charles Harding family gave a third octave (12 bells) in memory of their daughter, Jennifer. In 1980, a fourth octave (12 bells) is being given by the William Marquardt family in memory of William Marquardt.

Memorial Carillon

The Harry Dufford Spangenberg, III memorial carillon is a twenty-five note instrument designed to duplicate the performance of the finest cast bells produced by old world craftsmen in centuries-old founderies in Europe. The carillon may be sounded from the tower or in the sanctuary individually or simultaneously. In addition to these features, the carillon plays the Westminster Chime tune and sounds the hours. The four bar "Westminster" Chime tune which has marked the passage of time through the years is traditionally associated with the lines:

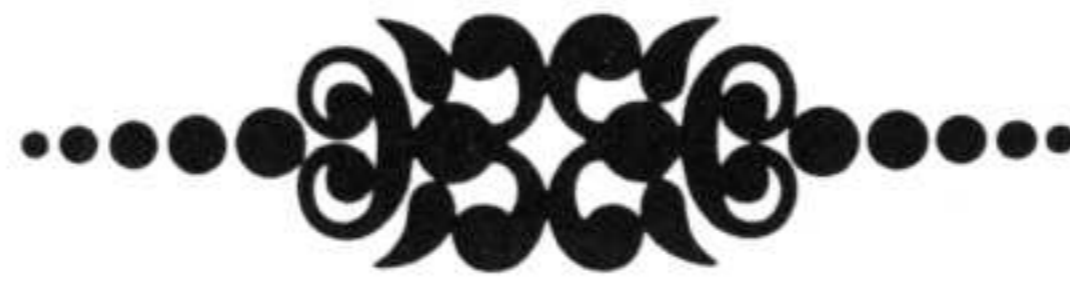
“Lord, through this hour,
Be thou our guide,
That by Thy power,
No foot shall slide.”

This was given to the church at the time of remodeling in 1959 by the Harry D. Spangenberg, II family in memory of their son, Harry Dufford Spangenberg, III.

The Organ

The present organ is an outgrowth of the church's first instrument, an Estey, two-manual organ with ten stops. The chamber was located on the south side of the chancel. When the sanctuary was expanded in 1959, the A. W. Brandt Company of Columbus, Ohio contracted to add eight ranks of pipes, thus enlarging the great organ to six stops, the swell division to nine stops, and the pedal to three stops. The original tubular pneumatic action was changed to electric pneumatic action, and an additional chamber was built on the north wall to encase the great organ. In 1975, the number of stops was again enlarged so that the chambers now house twenty-six ranks of pipe. At this time the organ was prepared for future expansion when that becomes desirable. With the latest modifications, the organ can produce the tonal color needed to perform organ literature from many periods of church music and the congregation is fully supported in its hymns of praise to God.

ADULT CHURCH GROUPS



United Presbyterian Men

Records of the Men's Club are sketchy but it has been verified that there was such a club in existence in 1942. In the 1950's the National Council of Presbyterian Men was organized and in 1951 a chapter was chartered in Worthington. One of its members served as President of the Council in the Columbus Presbytery and was active in helping other churches charter chapters. National meetings were held annually and the Worthington chapter regularly sent delegates.

The purpose of the organization is to help the men of the Church to become more closely associated with the program of the Church, to encourage service with time and talent, to sponsor Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, and to support these and other projects with monetary contributions. Currently, the official name of the group is United Presbyterian Men.

Women's Association

In the late 1930's and early 1940's the Women's Missionary Society and Ladies' Aid were not attracting the younger members of the Church and had lost its dynamic leadership. About this time the women of the Presbyterian Church were organizing on a national basis and were having national meetings. This movement reached the Worthington women and the Women's Association was born. It has maintained its ties with the national organization and is a vital group, working in many areas of church life - locally, nationally, and worldwide. Much of this is accomplished through the six circles which meet monthly for study and action. Six members attended the National Triennial Meeting of United Presbyterian Women at Purdue University, July 1979.

Woodrow Guild

Fifty years ago a group of younger women in the Church came together in an organization they named the Woodrow Guild in memory of the late Rev. Thomas Woodrow, grandfather of President Wilson. It was community-minded but, from the beginning, also took a special interest in doing things for the local church. When the financial crisis of the 1930's and early '40's occurred in the church, the Guild was intensely active in raising money to help save the church building. Their publication of two books, **Shedding Light on Worthington** and **Key to the Cupboard** indicate the lengths to which they went to raise money when it was so desperately needed. Today, fifty years old, the Guild is still assuming an active role in serving the needs of the local congregation and its building.

Presbymates

Presbymates Couples Club was formed late in 1960 by four couples in the church. For two years these people met once a month and contributed time and energy to many work projects. The group has grown over the years; for the first ten years the efforts were work projects at the local church and at Geneva Hills Camp. It is now a social and service club.

Geneva Fellowship

Three Geneva Fellowship groups were started in the late 1950's. Two of them, the Davies and Denison branches are still in existence and two others, the Alom and Trinity branches have been organized more recently. The fellowship in these groups must be akin to that of the "conversation meetings" organized in 1832 in this church under the Rev. Henry Wells. Meeting in the homes of members, the groups study and discuss various subjects as they relate to Christian life and faith.

Bible Study and Intercessory Prayer Groups

Through the years Bible study and intercessory prayer have been a vital part of the life of the congregation. Recent years have shown an increased interest and numerous clusters have been formed for these purposes. The influence of this serious interest has been felt widely and has doubtless led to a greater involvement on the part of many members in the life of the congregation and its many avenues of service.

Partners in Education

Partners in Education, a program of the Presbytery of Scioto Valley, began to function in October of 1979, after several years of being a dream. It is funded entirely by Major Mission Funds and provides two different kinds of services to all the churches in the Presbytery. One: There are teams, called P.I.E. staff, who are able to work with groups and individuals in their own local setting, on a variety of subjects from "Continuing Education for Session Members" to "How to Tell a Story". Two: There is a resource center located in the education offices of the Worthington United Presbyterian Church, which houses and distributes all kinds of materials for use in the local churches. The cooperation and support of this church, its congregation and staff, have been instrumental in making this project a reality.

Solos

Sensing the need for friendship and support for persons living alone, in 1966 several women came together to form an organization to meet this need. The impetus for the organization came from women of the Presbyterian Church but membership has always been open to anyone who felt at home in the group, and through the years persons of numerous faiths have enjoyed the

fellowship of Solos. With fifty plus names on the roll, it is not unusual for two-thirds of the membership to attend the Sunday afternoon tea or potluck dinner and program. From time to time various other activities are planned, such as, game nights, theater-dinner parties or picnics.

Mother's Day Out

Mother's Day Out began in September of 1978 as a mission outreach program of the church. The objective is to give parents, especially mothers, several hours of freedom from responsibility for their children, knowing that they will be cared for lovingly by well-prepared teachers. The balanced activities are planned with attention to the children's ages and abilities. The fee for this program covers teachers' salaries and operating costs. Several scholarships are given according to need and this money comes from donations to a special fund. The average attendance is between 40 and 45 with 9 teachers. The church is a busy, happy place for four hours every Friday.



YOUTH CHURCH GROUPS

The Covenant Core

The Covenant Core is the committee which plans and coordinates all the activities concerned with youth ministry in the church. It is guided by the Christian Education Commission and its membership is composed of youth and adult representatives from the Session and congregation. This plan is based on the model of youth ministry developed by the denomination, approved by the 189th General Assembly, and adopted by the church in the fall of 1977. At the core of the youth ministry is a new covenant community dedicated to sharing self-giving love with others, and in particular with the youth of the church. Activities of the Presbyterian Youth Fellowship (7th and 8th grades) and the Senior High Fellowship are a part of this committee's responsibility. At the close of the 1979 the Covenant Core had four youth and nine adult members.

The Sunday Church School

Sunday School as an instrument for religious instruction is older than this church. The indications are that a Sunday School was organized in the early years of the Church and operated under the customary format of superintendent and volunteer teachers. During the last fifty years, the observance of Children's Day has been a high point in the Sunday Church School year.

When the growth of the Church brought the need of a full time Director of Christian Education, the format changed and programs for training teachers and improving curriculum were carried out.

Today the Sunday Church School holds sessions for all ages. Beginning in the fall of 1978 the material resources used have been "Living the Word." This is one approach from the Christian Education - Shared Approaches system, produced by the cooperative effort of twelve denominations, of which ours is one.

Choir Plus

Choir Plus, a name adopted in 1979, is the successor to the Thursday Education Program which was started in the early '70's. It is held each Thursday afternoon during the school year and provides choir rehearsals, classes and supper for children in grades one through six. Beginning in 1979 the program was planned and implemented in cooperation with the Worthington United Methodist Church. During the year several joint celebrations are held. The program will conclude with the presentation of a children's musical to both congregations.

Worthington Nursery School

Worthington Nursery School opened its doors for the first class of three- and four-year-olds in September 1965. The school operates as a non-denominational pre-school which carries out its educational philosophy through the goals of providing early steps in cognitive, affective and experiential learning. Currently there are 152 children enrolled from the Worthington, Dublin and Columbus areas.

Vacation Church School

Vacation Church School is a continuing tradition in the Church. There were years in the past when it was conducted as an ecumenical project in the community and extended over a period of two weeks with half-day sessions.

Since 1975 a one-week Vacation Church School, with a daily schedule from 9:30 A.M. to 2:00 P.M., has been provided for boys and girls who have completed Kindergarten through eighth grade. This program has taken place in late July or early August. Material resources used have been from the cooperatively produced Vacation Venture series.

Scout Programs

For more than thirty years the church has been sponsoring Boy Scouts. A Cub Scout Troop has been added and at present a Girl Scout Troop and Brownie Troop are being sponsored by the church. The Boy Scouts have been self-supporting and have contributed services and material aid to the church. The Girl Scouts have helped with food for the food pantry and made toys for Children's Hospital. These 120 or more young people have been led by dedicated leaders who help them relate to the church and its values and activities.

MUSIC GROUPS

The church choir of volunteer singers with volunteer directors and organists has a long history in the Worthington United Presbyterian Church. Through the years various children's and youth choirs have been organized and led by interested and capable adults. In the mid 1940's the first paid choir director was employed.

In this 175th anniversary year three choirs - chancel (adult), chapel (grades 4, 5 and 6), and carol (grades 1, 2 and 3) regularly participate in worship services and special events. The chancel choir performs major works, such as Vivaldi's Magnificat or Faure's Requiem, occasionally through the year.

The Bell Choir was organized in 1963 and since then has become an important part of the music program of the Church. It participates in Sunday morning worship, at Christmas Eve services, and at community activities.

These groups carry a very significant role in the service and mission of the Church.

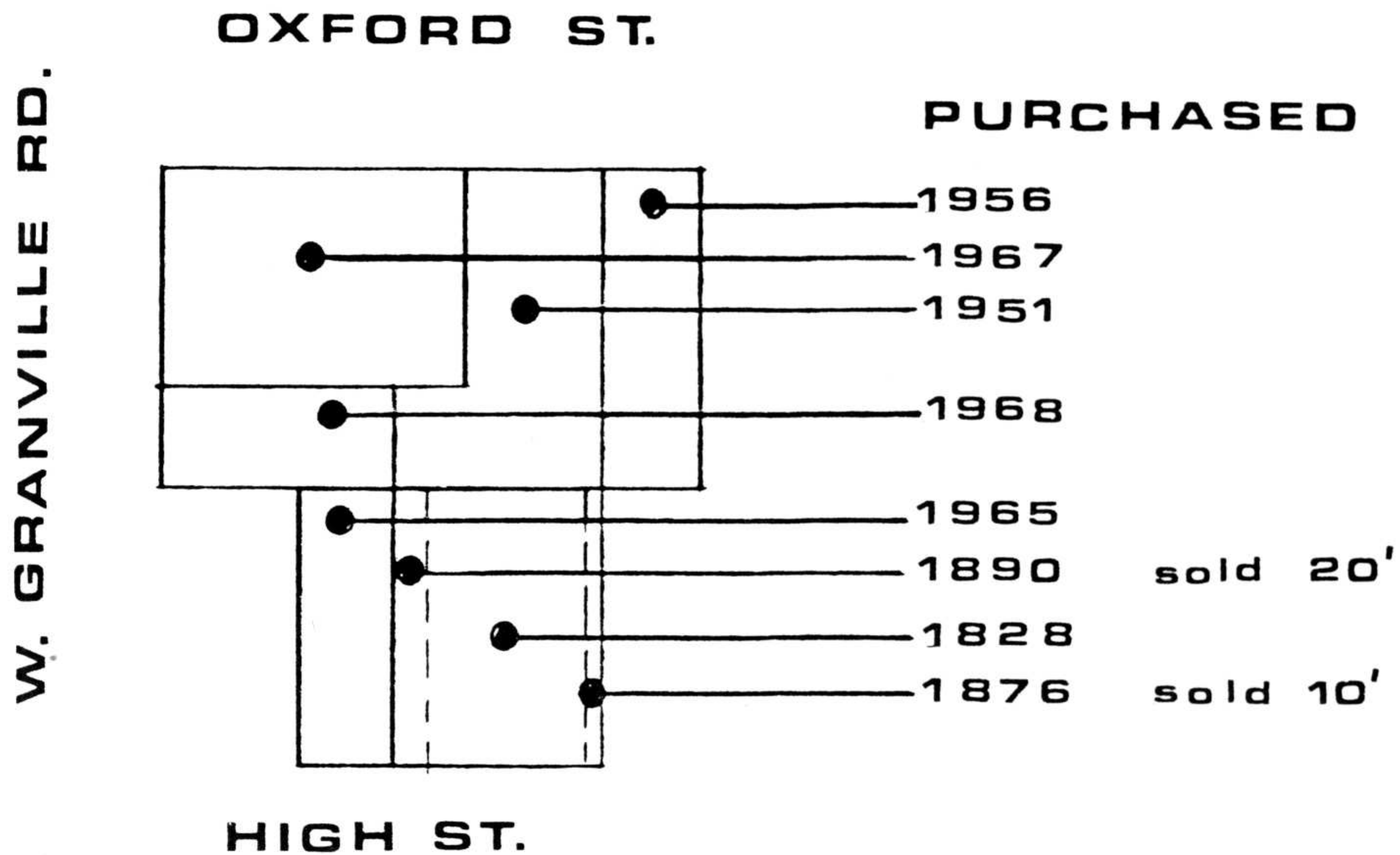
Growth of The Worthington United Presbyterian Church of Worthington, Ohio

Year	Population of Worthington	Communicant Members	Sunday School Members	Benevolences
1805	100	11	*	
1810	150	*	*	
1820	*	42	*	
1830	317	30**	*	
1840	359	45**	*	
1850	483	50	60	
1860	355	90	*	
1870	*	*	*	
1880	459	80	60	
1890	341	51	65	\$ 10.00
1900	443	112	90	*
1910	547	82	109	12.00
1920	705	65	90**	10.00
1930	1,239	114	115	292.00
1940	1,569	217	135	345.00
1950	2,141	603	430	2,475.00
1960	9,239	1,643	909	25,783.00
1970	15,326	2,075	1,085	53,248.00
1979	19,000**	1,704	415	71,590.00

** Approximation

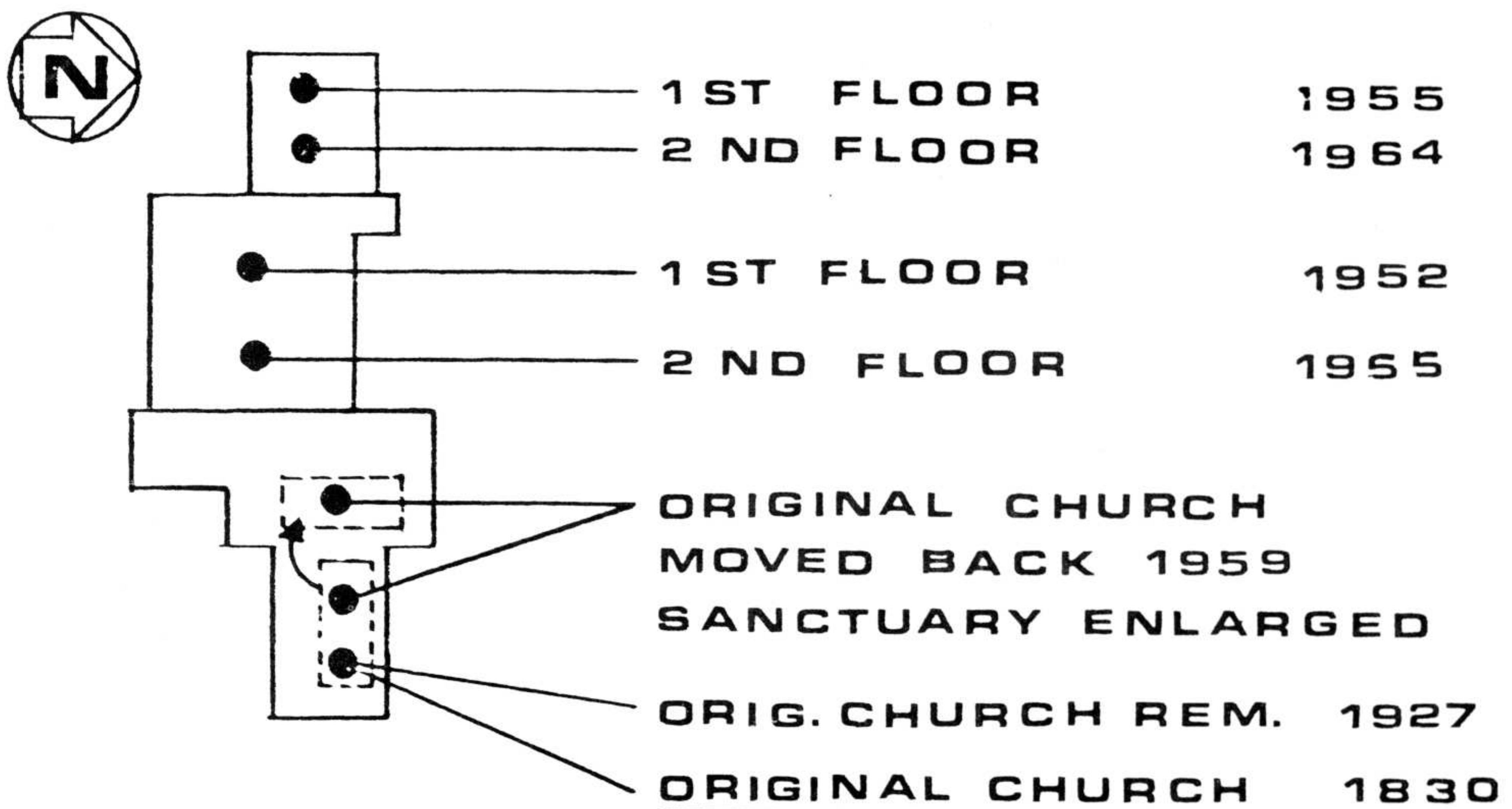
* No information available

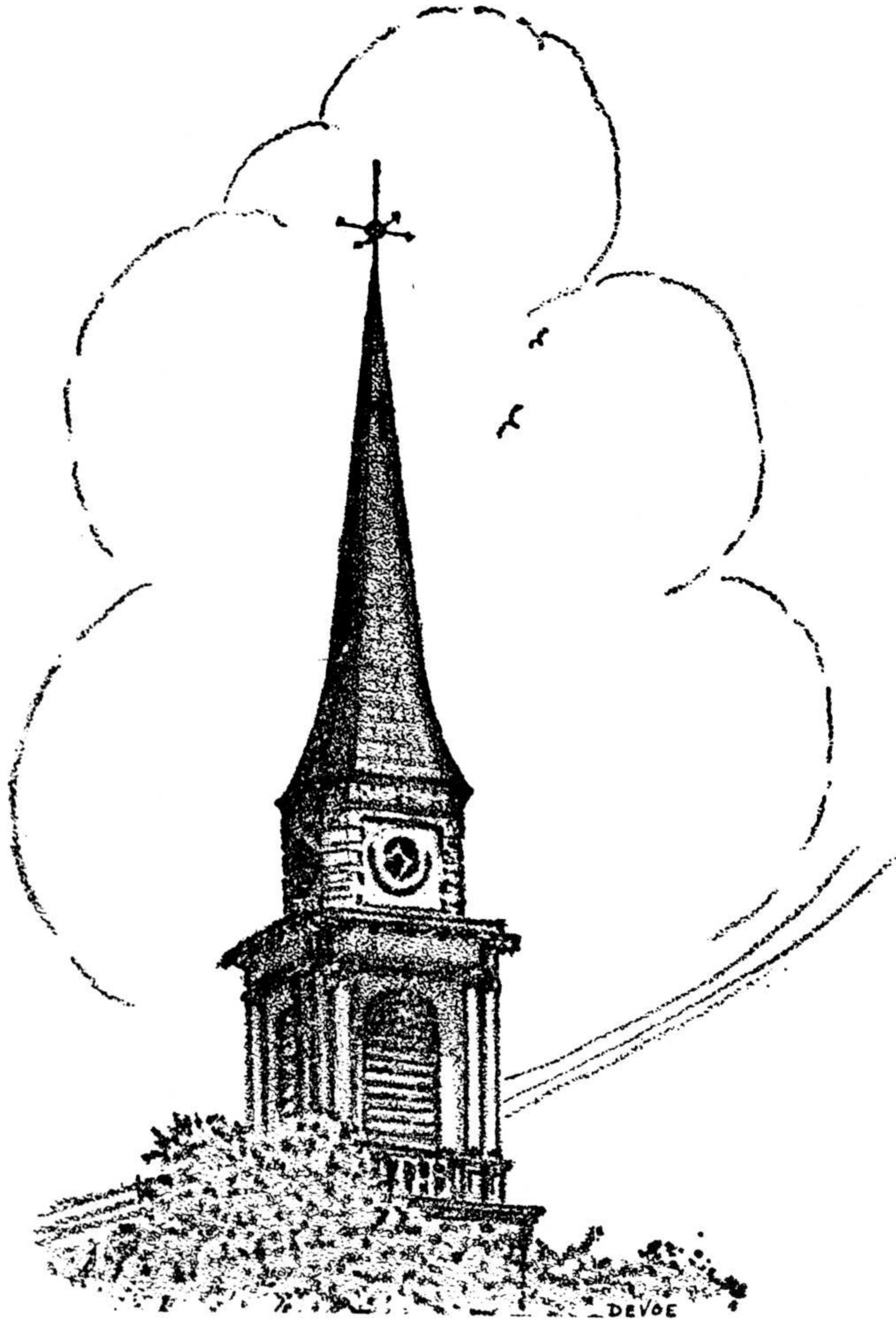
WORTHINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



LAND PURCHASE MAP

BUILDING CONSTRUCTION





"Tower In The Sky"