

# **Rev. Dr. L. Valmore Hetrick**

Tenure 1920 – 1925



- ❖ Conducted 12 funerals during his first 10 1/2 months at Grace Church.
- ❖ 1920 – Ladies Aid Society supports Hoffman Home.
- ❖ Reorganization of Church School.
- ❖ 1922 - parsonage improvements such as: installation of hot water heating plant, water heater, bathroom.
- ❖ Recognized Civil War veterans with special church service.



**Front Seated:** Pricilla Friedly Leiter, Blanche Grove Witmer, Marie & Pat Gillan, \_\_\_\_\_, Amy Shank Henneberger, Ruth Henneberger, Bessie Henneberger, Freda Hykes, Katherine Fuss Koser, Mildred Lear Toms, Mabel Hagerman.

**Standing second row:** Blanche Gluck Maugans, Viola Barnhart, Cora Eshelman Witmer, Olive Shook, Margaret Rahauser Nicodemus, Nora Gilland, Pearl Dietrich, Sarah Gordon Hoffman, \_\_\_\_\_ Grove, Katherine Braumbaugh Bemisderfer, Chalmers Omwake, Dr. Theodore Herman, Isabel Reymer, Edith Greenawalt Finafrock, Margaret Goetz, Maisie Hoke Yuengling, Effie Young, Mary Gordon Coffey, Bertha Rahauser, Dorothy Sellers.

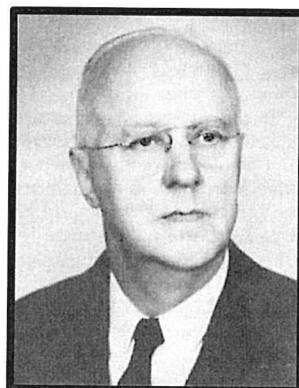
**Third Row:** Mr. R. Snyder, \_\_\_\_\_, Mary Crunkleton Carbaugh, Verna Koser, \_\_\_\_\_ Greenawalt, Lottie Henneberger Diehl, Nell Snively Omwake, Katherine Johnson?, Mary Rhodes, Nellie Grove, Florence Henneberger, Ruby Stine Showalter, Mary Wilt Snively.

**In doorway:** J.Ed Omwake, John Henneberger & J. Durbin, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, A. Neil Brumbaugh

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## **Rev .George E. Plot**

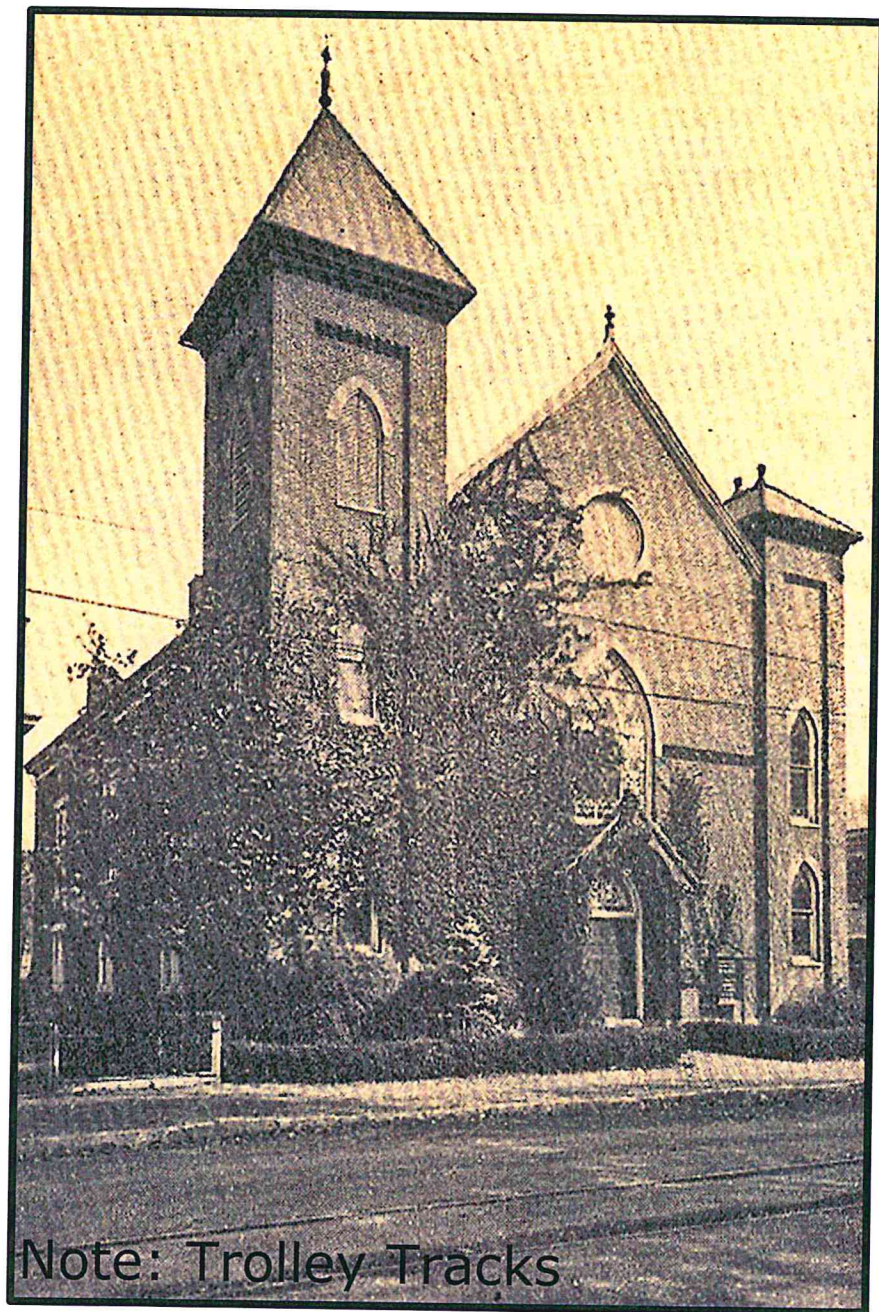
Tenure 1926-1948



- ❖ Weekly offering envelope system adopted.
- ❖ Began yearly pledge system of every member

- ❖ 1928 - Two car concrete block garage replaced stable at rear of parsonage lot.
- ❖ 1930 – Major renovations: Church walls frescoed, new electric fixtures, rest rooms stalled, cellar excavated and concreted and new heating plant install.
- ❖ 1934 – Evangelical and Reformed Church formed by the merger of Reformed Church in the US and the Evangelical Synod of North America.
- ❖ 1935 - Purchased the first choir gowns and the first Junior choir gowns made by members of the church.





Note: Trolley Tracks

Grace Reformed Church 1930  
Minister: Rev. George Ermine Plott

**Chaplain, Lt.  
Colonel, USAF,  
Harold Bonner**

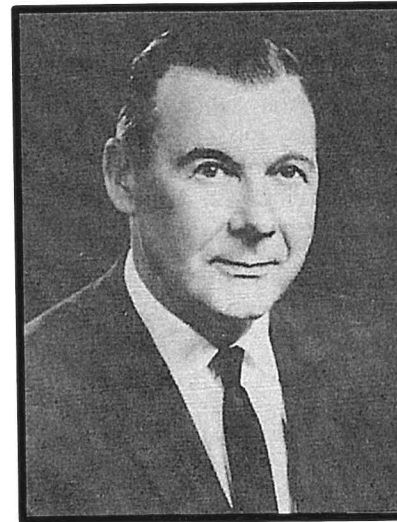
Tenure 1948 – 1949



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**Rev. Merle F. Sollinger**

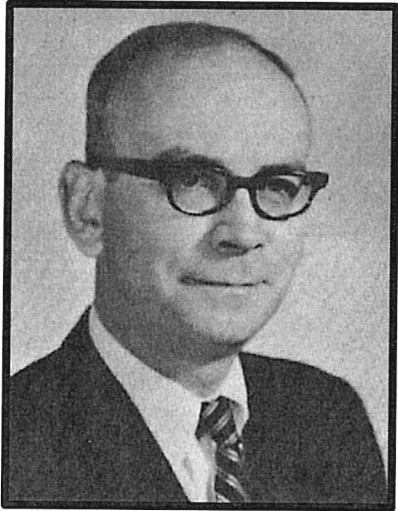
Tenure 1949 – 1954



- ❖ 1953 –  
Installed new  
Moller pipe  
organ for  
\$10,727.00.
- ❖ Choir lofts constructed on each side  
of sanctuary, a new chancel rail and  
pulpit.

# Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Sponseller

Tenure 1954 – 1957



❖ 1955 – Adopted  
a new  
constitution

❖ 1957–The United Church of Christ formed by merger of the Evangelical and Reformed Churches and the Congregational Christian Churches.

❖ A Women Quilters' Group was organized.

❖ Organized original youth fellowship.

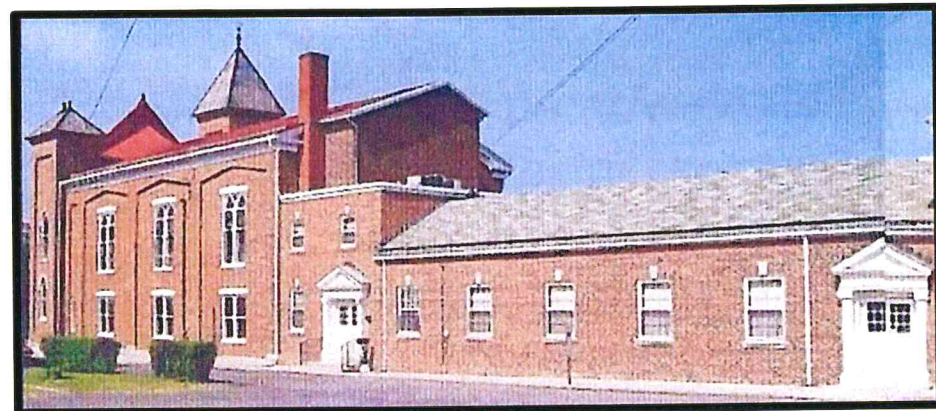


# Rev. Luther G. Heist Jr.

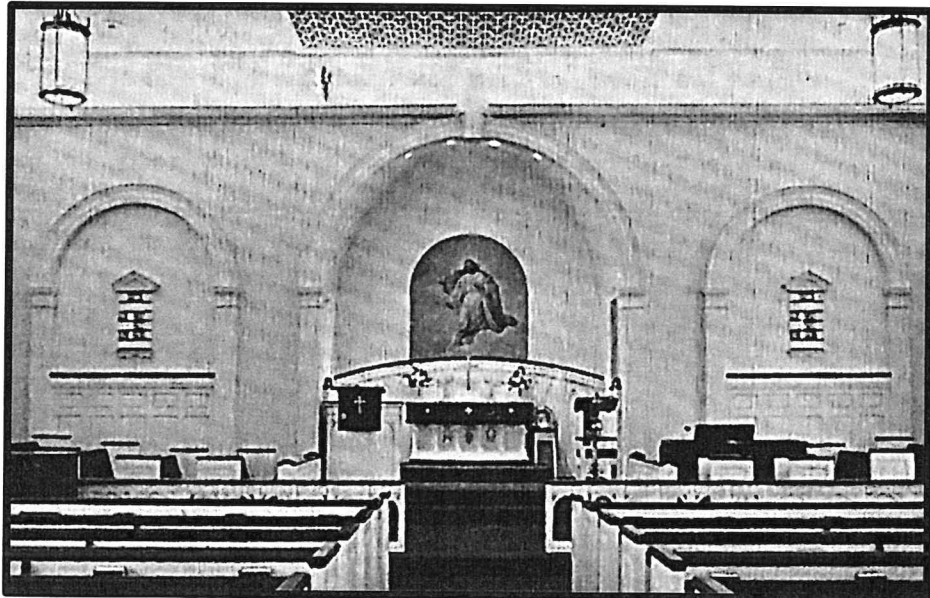
Tenure 1957-1967



- ❖ 1958 – First Layman's Sunday, Harvest Home, Rally Day were observed.
- ❖ 1959 – Major addition built; including 8 classrooms, Pastor's Study, Church office, chapel, lavatories and kitchen.



- ❖ 1959 Conducted church services in the Gem Theatre of the McLaughlin Hotel for 3 months during contruction of the above addition.
- ❖ 1959 – Sanctuary completely redecorated with new arches and paneling, new pews, carpet, lighting fixture and etc.
- ❖ 1960 – Women's Guild, Wednesday Night Bible Study, Men and Boys Lenten Communion Breakfast. Father and Son Banquet, Quiet Hour Breakfast, and Breakfast for



Youth, and the first Christmas Workshop were organized.

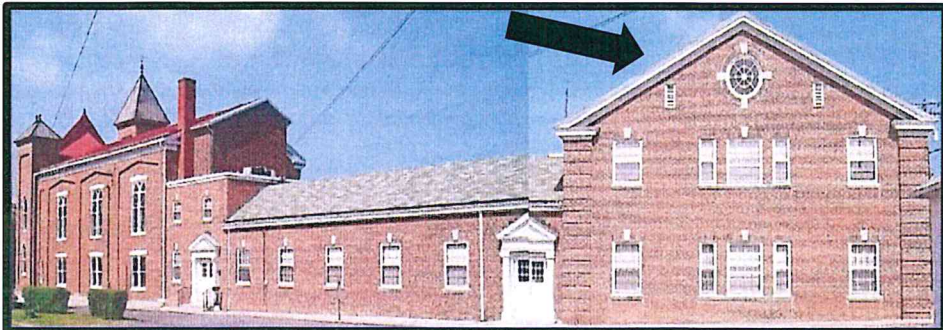
- ❖ 1961 – Name changed to Grace United Church of Christ.
- ❖ 1961 Started Kindergarten classes for the four and five year olds at the church Pew communion was instituted instead of receiving Holy Communion at the chancel rail.
- ❖ 1961 Re-established junior choir and stimulated the youth fellowship.
- ❖ 1961 Organized and was director of the Mercersburg Association.
- ❖ 1965 - United Steward's Sunday School class entered a float in the Old Home Week parade.

- ❖ 1965 - Church provided a portion of the salary for Rev. and Mrs. Paul Streich, missionaries in Ecuador.



- ❖ 1966 -  
Installation of  
inclinator (chair  
lift) to the  
sanctuary.

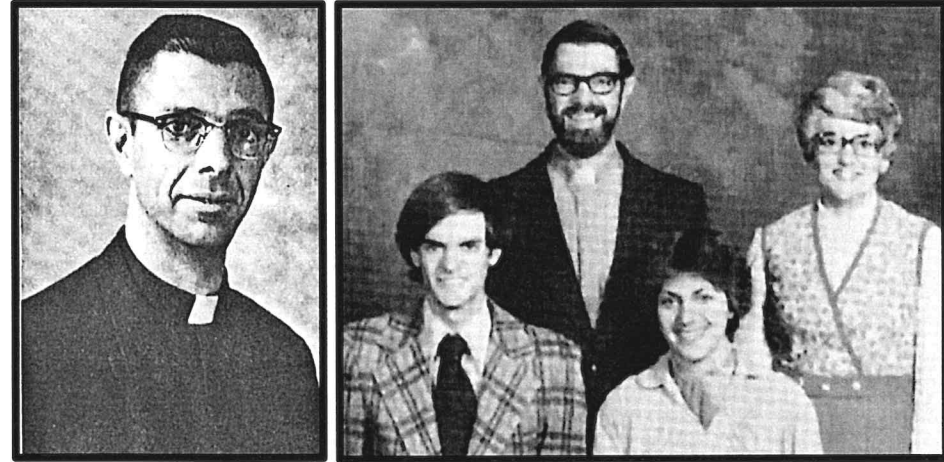
- ❖ 1966 - 1967 - Construction of  
Social hall and Christian Education  
building.





# **Rev. Ralph S. Geiman**

Tenure 1967 – 1995



❖ 1967 – Involved in joint community church radio broadcast, station WKSL for 20 years.

❖ 1968 – Lenten Bible Study instituted and ended after 22 years.

❖ 1969 - The first woman Deaconess, Dorothy Guenon, to serve on Consistory.

❖ 1969 – First Mother and Daughter Banquet observed.



❖ 1970 – Observed the first  
Candlelight Holy Communion Service

❖ 1971 – First Festival of the  
Christian Home and Family Thank  
Offering Service observed.

❖ Purchased Jacobs property (east of  
parsonage) to increase parking lot.

❖ 1973 – First Youth Sunday  
observed.

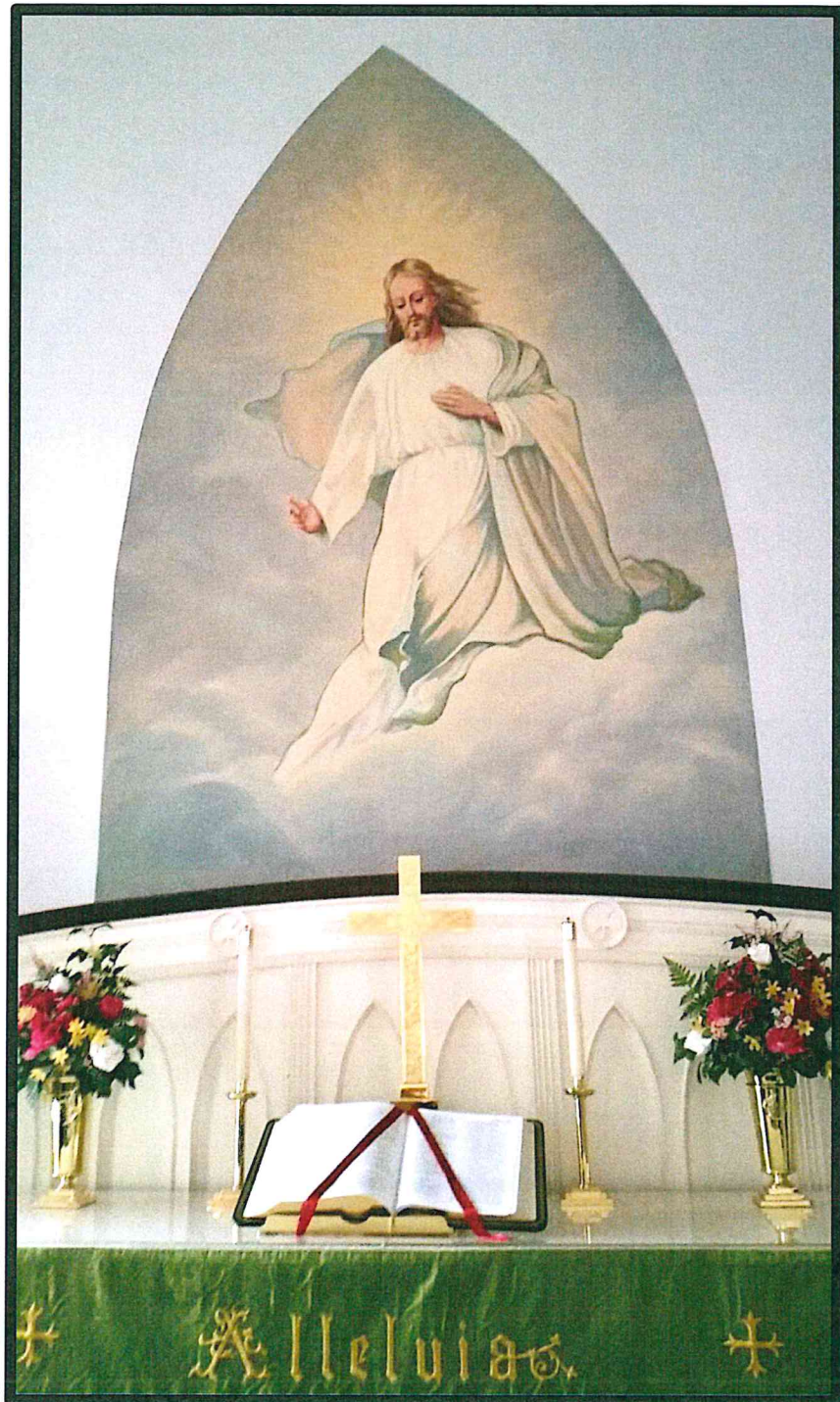
❖ 1973 – Founding member of  
Greencastle-Antrim Area Ministerium.

❖ 1980s – Installed air conditioning in  
sanctuary and social hall.

❖ Quilters completed 213 quilts  
raising in excess of \$3000 given to  
Building Fund.

❖ 1983 – Exact copy of the original  
painting of the “Ascending Lord”  
placed above the altar was restored.

- ❖ 1984 - Formation of a hand bell choir.
- ❖ 1985 – Introduction of tape ministries for “shut-ins”.
- ❖ 1985 – Discontinued Sunday School during summer months.
- ❖ 1988 – Sale of church rental property, east of parsonage, for \$62,500.
- ❖ 1991 – Mother and Daughter banquets revived.
- ❖ 1994 – Organized a Scholarship committee.
- ❖ 1994 - Major remodel: a new Pastor’s Office with the installation of computer system in secretary’s office.
- ❖ 1995 – Rev. Geiman--longest serving pastor—28 years.





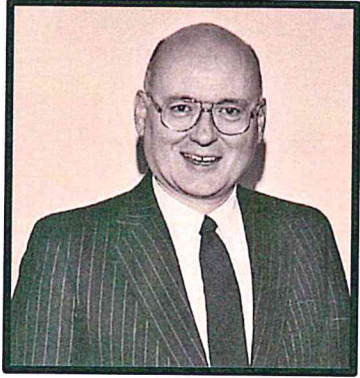


Front Row: Patty Stepler, Ruby Geiman,  
Nancy Myers, Evelyn Baumgardner  
Back Row: Darlene Bitner, Joann Snider,  
Marilyn Hicks, Isabell Gingrich



**Newly constructed  
Pastor's Office**

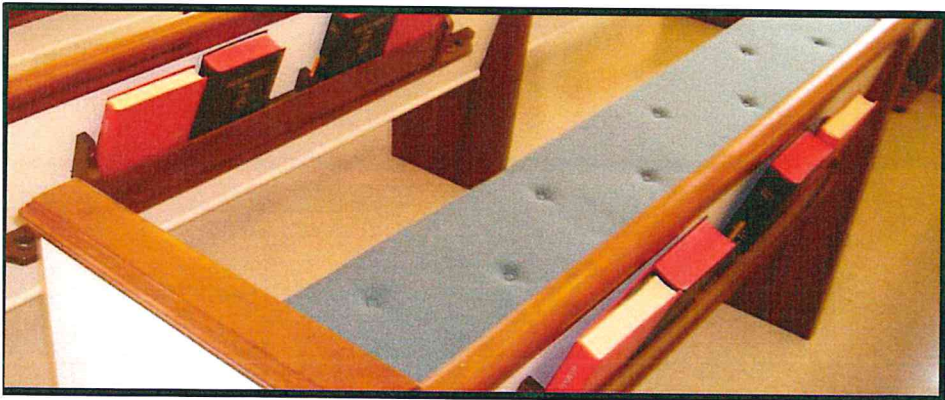
## Rev. Dr. Donald L. McBride



Tenure  
1996 – 1998

❖ 1996 –  
Scholarship Fund  
renamed Educational Fund.

- ❖ 1996 – Compassion Ministries began with the purpose to support the local food pantry programs.
- ❖ Formulated an Investment Policy
- ❖ Lay readers were instituted.
- ❖ Pew cushions purchased.





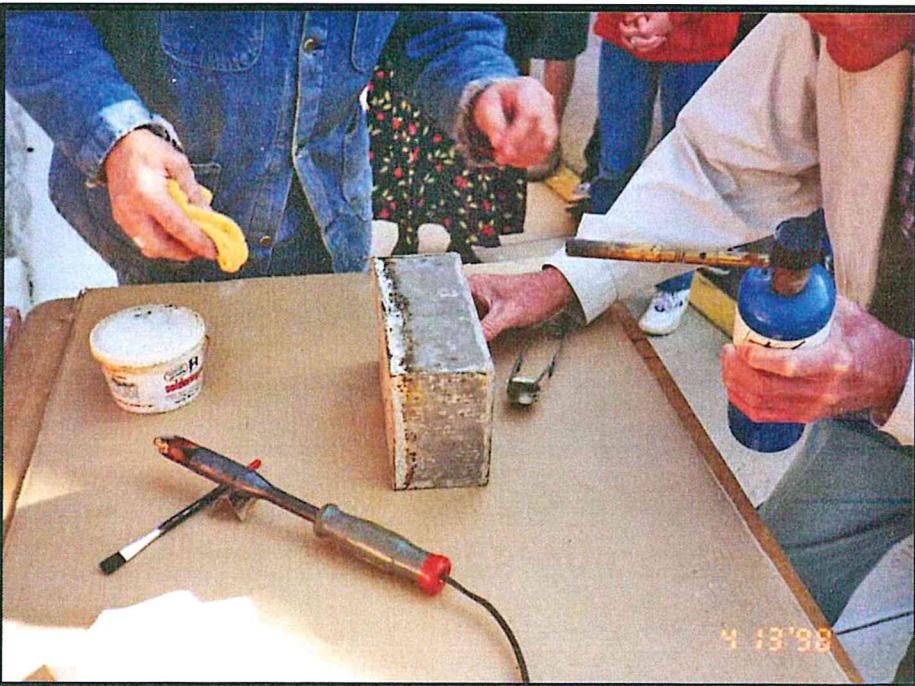
- ❖ Formed official Church History Committee
- ❖ 1997 – “Compassion Ministries” organized.
- ❖ 1997 – Redecorating of sanctuary: new carpet, walls painted, stained glass window repairs & repointing of the exterior brick.
- ❖ 1998 – Laying of a handicapped ramp at an east side entrance.
- ❖ Aided two Bosnian families to relocate in Greencastle area.
- ❖ Awarded “Pastor Emeritus”

status to Rev.  
Ralph Geiman.



Rev. Ralph and  
Ruby Geiman

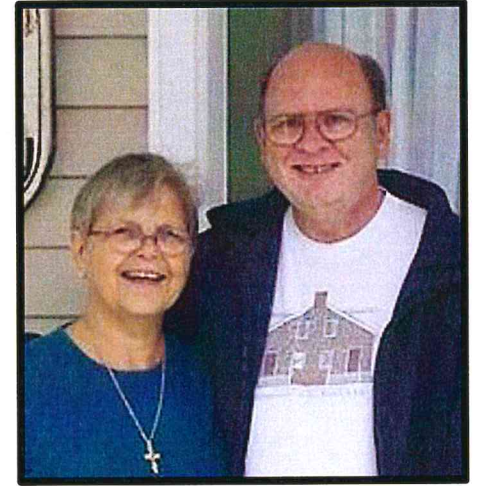
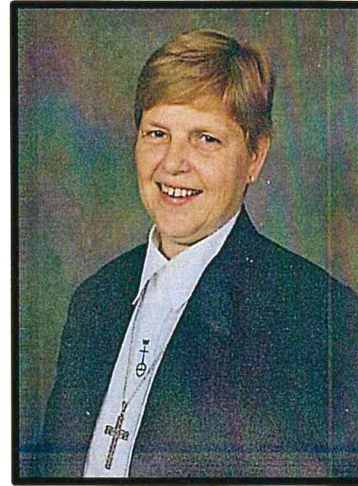
- ❖ 1998 Replaced outdoor bulletin board
- ❖ 1998 Opening the cornerstone box.





# **Rev. Mary C. Wehr**

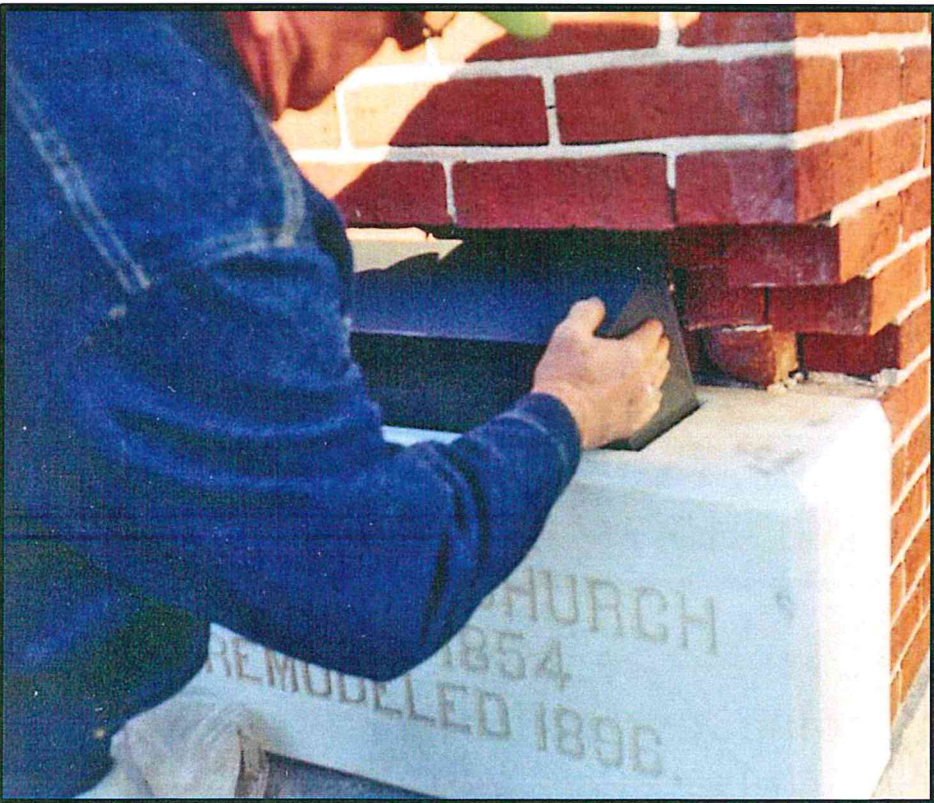
Tenure 1999 - 2000



- ❖ First female minister at Grace UCC.
- ❖ Inspired a church trip to Sight & Sound Millennium Theater in Lancaster, PA to see a live stage presentation of NOAH.
- ❖ Cornerstone closed during the 250<sup>th</sup> church anniversary celebrations.

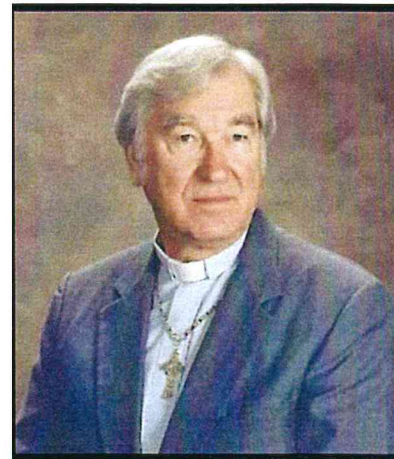


## Closing the Cornerstone -- 2000



## **Rev. Donald E. Reese**

Tenure 2000 – 2005



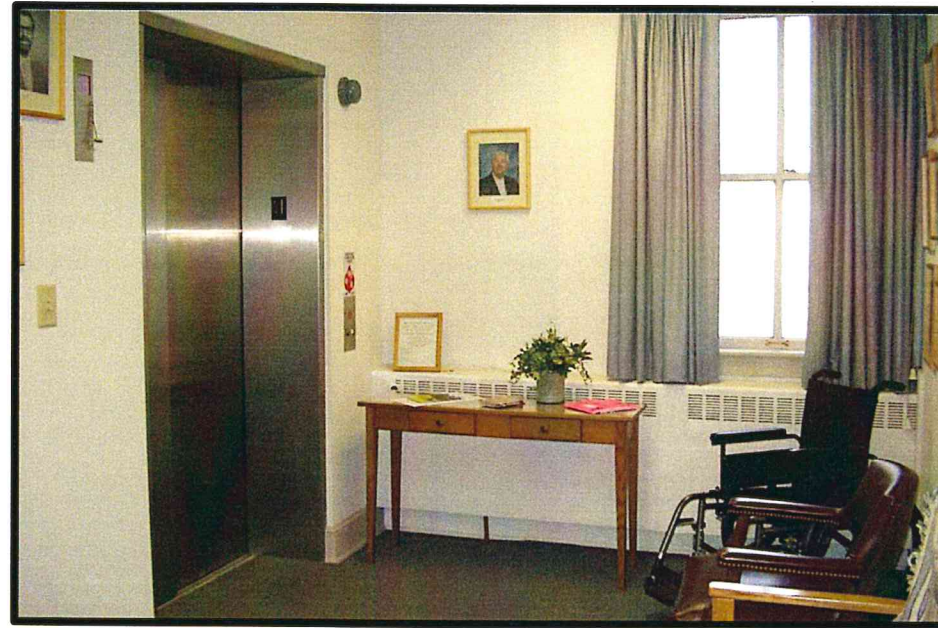
- ❖ Installation of elevator completed.
- ❖ 2003 – Acquired the Seller's property west of the church for \$175,000.
- ❖ 2004 – Designated handicap seating area in sanctuary.
- ❖ 2004 -Updated sound system-- \$40,910.
- ❖ Chapel was renovated and computer projection system installed.



❖ Removing a wall in the United Stewards' Classroom to make an entrance into the elevator and "Ministers' and Confirmation Remembrance Walls".



Digging a basement for the elevator.



2001 Elevator construction completed



Handicap Seating



# Rev. James E. Hughes

Tenure 2006 – 2013



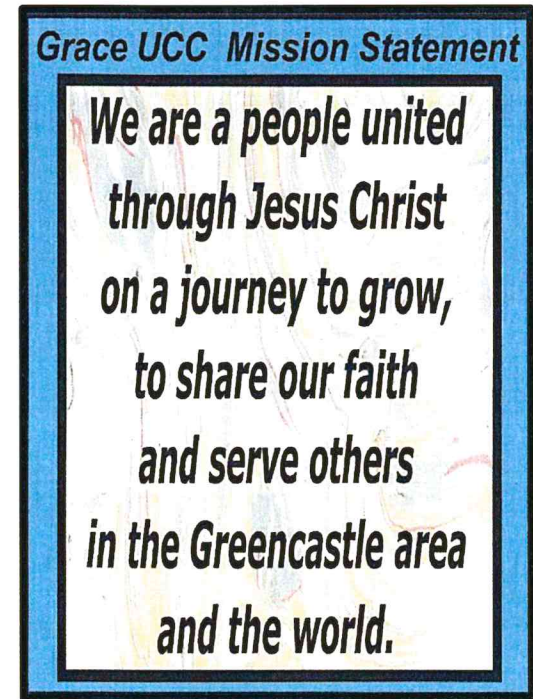
❖ Introduced the first Comtempory Service.

❖ Installation of arbor at German graveyard by Ben Stouffer for his Eagle Scout awar

❖ Revised the By-laws.



❖ Established Mission Statement



❖ Organized Grace UCC participation in Relay for Life.

❖ Remodeled a cabin at Hartman Center.

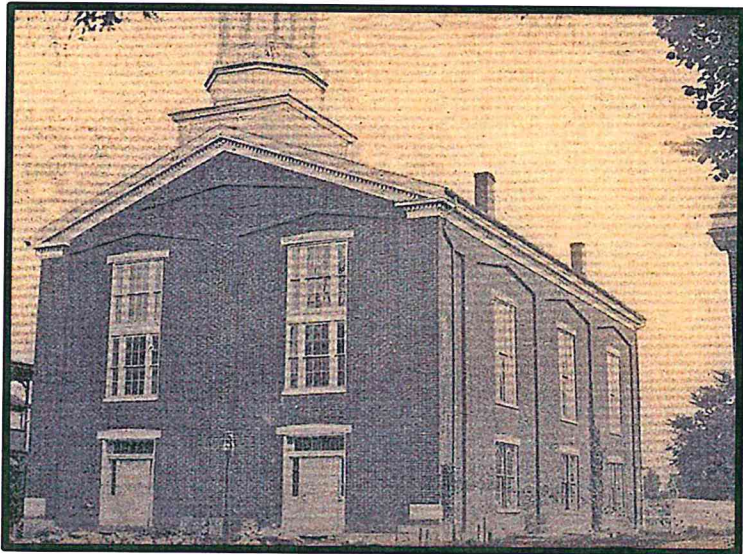
# Rev. Brian P. Adams

Tenure 2015 (3 months)



- ❖ Untimely death after serving three months.
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## Exterior and Interior Changes

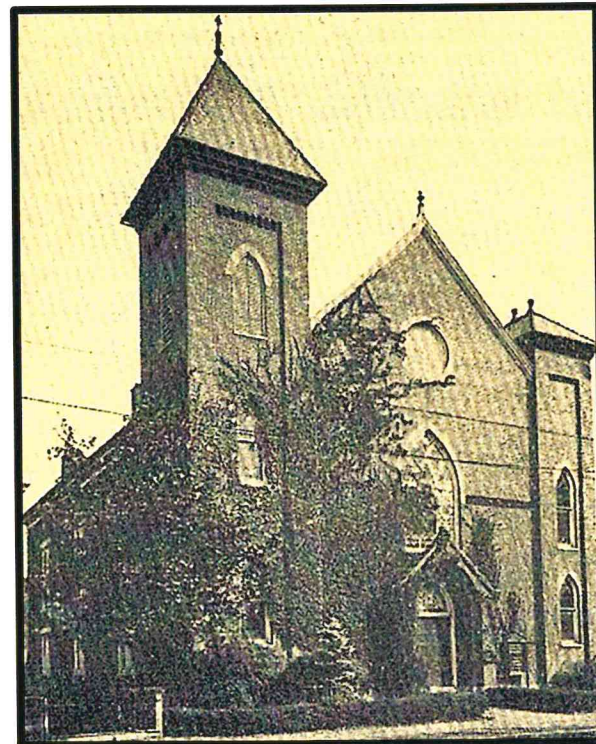
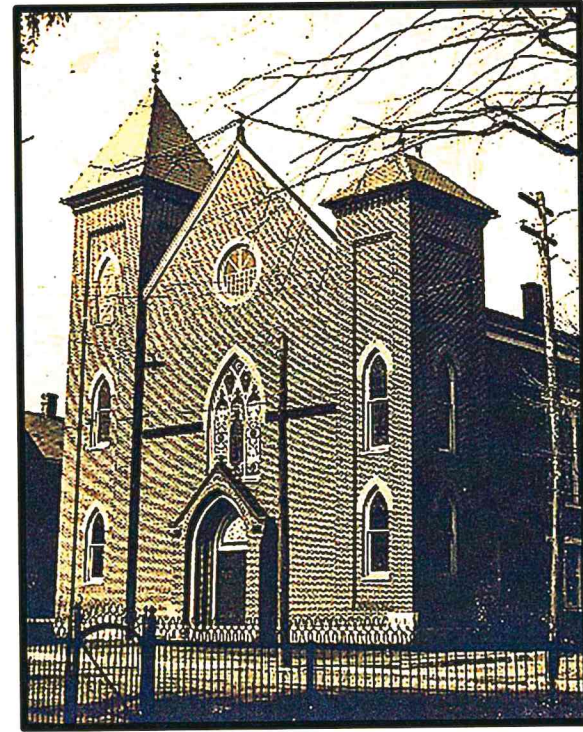


Two doors for front entrance 1855



Two towers  
and one front  
door  
entrance

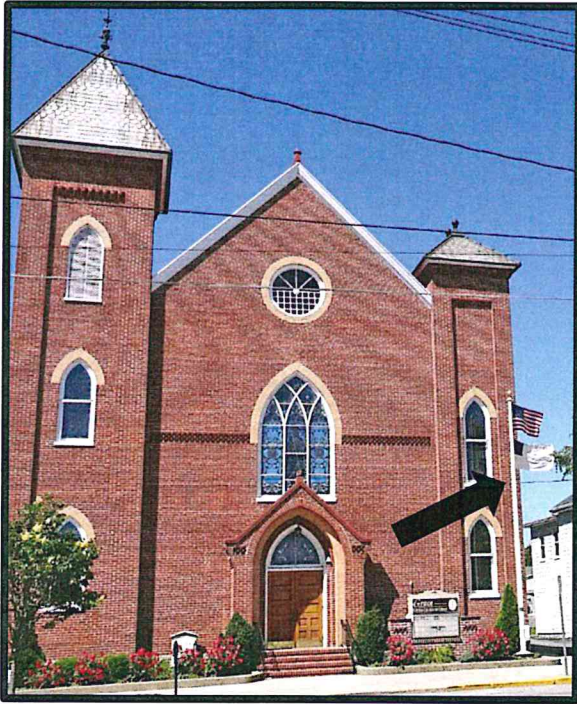
1897  
Renovation



Vines  
growing on  
the church

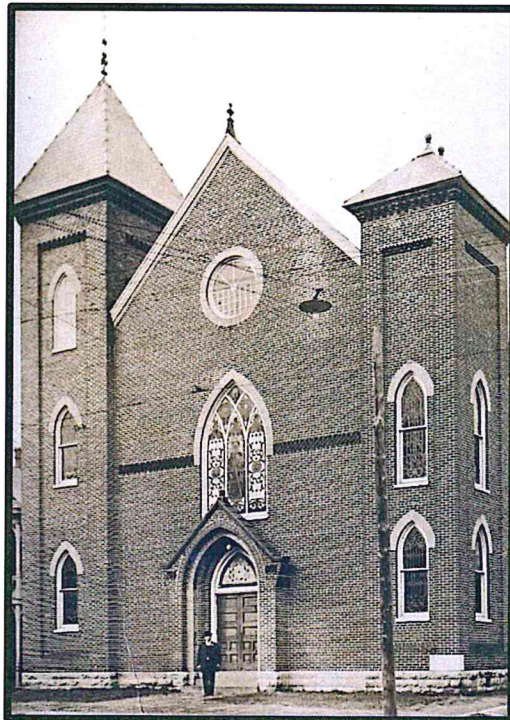
1925



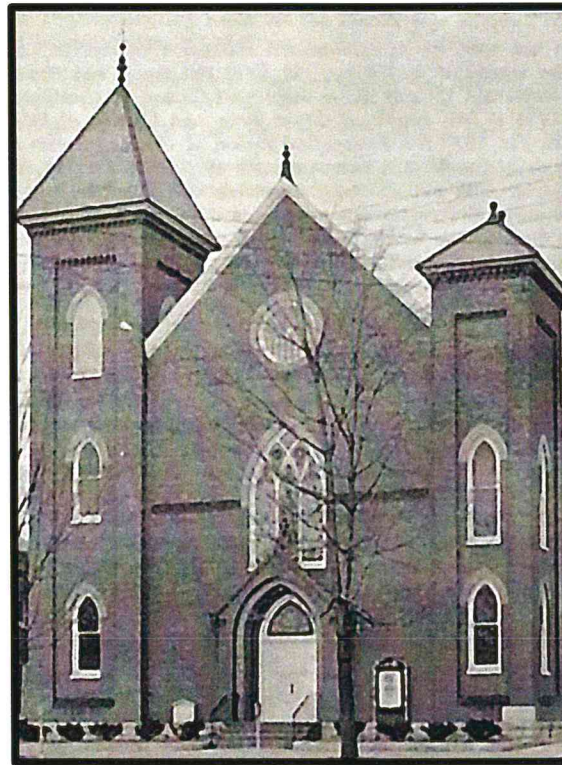


Flag pole  
erected

1998

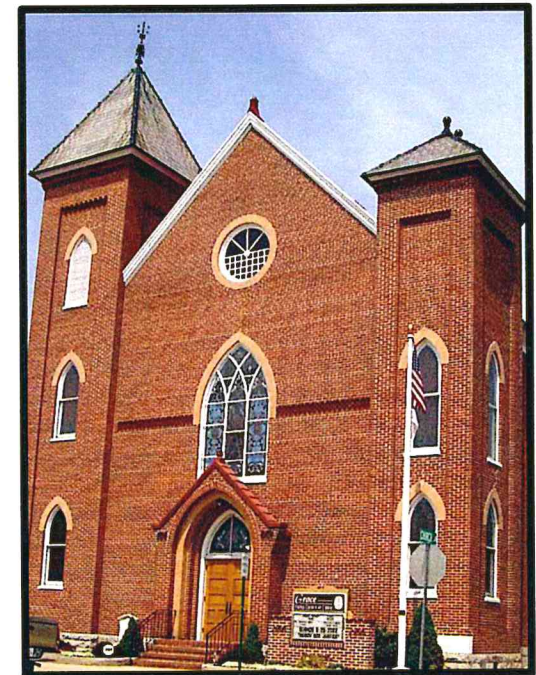


Brown Door  
1897



White Door

1957



Brown  
Door

2002 to  
present



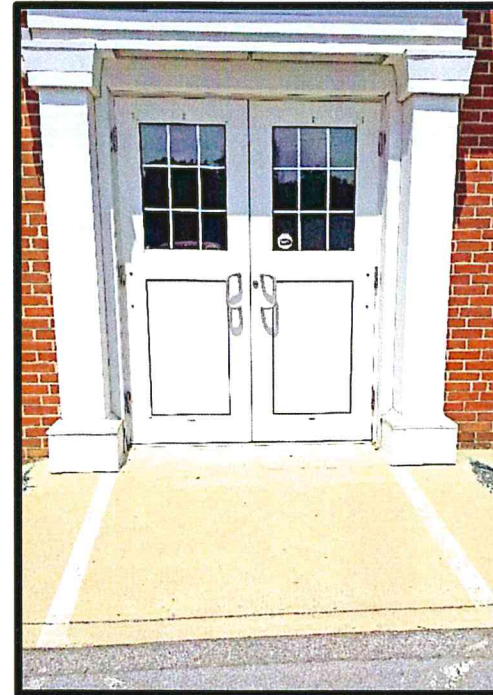
Outdoor  
Message  
Boards



1960 - 2002



1998 to present (2016)



1998  
Handicap  
Ramp

east side  
entrance

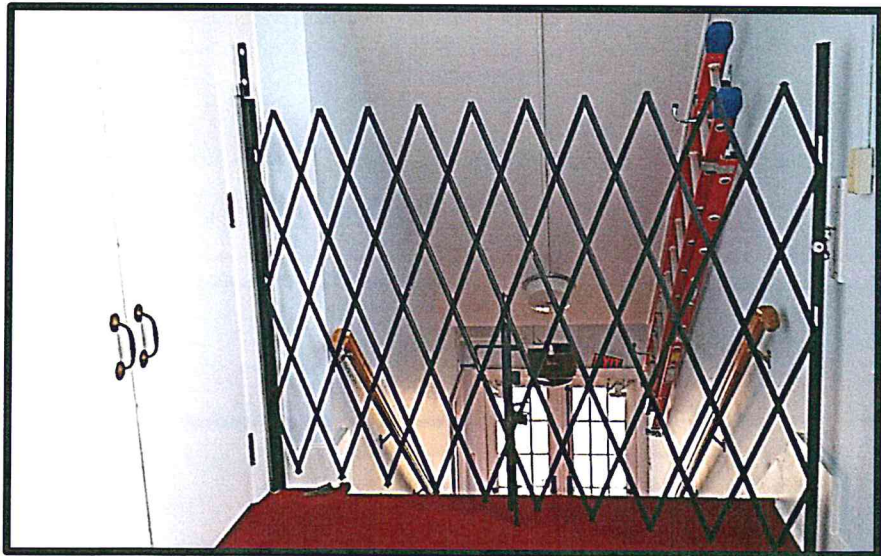


Assembly point  
for the  
congregation  
to meet during  
an emergency





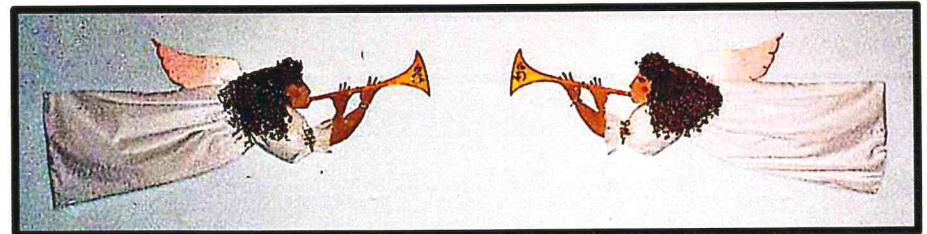
Located  
upstairs near  
the elevator  
doors



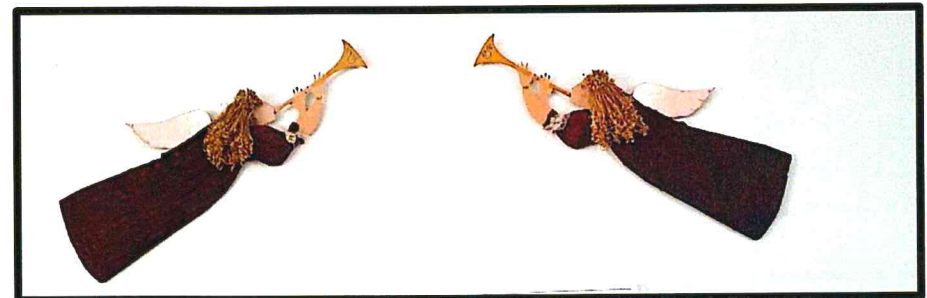
Security gate at fire escape stairs



Sound System installed 2004



Original Angels above sanctuary doors



Present Angels 2016 above doors

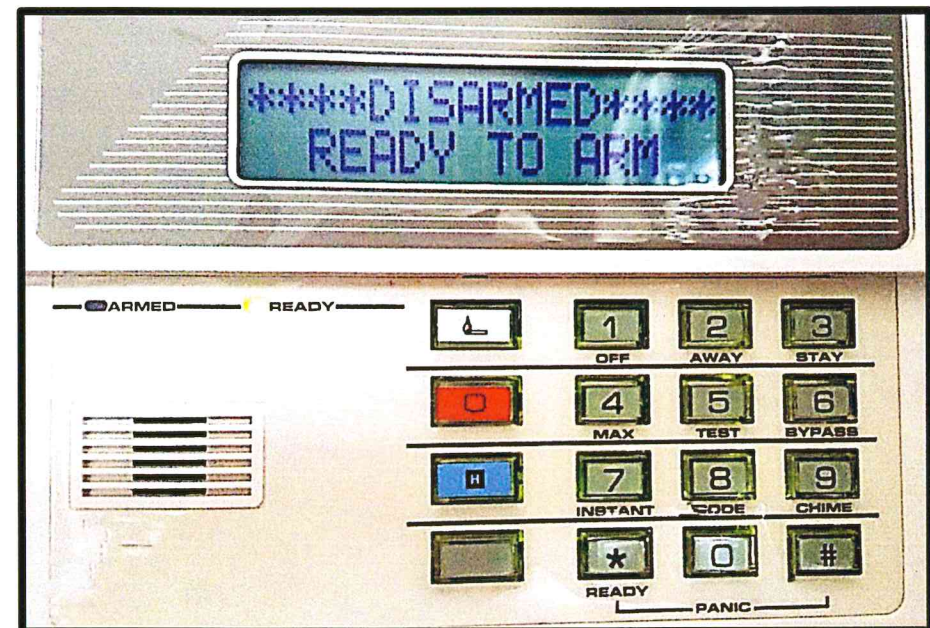




Our new stove 2015

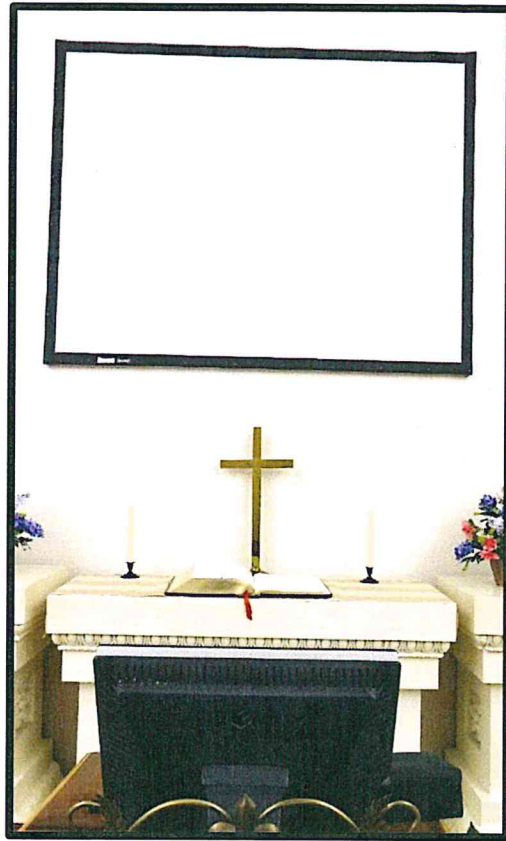


Renovated Kitchen -- 2015

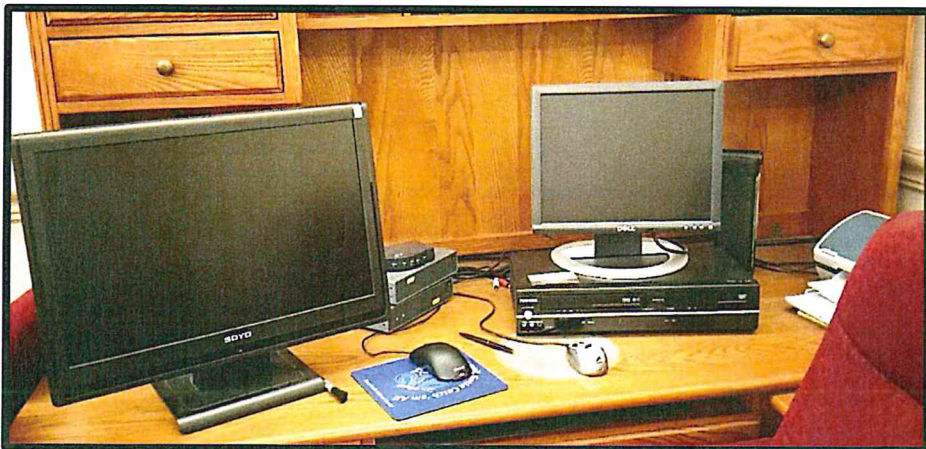


Security System installed 2001





1998  
Media Projection  
System  
in Chapel





Security gate  
in lower level  
hallway



Located  
in the  
hallway  
near the  
front  
vestibule

Portion of  
an original  
1855  
pew  
from the  
German  
Reformed  
Church



1910 pew  
from Grace  
Reformed  
Church  
located near  
the  
autographed  
quilt





# AUTOGRAPH QUILT

## ~ early 1900's

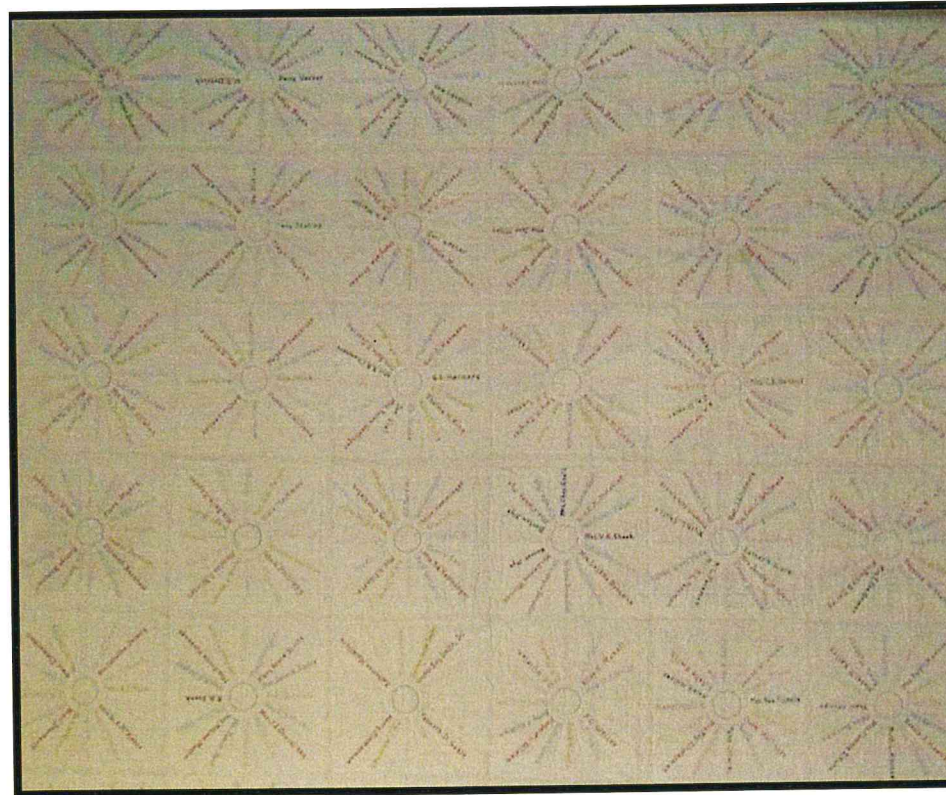
*Made by Ladies of Grace Reform Church*

Pieced, embroidered signatures, quilted, cotton

36 squares, 16 in each block, 576 names

10 cents per name – \$57.60

*Purchased by Harry Zimmerman for his mother,  
Annie Zimmerman, grandmother of  
and on loan from Bob & Pat Zimmerman*



# Grace United Church of Christ

## THOSE WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY

Lawrence M. Alsip, Sr.

James H. Barnhart

Earl Bodes

Rachael Marie Stepler Cannon

Donald Coldsmith

Harold S. Cook

John Thompson Conrad, Jr.

Joseph Copenhaver

John Craig

Glen L. Cump

Edward Doyle

Donald Tshleman

Fred Ferry

Boyd E. Fitz

Paul Quinten Forney

Robert L. Gearhart

Richard H. Gingrich

Ronald L. "Pete" Goetz

William A. Guenon, Jr.

William A. Guenon

Carl Henry

Christopher R. Homer

Fred Kaley

William Boyd Kipe

Jack E. Kugler

Mary Ann Rishel Lentzsky

Robert Michaels, Jr.

Eugene B. Miller

Marvin Miller

William C. Monn

Michael Murray

Loren R. Myers

Donald E. Patrick

John Rishel

J. Lewis Rishel

Gunter Schanzenbacher

Wilhelm Schanzenbacher

Alvin Ordean Sellers

Richard Sinclair

Emory C. Stahl

Gregory L. Stahl

Wayne Stenger

Michael F. Stockslager, Jr.

William Groff Storms

Francis "Will" Whitehead

Bobby L. Zimmerman



