

Pierce Chapel Methodist Church

Clarks, Nebraska



1889 - 1964

Names List (found in this booklet)

Allison, Leola (Mrs)	Greene, W. C.	Peck, J. (Mrs)
Atack, Arthur	Gregg, Stanley (Mrs)	Peck, Mary (Mrs)
Bear, S. A.	Hansberry, L. R.	Peregine, Joe (Mrs)
Beck, Walter	Harper, E. C.	Pickerd, N. W.
Beck, Walter (Mrs)	Ireland, Melvin	Pierce, R. K.
Betts, K. A. (Mrs)	Jensen, Ester (Mrs)	Price, E. W.
Black, Georgia (Miss)	Johnston, John (Mrs)	Richards, Ethel (Mrs)
Black, Lillie (Mrs)	Keule, John (Mrs)	Rose, Frank (Mrs)
Boetr_, Carrie (Mrs)	Knott, C. A.	Rose, Ralph (Mrs)
Brown, C. E.	Kuhn, Lawrence (Mrs)	Rosemont, V. G.
Burger, Josie (Mrs)	Kurtz, T. M. (Mrs)	Sanders, John (Mrs)
Burger, Will (Mrs)	Kurtz, Tom (Mrs)	Sanders, S.
Crawford, Sam (Mrs)	Leach, Virgil	Schultz, Katie (Mrs)
Curry, Edith (Mrs)	Longnecker, M. (Mrs)	Shively, Lucy (Miss)
Curry, W. H. (Mrs)	Luscher, C. P.	Shively, Tom (Mrs)
Curry, Warren	Martin, C. E.	Steffan, Will (Mrs)
Donaldson, S. A. (Mrs)	McCamley, Max	Stromborn, Oscar W.
Ells, Clyde A.	McConnell, C. A. (Mrs)	Taft, Samuel E.
Ferguson, B. H. (Mrs)	McConnell, G. A. (Mrs)	Taylor, W. F.
Ferguson, Bert (Mrs)	McConnell, Georgia (Mrs)	Tomlinson, J. W.
Ferguson, Bert Flors (Mrs)	McReynolds, R. C.	Vogt, J. H.
Ferguson, Flora (Mrs)	Meal, R. E.	Wagner, H. W.
Ferguson, Harold (Mrs)	Mickel, A. L.	Warne, A. J.
Ferguson, Pearl (Mrs)	Miller, Art (Mrs)	Warren, G. B.
Ferguson, Ralph (Mrs)	Mullis, L. W.	Wells, Clyde
Fierce, R. K.	Neth, Walter E.	Williams, Darwin (Mrs)
Fish, Charles (Mrs)	Olsen, A. M.	Williams, Will (Mrs)
Gaither, A.	Peck, Ester (Mrs)	Williams, William
Galusha, Gerald (Mrs)		

THE PIERCE CHAPEL METHODIST CHURCH

Clarks, Nebraska

We the Pierce Chapel Methodist Church, take this opportunity to extend to everyone present, and everyone who reads this booklet, a welcome to our 75th anniversary. We wish you health and happiness in Christ Jesus our Lord. May your days be long and fruitful for the Kingdom of God, filled with peace and understanding.

As we of the congregation of the Pierce Chapel Methodist Church daily carry on the work of the kingdom, we pray that all shall be prepared for that final day of the Lord. Only then can we as a congregation celebrate this 75th anniversary with true joy and thanksgiving.

We, as a congregation, shall take this time to rededicate ourselves to the great task lying before us. In times like these we must provide a hiding place for those that are lost in the world's turmoil. Let us start our Christian training in our homes, and then reach out to those around about us.

May God bless all who are connected and have been connected with our church these past 75 years.

A GREETING FROM YOUR PASTOR

Grace and Peace be unto you'.
All glory be to God for the opportunity of
saying a word on this occasion.

In the two years that Mrs. Wells and I have labored with you, we have learned to love you in a christian way, to understand you better and to appreciate your efforts in forwarding the kingdom of God. Through working with God, You have made great accomplishments. Our hearts desire for you is that you will grow in numbers and in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

CLYDE A. WELLS, PASTOR.

PROGRAM

CHURCH SCHOOL	9:45	Otto Petersen, Supt.
DIVINE WORSHIP	11:00	

ORDER OF SERVICE

The Prelude	Mrs. Walter Beck
The Call to Worship	Choir
The Invocation	Pastor
*A Hymn "Holy, Holy, Holy,"	No. 2

*The Affirmation of Faith		Back of Hymnal
The Anthem		Choir
*The Responsive Reading		No. 554
*The Gloria Patri		
*The Silent Mediation		
*The Pastoral Prayer		
*The Lord's Prayer		
*The Prayer Response		Choir
The Offering		
*The Offering Response		
*The Dedication of Tithes and Offerings		
A Solo	"Bless This House"	Rev. Max McCamley
The Message		Rev. Melvin Ireland
	"Old Power for a New Ago"	
*A Hymn "The Church's One Foundation"		No. 140
*The Benediction		Rev. Max McCamley
*The Postlude.		

RECOGNITION AND DEDICATION SERVICE

2:30 P. M.

The Prelude		
A Hymn	"O Worship the King"	No. 4
The Scripture Reading		
The Prayer		
Church History		

Recognition of Former ministers and Layman

COLLECT FOR DEDICATION DAY

Let the people
unite with the minister in prayer.

Direct us, O Lord, in all doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with Thy continual help, that in all our works begun, continued and ended in Thee, we may glorify Thy holy name, and finally, by Thy mercy, obtain everlasting life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A Solo "I Walked With God" Darnice Butts

*CANTICLE OF THE CHURCH

To be read
responsively by minister & people

Minister: Arise, shine; for Thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.
People: For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.
Minister: But the Lord shall rise upon thee, and His glory shall be seen upon thee.
People: And the nations shall come to Thy light, and kings to the brightness of Thy rising.
Minister: The abundance of the sea shall be turned unto thee; the wealth of the nations shall come unto thee.
People: Thy gates shall stand always open; they shall not be shut day or night.

them. (sic)

People: For the nation and kingdom that shall not serve Thee shall perish; Yea, it shall be utterly wasted,
Minister: Violence shall no more be heard in Thy land, wasting nor destruction within Thy Borders,
People: But Thou shalt call Thy walls Salvation, and Thy gates Thou shalt call praise
Minister: The sun shall be no more than light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee.
]People: But the LORD shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy glory.
Minister: Thy sun shall no more go down: neither shall thy moon withdraw itself.
People: For the LORD shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended,

Special
Offering

Clarks

*Offering Response

*Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

Message

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

William Williams

We, the Board of Trustees, in behalf of the Pierce Chapel Church, present these coverings of the pulpit chairs and the altar placements as memorials to be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of men.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S RESPONSE

D.S. To the glory of God and Father, who has called us by his grace;
To the honor of his Son, who loved us and gave himself for us;
To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials,

D.S. For the worship of God in prayer and praise;
For the preaching of the everlasting gospel;
For the celebration of the Holy Sacraments;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials.

D.S. For the comfort of all who mourn;
For Strength to those who are tempted;
For light to those who seek the way;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate those memorials.

D.S. For the hallowing of family life;
For the teaching and guiding the young;
For the perfecting of the saints;

People; We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials.

D.S. For the conversion of sinners;
For the promotion of righteousness;
For the extension of the Kingdom of God;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials,

D.S. In the unity of the faith;
In the bond of Christian brotherhood;
In charity and good will to all;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials.

D.S. In gratitude for the labors of all who love and serve this church;

In the love of thy giving; In loving remembrances of those who have finished their course;
In the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ, our Lord;

People: We consecrate this house and dedicate these memorials.

Then shall the minister and the people say together:

We now, the people of this church and congregation, compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen

THE
SANCTUS To be sung or said responsively by the minister and the people.

Minister: Therefore with angels and archangels with all company of heaven, we laud and magnify Thy glorious name, evermore praising Thee, and sayings

People Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory. Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high

AMEN.

*Faith of Our Fathers

No. 219

*The Benediction.

It was in the year of 1886 that Reverend R. K. Pierce came to the Clerks area as pastor and in 1889 he was instrumental in erecting the Pierce Chapel Church in his name. The church was erected 2 miles west and 2 miles south of its present site.

Pierce Chapel church served the area around this location until 1913 when, after some concentrated planning, T. D. Betts and Warren Curry aided in moving the church structure to its present site. The name to remain Pierce Chapel. One of the main conveniences for the move as to have the cemetery directly across the road from the church. Also the people that had been attending services at the Pleasant Hill school then joined the Pierce Chapel group.

Reverend Wm. S. Sanders was the first pastor in the new location and in those days it required a good horse to make all charges that this pastor served.

It was interesting to note that n 1914 that \$200.00 was raised to repair the church and put in a basement. In 1916 - \$186.00 was raised to paint inside and outside of the church. Then in 1917 the furnace was put in with the chimney on the south side.

A big change took place in the appearance of the church in 1950 when it was completely remodeled and dedicated while Reverend L. R, Hansberry was pastor. The remodeling cost near \$3000.00.

Pierce Chapel has many warm memories for everyone connected with this church, I'm sure; but some things we all remember that don't seem present so much today are the delicious chicken suppers and the tasty home-made ice cream socials that were held to raise needed funds. I am certain some also remember the good old chopping bees held to secure wood for winter use, but the

great thing about these events was the wonderful fellowship that went along with each an every event.

We might also look to the year 1941 when our pastor Reverend Walter Neth wan named Rural Pastor of the Year at the Annual Conference in Omaha. A bus load of happy parishioners were on hand to share his joy.

Many other changes has come about throughout the years, but the people by the excellent influence of this country church has remained much the same in that they still maintain and share their love for their follow man in a very christian ways.

Chronology of Church Pastors

Pierce Chapel at First Location

R. K. Fierce	1886-1891
E. C. Harper	1891-1892
J. H. Vogt	1892-1893
A. L. Mickel	1893-1896
R. C. McReynolds	1896-1899
R. E. Neal	1899
G. B. Warren	1899-1901
A. J. Warne	1901-1902
S. A. Bear	1903-1905
W. C. Greene	1905-1906
Arthur Atack	1906-1909

C. F. Luscher	1909-1911
Samuel E. Taft	1911-1913
C. E. Brown	1913-1914

First Pastor at Present Location

Wm. S. Sanders	1914-1916
H. W. Wagner	1916-1917
Wm. VanBuren	1918-1919
W. F. Taylor	1919-1921
G. E. Martin	1921-1922
E.. A. Gaither	1922-1924
A. M. Olsen	1924-1925
Oscar W. Stromborn	1926-1928
E. W. Price	1928-1934
N. W. Pickerd	1934-1938
Virgil Leach	1938-1940
Melvon Ireland	1940-1942
O. A. Knott	1942-1944
Dr. V. G. Rosemont	1944-1946
J. W. Tomlinson	1946-1948
L. R. Hansberry	1948-1950
L. W. Mullis	1950-1953
Rev. Walter E. Neth	1953-1962
Clyde Wells	1962--

In July 1913 a group of ladies met at the home of Mrs. Tom Shively to organize a society to be called the Pierce Chapel Social Circle. It's object was for the social welfare of the community and to help in the running of the church. The officers were: President, Mrs. G. A. McConnell; Vice-President, Mrs. Bert Ferguson; Secretary: Mrs. T. M. Kurtz.

The charter members were: Mrs. W. H. Curry, Mrs. B. H. Ferguson, Mrs. G. A. McConnell, Mrs. Frank Rose, Mrs. K. A. Betts, Mrs. Tom Kurtz, Mrs. Georgia McConnell, Miss Georgia Black, Miss Creta Carmen, Miss Lucy Shively, Mrs. Tom Shively, Mrs. Sam Crawford, Mr. & Mrs. Wm. John Sanders, Mrs. Joe Peregrine, Mrs. S. A. Donaldson, Mrs. Will Burger, Mrs. J. Peck, and Mrs. T. D. Betts.

In 1940 Mrs. Bert (Flors) Ferguson was honored for being an office holder for 27 years. Mrs. Ferguson has held office most of the time since until moving to Clarks 2 years ago.

In 1944 the ladies decided to change from Ladies Aid to W.S.C.S. The Charter members were: Mrs. Leola Allison, Mrs. Josie Burger, Mrs. Walter Beck, Mrs. Lillie Black, Mrs. Carrie Boettner (?), Mrs. Flora Ferguson, Mrs. Pearl Ferguson, Mrs. Ralph Ferguson, Mrs. Harold Ferguson, Mrs. Charles Fish, Mrs. Gerald Galusha, Mrs. Stanley Gregg (?), Mrs. Jewell Gregg, Mrs. John Heule (?), Mrs. Ester Jensen, Mrs. Lawrence Kuhn, Mrs. Art Miller, Mrs. Mary Peck, Mrs. Ester Peck, Mrs. Ethel Richards, Mrs. Ralph Rose, Mrs. Katie Schultz, Mrs. Will Steffan, Mrs. M. Longnecker, Mrs. Darwin Williams, and Mrs. Will Williams.

Ten ladies from this group are members of the present W.S.C.S. There are 24 members on the roll at this time.

The meetings were held in the homes until the church was remodeled, since then the meetings have been in the church and held on the first Thursday of the month.

Special W.S.C.S. Life Memberships have been given to Mrs. Will Williams, Mrs. Josie Burger, Mrs. Flora Ferguson, Mrs. Katie Schultz, Mrs. Stanley Gregg, Mrs. Edith Curry, Mrs. Ralph Rose, Mrs. John Johnston, Mrs. Walter Beck, Mrs. Esther Peck and Mrs. Ethel Richards.

75th Anniversary



May you ever stand,
For the cause of Jesus
In this beloved Land.

Original of booklet loaned by Mrs. Selma Mesner. Thank you!

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