

sidered by some as an enemy of the country—every day liable to be seized by violence, and abused. However, all this is but a trifle to suffer for Christ, and the salvation of souls. Lord, stand by me!

Lord's day, 15. My temptations were very heavy, and my ideas were greatly contracted in preaching, neither was my soul happy as at many other times. It requires great resignation for a man to be willing to be laid aside as a broken instrument. But

"In all my temptations
He keeps me, to prove
His utmost salvation—
His fulness of love."

Monday, 16. I applied myself to the Greek and Latin Testament; but this is not to me like preaching the Gospel. However, when a man cannot do what he would, he must do what he can.

Wednesday, 18. To make the best of my time in this partial confinement, I have attended closely to my studies, spent some time in instructing the children, and intend to lecture frequently in the family. This day I received information that brother Wrenn¹² was cast into prison at Annapolis.

Saturday, 21. My spiritual exercises have been various. I have frequently been under powerful temptations: but at other times my soul has been serene and comfortable. Much of my time is spent in study. And my desire is, to glorify God in all I do, and spend all I gain in his service.

Lord's day, 22. A large congregation attended at Edward White's while I enforced the important inquiry, "What shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and lose his own soul?" A warm, affectionate zeal glowed in my heart, and some of the people were affected. On *Monday* I met with brother Cox,¹³ and sent him into the upper circuit, intending myself to abide here for a season till the storm is abated.

Wednesday, 25. Blessed be God! his providence hath cast my lot in a quiet, agreeable family; where I can make the best improvement of my time in study and devotion. Brother Cooper¹⁴ came from below, and we had a meeting at Edward White's, where some were deeply cut to the heart by the two-edged sword of the word.

¹² Both Robert Wooster and William Wrenn underwent persecution in Annapolis. If Wooster had gone to the "Redstone Country" as early as 1777, which is a dubious assertion made by some, then Asbury's reference is to Wrenn. (Lednum, *op. cit.*, 206; Smeltzer, *op. cit.*, 40, 41.)

¹³ Philip Cox (d. 1793), from England, served as a supply before entering the ranks of the regular itinerants. For accounts of his evangelistic successes and his career as one of the Book Stewards, see *The Arminian Magazine*, London, XI, 1781, 486; *The Arminian Magazine*, Philadelphia, II, 1790, 91; Phœbus, *op. cit.*, 258.

¹⁴ This was probably John Cooper, a native of Caroline County, Maryland, who had arrived from Sussex Circuit. (Lednum, *op. cit.*, 86; Wright: *Life and Labors of James Quinn*, 34, 41, 42; *General Minutes*, I, 33.)

entertain a hope, that after the people have been tried and humbled by their present calamities, the Lord will yet visit and bless them with spiritual light, purity, and consolation. Already I am informed that there is a gracious work going on in Sussex, in Delaware, and in Accomack and Northampton counties, in Virginia.

Monday, 4. Being prevented from travelling, by a heavy fall of snow, I finished the reading of the 2d vol. of Mr. Wesley's Sermons, which I began on *Saturday*; and they were, as usual, made a peculiar blessing to my soul. I trust the Lord favours me with an increase of love and gratitude.

Wednesday, 6. I ended the first volume of Prideaux's *Connexions*,² and had a clear view of the state of the nations at the different periods of the Church of God—a just view of which is highly necessary for the understanding of the prophecies. The revolutions of kingdoms have been wonderful in all ages; and it ought not to be thought strange, if they should be so now. But in all the various turns of Divine providence God had, and still has, spiritual ends, and the welfare of his Church, in view.

Thursday, 7. In reading the second volume of Prideaux, I was struck with the exact fulfilment of Daniel's prophecy "The seventy weeks being divided into three periods,—that is, into seven, sixty-two, and one week,—the first reacheth from the time of the going forth of the commandment to Ezra, for the restoring of the Church and the state of the Jews, in the seventh year of Artaxerxes Longimanus, to the finishing of that work by Nehemiah, forty-nine years after; the second, from the end of that period to four hundred and thirty-four years after, at which time the Messiah appeared in the ministry of John; and the last, from that of his thus appearing, to his being cut off by his death on the cross—which was one week, or seven years; and all these put together, fully make up seventy weeks, or four hundred and ninety years of this prophecy: and, according to this computation, every particular of it hath been fully verified in a completion exactly agreeable thereto, and the whole number of years pointed out thereby exactly answered to a month; for as the going out of the commandment to Ezra, from whence they began, was in the month of Nisan, so the crucifixion of Christ was also in the same month, just four hundred and ninety years after." This day my heart was kept in peace. My soul shall make her boast in the Lord.

Friday, 8. I rode to Mr. Boyer's, and conversed freely with him on the things of God. He appeared very kind, and inclined to hear instruction.

Lord's day, 10. Though it rained, many attended to hear the word both at Boyer's³ and at Dover; and on *Monday* my heart was greatly enlarged

² Humphrey Prideaux (1648–1724) wrote *Connections of the Old and New Testaments in the History of the Jews*, etc. (1716).

³ This was the Boyer home located near Magnolia, Delaware. From it went Caleb Boyer, a convert under the ministry of Freeborn Garrettson, who was an itinerant from 1780 to 1788, and who was one of the most eloquent and effective leaders that the Peninsula conference has produced. (Lednum, *op. cit.*, 304–5.)

Wednesday, 30. I received the minutes of the Virginia Conference,²² by which I learn the preachers there have been effecting a lame separation from the Episcopal Church, that will last about one year. I pity them: Satan has a desire to have us, that he may sift us like wheat.

Friday, July 2, 1779. Heard Mr. Magaw at the Forest chapel,²³ on: "Thy kingdom come."

Sunday, 4. At half past eight o'clock, I preached at the chapel, and then went to church, and heard Mr. Magaw preach an excellent sermon on wavering in religion. The inflammatory disorder that had seized my throat is growing worse.

Tuesday, 6. I applied to Dr. Abraham Ridgely,²⁴ who prescribed two blisters, of great strength: the two following days I was very ill.

Friday, 9. I began to mend, and am persuaded that the doctor's means have been very successful, and feel myself under great obligations to him.

Sunday, 11. Felt myself so much better in health, that I ventured to speak to a small serious congregation; I hope not in vain.

Wednesday, 14. Set out for the sea-side, in a double carriage, brother Alfrey with me. We rode thirty miles, and came to Shockley's²⁵ a little after twelve o'clock. Preached to about one hundred people, all serious: a great alteration since I was here, twelve months back. So does God work. I am in growing health, my voice much restored; feel a springing hope that this journey will be attended with a blessing to myself and others. I am overcome with a sense of the goodness of God, in so suddenly raising me up. O! What I laboured under this day week! How great the change! I find all my afflictions divinely sanctified to me; I am kept in great peace, and a Divine serenity all day. A sweet peace sits upon my soul. I read some psalms, and a little of Haliburton's Life,²⁶ as I rode in the chair. O how good it is to strive to do a little for God! My friends were frightened at my going out so soon, but the Lord will help me on my way. I spoke at Shockley's on Eph. ii, 8-10.

Thursday, 15. We rode to the sea-side, about forty miles from Shockley's. I read part of the life of Mr. De Renty. We came in about two o'clock, and

²² This was the conference at Broken-back Church on May 18. The *Minutes* omitted the name of Asbury, and all but two of the circuits north of Virginia. (Lee: *Life and Times of Jesse Lee*, 76-84; Tigert: *Constitutional History of American Episcopal Methodism*, 97-109.)

²³ See note under April 2, 1779.

²⁴ Dr. Abraham Ridgely (1756-1811) was a friend of Asbury and a member of the Methodist Society at Dover, Delaware. He was educated as a physician with Dr. James Anderson of Chestertown as his preceptor, and he later married Dr. Anderson's daughter. (*A Calendar of Ridgely Family Letters, 1742-1899*, in the state archives of Delaware; Lednum, *op. cit.*, 220.)

²⁵ Shockley lived at Slaughter Neck.

²⁶ This was probably George Haliburton (1616-65), eminent Scottish Covenanter.

found a kind reception. We prayed after dinner in the family and private; afternoon went down to the sea to bathe, for my health; at night read a chapter, and gave an exhortation. Brother Alfrey and myself prayed; we rested well.

Friday, 16. Am kept in peace of soul, yesterday and this day; feel myself as in the presence of God, growing in health of body and soul.

Saturday, 17. I preached on 1 John i, 8, 9, to about fifty people, simple, but teachable. Some poor men in a boat came on shore, who had been taken prisoners: were English and Scotch, going to New York. I called at their tent, read the third of Romans, lectured to them; they seemed kind and humble: I pitied an old man, near seventy, from Devonshire. I went to bathe, called on the distressed people, prayed with them. This morning I finished reading the book of Psalms, which has been my regular reading this week past; likewise the eleventh volume of Wesley's Works, and part of the lives of those men of God, Haliburton, De Renty, and Walsh²⁷—one of the Church of Scotland, another from the Church of Rome, the latter a Methodist preacher; but the work of God is one in all. To set aside a few particulars, how harmonious does the work of God appear, in men of different nations and Churches! I have been in peace, but not so much given up to God. I was humbled and stirred up to be more heartily employed: when shall every thought, word, and action in me be holiness to the Lord?

Sunday, 18. Rode to Wood's,²⁸ near Peleg Water's tavern; had about three hundred people, and apparently very ignorant in religion, yet willing to be taught. I spoke on 1 John i, 3; I found I could not speak plain enough to them: afternoon on Isa. lv, 6, 7; they understood me better. I went to Law's²⁹ to lodge. I found the Baptists were fishing in troubled water, (they always are preaching water to people,) and are striving to get into all the houses where we preach; they had taken one simple man who was joined to us, into the water. They plead they did not want to join, being Church people; but the ministers were good men, and they could not deny them their houses.

Monday, 19. I preached at J. Gray's to many feeling people: a good work is begun; and I fear that division is begun also. But what is to be done? Must we instrumentally get people convinced, and let Baptists take them from us? No; we will, we must oppose: if the people lose their souls, how shall we answer it before God? I met with a woman who warmly contended for dipping, as though it had been for life. Another began with me about going to their houses; and said, we must all live in

²⁷ Thomas Walsh (1730-59) was a native of Limerick, Ireland, and in the judgment of John Wesley one of the most learned preachers of early British Methodism.

²⁸ Members of the Woods family were among the early Methodist converts in Sussex County, Delaware. (Lednum, *op. cit.*, 258.)

²⁹ The Law family resided at the present Greenwood.

heaven. I said, there will be no rebaptizing there. She said, we must imitate our Lord. I said, our Lord rebuked the wind, and walked upon the sea. The point is this: the Baptists and Methodists came and preached together; our simple young men not knowing how they would act; the people being unacquainted with them, are for receiving both.

Tuesday, 20. I went to the water, and believe bathing has been of singular use to me. Preached at S. Evans', on Acts xxvi, 18. Had great freedom. About a hundred people were present, and I hope there will be a work here, if controversy does not prevent it. Afternoon, I called to see a person in the dropsy, for whom I sent to Dr. White. At three o'clock, preached at West's, on Matt. vii, 7: "Seek, and ye shall find." I had much liberty, but the people in general were insensible. After preaching, some poor people came with tears in their eyes, fearing from what I had said, I was about leaving the houses where the Baptists would preach, and thought we were going to leave them altogether, as the others had set it forth. I answered them, while we could get a house to ourselves, and society, we would consider them as objects of our attention. Some rain, and my preaching twice, brought on a small inflammation in my throat. We rode to J. Gibbons's, fifteen miles, heavy road, very hot.

Wednesday, 21. I preached at twelve o'clock to about fifty people; unfeeling enough. I spoke on Gal. iii, 22, I spoke all the truth. After preaching, we rode to Joseph Moore's,³⁰ twenty miles, great part heavy travelling. An ulcer broke in my mouth while I was preaching, but I continued speaking.

Thursday, 22. I arose with a gracious sense of God upon my heart; cool weather after the rain. I hear good news from the people, of the work of God; though they are not competent judges, yet I hope the prospect is favourable. Many brought home to God, and hope more will be. I have, in the course of my reading, attained to the end of Solomon's Song. Preached at Joseph Moore's; a hundred serious people attended: a great change since I preached here nine or ten months ago. Then many in blindness,—now forty in society; some seeking, others have found the Lord. One of the friends told me he thought he could number fifty praying families. Some who have not joined us yet, are stirred up by preaching to pray; before, the people were swearers, drunkards, fighters, horse-racers, and such like; but the Lord hath done great things for them. I spoke on Eph. v, 8; had great liberty.

Friday, 23. Arose, as I commonly do, before five o'clock in the morning, to study the Bible. I find none like it; and find it of more consequence to a preacher to know his Bible well, than all the languages or books in the world—for he is not to preach these, but the word of God. I preached at

³⁰ Joseph Moore, with whom Asbury lodged, was one of several prominent Methodists of that name in the Mt. Pleasant neighborhood.

Sunday morning, 21. Before sacrament I preached on Psalm ii, 24, 25;⁸³ and then in Lewes, on, "God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world," &c.

Tuesday and Wednesday, 23, 24. I had a good time at quarterly meeting, at the Sound church: thence, through a barren, sandy country, we came to Evans's church,⁸⁴ where we had a good and gracious time, more so than I have felt for some time. From Evans's we rode to the beach, and gratified our curiosity with the sight of the raging, roaring sea.

Wednesday, 24. I spoke closely upon the discipline of the Church: my subject, "All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine," &c. After meeting, we had a very long ride to brother Bowen's.⁸⁵

Virginia

Friday, 26. After preaching at Parnell's, on, "I will give them a heart to know me," &c., I rode in the evening to Downing's.⁸⁶

Saturday, 27. Reached Paramore's⁸⁷ at night.

Sunday, 28. We had a gracious time indeed.

Monday, 29. There were life and power among the people in the sacrament and love feast. I was greatly comforted to find the Lord had greatly blessed the labours of brother Sparks,⁸⁸ and that a revival had taken place all round the circuit. In the evening I rode to Burton's, in Virginia. The former inhabitants have gone to the dust.

It seemed as if I was let into heaven, while I enlarged on, "Behold what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God." We have twenty miles, and sometimes more,

⁸³ Psalm 2 has only twelve verses. There is no indication as to what passage this was.

⁸⁴ The site of this chapel has not been definitely identified. It is probable that Asbury meant the Old Line Chapel of which Jacob Evans was a trustee. It was on his route to Accomack County, Virginia.

⁸⁵ The singular experience of how an early circuit rider, inquiring the way to Accomack County, Virginia, was misdirected into the Cypress Swamp only to emerge at the home of Jephthah Bowen is often told. The visit of the stranger led to the conversion of the Bowen family, the introduction of Methodism into that region, and the erection of Bowen Chapel, the first in Worcester County. (Boehm, *op. cit.*, 66, 67; *Journal* entry for July 12, 1796.)

⁸⁶ William Downing, Richard Drummond, and Jonathan Garrettson of Accomack County, and John Johnson of Northampton County, each donated land for the building of a chapel, thereby perpetuating their names in the Methodist annals of the Eastern Shore. (Clark: *Eastern Shore of Maryland and Virginia*, 175.)

⁸⁷ Paramore's, Burton's, and Downing's were the earliest preaching places on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. In 1787 a survey of William Paramore's plantation showed 911 acres. "He took his religion seriously and set free his ten slaves." (Whitelaw: *Virginia's Eastern Shore*, 869.)

⁸⁸ *Minutes*, Northampton Circuit, 1787.

Colonial style, Stucco finish. Contains Wedgewood medallion of John Wesley brought from England and presented to the church. First settled clergyman, Rev. W. G. Bernard, 1857-58. See: articles in Wilmington newspapers, Delaware Republican, Oct. 7, 1858, Every Evening, Nov. 7, 1921, Evening Journal, Nov. 11, 1923.

Minutes, 1857--, 12 vols.; in possession of Jean Leons, 307 W. 24th St. Register (baptisms), 1858--, 4 vols.; (members), 1860--, 5 vols.; (deaths), 1862--, 3 vols.; in possession of pastor, Rev. Oler Ammon Bartley, 2208 Market St. Financial, 1882--, 3 vols.; in possession of Herbert W. Hanby, 13 E. 24th St. Sunday School, 1887--, 1 vol.; in possession of George B. Laylis, 2508 Tatnall St. Records of incorporation and deeds: New Castle Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record, vol. D7, p. 221; vol. D7, p. 147; vol. V14, p. 44; vol. A15, p. 325; vol. C17, p. 157.

- S 273. BREWSTER METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1857-1933 (defunct), 2 miles W. of Midway.

Organized and building dedicated in 1857. It is a one story frame building. Church has been closed since 1933. First settled clergyman, Rev. Thomas Jackson, 1857-58. See: article in Wilmington, Delaware Republican, Jan. 4, 1858.

Minutes, 1857-1933, 2 vols.; Register, 1857-1933, 3 vols.; in possession of Rev. John T. Graham, *at time of this survey.*

274. MCCOLEY'S METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1880--, 2 miles NW of Redden.

Organized and first building erected in 1888. Present building was dedicated in 1898. It was rebuilt in 1931. It is a one story frame structure with name plate above the entrance. First settled clergyman, unknown. See: article in Wilmington, Delaware Republican, Nov. 6, 1858.

Minutes, 1899--, 1 vol.; Financial, 1898--, 1 vol.; in possession of Mrs. R. Vessey, R.F.D., Georgetown. Register, 1898--, 1 vol.; in possession of pastor, Rev. Harold Fordham, Ellendale. Sunday School, 1898--, 1 vol.; kept in church.

275. BETHLEHEM METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1859--, Main Thoroughfare, Coean View.

Organized 1859. Incorporated 1878. First church, a frame structure, was used from 1859 until the dedication of present church in 1896. Church was rebuilt 1904. It is a large frame building with a bell and steeple. First settled clergyman, unknown.

Minutes, 1925--, 1 vol.; Register, 1898--, 1 vol.; in possession of pastor, Rev. William S. Grant. Financial, 1910--, 1 vol.; in possession of Cove McCabe. Sunday School, 1922--, 1 vol.; in possession of Alice Bennett. Records of incorporation and deeds: Sussex Co. Recorder's office, Deeds Record, vol. B990, p. 268; vol. BBE120, p. 122; vol. BSV121, p. 130; vol. BDF157, p. 124.

276. CAMDEN UNION CAMP MEETING, 1859-1900 (defunct), Dover Road, Camden.

Organized and incorporated February 5, 1859 by act of the General Assembly. A plot of a little over fifteen acres between Camden and Dover was purchased the following year. This site included a large grove of oak trees and numerous springs of water. Organization was reincorporated February 19, 1879 and again March 8, 1899. By an act of March 30, 1857 the corporation was vested with police powers. Meetings were held regularly each year until 1900. No mention of them appears in the minutes of the conference after that date.

Record of incorporation and deeds; Sussex Co.
 Recorder's Office, No. 1. AAG 64, p. 137; vol. DFG2
 pp. 291 + 292

JUL 19 1953

Sussex County, Delaware (continued)

non, J. Rust Cannon and William Davis, trustees. A later deed calls the church Bochim. This first chapel was erected with the dual idea of being both school and church. St. John's Methodist Episcopal Church, located in Seaford, is a child of this organization. The old building was eventually purchased by the Seaford Methodist Protestant Church and moved into town and served them for a home for several years. This was in 1862.

Beaver Dam Methodist Protestant Church, Broad Kiln Hundred, was organized in 1844 and the church was built in the same year. The land upon which the church was erected was given by Barkley Wilson. They have built two other churches since then, namely, in 1885 at a cost of \$1,200, and in 1928, they moved the Conway church building and added a Sunday School building at a cost of \$8,174. In 1901, the name was changed to Harbeson Methodist Protestant Church. So far as the records reveal the only improvement for the buildings was in 1923 at which time they spent \$1,800.

Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church (Sailors' Bethel), is located in the town of Bethel, formally called Lewistown, in the Broad Creek Hundred. This is a child of Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church which was located about a mile northeast of the town. Rev. A. T. Melvin led the enterprise of erecting Sailor's Bethel. It was erected in 1855. At a cost of \$4,125, they built their second church in 1884. Extensive improvements are underway at this particular time, the estimated cost of which is \$3,500.

Bethel Methodist Protestant Church in the village of Bethel was built in 1858, and improved in 1906. Its local name being St. John's. Unable to continue as an organization, they sold it a few years ago, to Sailor's Bethel and is now used as a Social Hall.

Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, Gumborough Hundred, was first built in 1841. It was rebuilt twice, once in 1873 and again in 1893.

Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church. See Lewes.

Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church in Seaford Hundred, Northwest Fork, was organized by Bishop Francis Asbury in 1778. It is the famous White Brown Chapel that was the mission station for Methodism for many miles around. The pioneer Methodist preachers made it famous. It is the second earliest Methodist society within the County, the other being the Lewes congregation. For many years the church went by the name of Brown's Chapel. Bishop Asbury planned the chapel, solicited funds for its erection, and was always interested in its success. The first building was erected in 1781, but was not completed until 1806, when a series of crop failures occurred. Bishop Asbury advised them to migrate to Ohio. White Brown, a nephew of Judge Edward White after whom he was named, was among those that moved to Ohio and he became an outstanding figure in Methodism in that state. A new church was erected in 1894. Every five years the Kinder-Noble family reunion is held in this church. Thomas Kinder, a former trustee, when he died, endowed the church, and left large bequests to other churches and the Conference Claimants Funds.

Bethel Church located in the town of Ocean View, formerly worshipped with the Roxana Congregation. The roads being long and sandy, the Ocean View Methodists decided they needed a church of their own and built such in 1885, at a cost of \$4,100. The second church built by this society was in 1899 at a cost of \$3,000. They improved the church in 1922 and built the addition to the church which is used as a Sunday School building and a community house combined, in 1926. They have raised money for a pipe organ but up to now it has not been installed.

Bethany Methodist Episcopal Church at Lowe's Cross Roads, Little Creek Hundred, is the society that moved from Old Jones's Methodist Church. When Bethany was built in 1917, Jones's Church ceased to function, except for their annual anniversary service.

was opened for services in the fall of that year. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 2, 1907, and the dedication service was held on Dec. 1, 1907. The title to the site was deeded to the church by Mr. Hall's daughter, Elizabeth A. Evans, on Aug. 14, 1909. There is a large, well-kept graveyard. The oldest legible tombstone is that of Mary P. Hall who died on Oct. 3, 1838. This is probably a reinterment.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ at Ocean View. This congregation was organized in 1880, when a church was built at Bayard. Trustees were elected on Oct. 20, 1881. The first church was burned; a second church was built and it was also burned. A church site in Ocean View was purchased on Apr. 22, 1899, from James M. Evans. It was stipulated that there should be no cemetery. The present church at Ocean View was built in 1901 and rebuilt in 1940. Their ritual includes baptism by immersion which leads many persons to refer to them as Baptists.

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church (M.E.) was organized in 1859 and a frame church was built. It was incorporated on Feb. 14, 1878 and again on May 3, 1894. Four acres of land were purchased on June 16, 1894, from Elisha Evans. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 14, 1898 and the building was completed in 1899. It was rebuilt in 1904. Additional land was purchased on May 8, 1906, from Mary H. Townsend. On July 21, 1930, Geo. W. Mitchell donated a small strip of land to the church.

There is a large graveyard to the rear of the church, the tombstones dating back to 1862. During the night of Sun., July 19, 1942, the steeple was struck by lightning, ripping off shingles and doing considerable damage. Some time later, the spire was removed.

St. Martin's P. E. Church at Bethany Beach. Although meetings have been held in Bethany Beach by the Episcopalians since 1914, a church was not built until 1940. The erection of St. Martin's Church was begun in May, 1940. The first service and the dedication were held on Sun., Aug. 4, 1940.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ Tabernacle at Bethany Beach. About 1900, a group of members presented to the church, sixteen acres of land at Bethany Beach. The tabernacle, which was then built, is of similar design to the study of Alexander Campbell, one of the founders of the church. For a number of years Chatauquas were held here. At the present time the tabernacle is used during July and August to accommodate various group conferences from the Capital Area of the church, which includes the church at Ocean View and fifty-one other churches. More land was donated on April 30, 1923 by Hiram J. Penrod. A large two-story building was erected near the tabernacle, in 1939, to be used as a dormitory and dining-hall.

Zion Methodist Church (M.E.) at Roxana. The first church was built in 1839 and was named "Sound M. E. Church." It was known to many persons as "Centerville Church," that being the name of Roxana until 1872. The present site, measuring 40 sq. poles was secured on May 21, 1855 from Nathaniel W. Evans. At that time the trustees of Sound Church were Isaac C. West, Wm. R. Tribbs, Zadoch P. Collier and N. W. Evans.

A second church was built and it was dedicated on May 2, 1858, by the Revs. Robt. L. Dashiell and Alfred A. Cookman. The present church was built in 1874. The corner-stone was laid on Tues., Apr. 21, 1874, by the Revs. T. O. Ayers and J. A. Arters, the pastor. It was arranged to dedicate the church on

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Bethel Church located in the town of Ocean View, formerly worshipped with the Roxana Congregation. The roads being long and sandy, the Ocean View Methodists decided they needed a church of their own and built such in 1885, at a cost of \$4,100. The second church built by this society was in 1899 at a cost of \$3,000. They improved the church in 1922 and built the addition to the church which is used as a Sunday School building and a community house combined, in 1926. They have raised money for a pipe organ but up to now it has not been installed.

Bethany Methodist Episcopal Church at Lowe's Cross Roads, Little Creek Hundred, is the society that moved from Old Jones's Methodist Church. When Bethany was built in 1917, Jones's Church ceased to function, except for their annual anniversary service.

was opened for services in the fall of that year. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 2, 1907, and the dedication service was held on Dec. 1, 1907. The title to the site was deeded to the church by Mr. Hall's daughter, Elizabeth A. Evans, on Aug. 14, 1909. There is a large, well-kept graveyard. The oldest legible tombstone is that of Mary P. Hall who died on Oct. 3, 1838. This is probably a reinterment.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ at Ocean View. This congregation was organized in 1880, when a church was built at Bayard. Trustees were elected on Oct. 20, 1881. The first church was burned; a second church was built and it was also burned. A church site in Ocean View was purchased on Apr. 22, 1899, from James M. Evans. It was stipulated that there should be no cemetery. The present church at Ocean View was built in 1901 and rebuilt in 1940. Their ritual includes baptism by immersion which leads many persons to refer to them as Baptists.

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church (M.E.) was organized in 1859 and a frame church was built. It was incorporated on Feb. 14, 1878 and again on May 3, 1894. Four acres of land were purchased on June 16, 1894, from Elisha Evans. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 14, 1898 and the building was completed in 1899. It was rebuilt in 1904. Additional land was purchased on May 8, 1906, from Mary H. Townsend. On July 21, 1930, Geo. W. Mitchell donated a small strip of land to the church.

There is a large graveyard to the rear of the church, the tombstones dating back to 1862. During the night of Sun., July 19, 1942, the steeple was struck by lightning, ripping off shingles and doing considerable damage. Some time later, the spire was removed.

St. Martin's P. E. Church at Bethany Beach. Although meetings have been held in Bethany Beach by the Episcopalians since 1914, a church was not built until 1940. The erection of St. Martin's Church was begun in May, 1940. The first service and the dedication were held on Sun., Aug. 4, 1940.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ Tabernacle at Bethany Beach. About 1900, a group of members presented to the church, sixteen acres of land at Bethany Beach. The tabernacle, which was then built, is of similar design to the study of Alexander Campbell, one of the founders of the church. For a number of years Chatauquas were held here. At the present time the tabernacle is used during July and August to accommodate various group conferences from the Capital Area of the church, which includes the church at Ocean View and fifty-one other churches. More land was donated on April 30, 1923 by Hiram J. Penrod. A large two-story building was erected near the tabernacle, in 1939, to be used as a dormitory and dining-hall.

Zion Methodist Church (M.E.) at Roxana. The first church was built in 1839 and was named "Sound M. E. Church." It was known to many persons as "Centerville Church," that being the name of Roxana until 1872. The present site, measuring 40 sq. poles was secured on May 21, 1855 from Nathaniel W. Evans. At that time the trustees of Sound Church were Isaac C. West, Wm. R. Tribbs, Zadoch P. Collier and N. W. Evans.

A second church was built and it was dedicated on May 2, 1858, by the Revs. Robt. L. Dashiell and Alfred A. Cookman. The present church was built in 1874. The corner-stone was laid on Tues., Apr. 21, 1874, by the Revs. T. O. Ayers and J. A. Arters, the pastor. It was arranged to dedicate the church on

Mariner's Bethel
United Methodist Church



1858 - 1998

Alexander L. Stonin, Jr., Pastor



Alexander L. Slonin, Jr., Pastor

CHURCH HISTORY

1858 - 1991

(as compiled and written by Gloria Evans)

Way back in 1779, an evangelist named Freeborn Garrettson was preaching around the Assawomen Bay area. He became the first Methodist minister who centered his work at a place called 'The Sound.' About 40 persons joined together as a society which grew into the Cedar Neck Society, a part of the Berlin Circuit. We hear of a Hall's Store Society which later turned into Ocean View and, in 1858, they broke away from the Berlin Circuit and joined the new Frankford Circuit. They had no church building so they held services in the afternoon in the Presbyterian Church for a while. They purchased a half acre of land for \$30 on which to build a "House of Worship" and on November 9, 1859 the first church building was dedicated and called Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church, because of so many sea faring members. It stood where the bulletin board is now. When anyone died they were buried "out back." Hence the old part of cemetery has no numbers.

Mariner's Bethel remained in the Frankford Circuit until 1869, at which time the church joined the Centerville Circuit (changed to Roxana Circuit 3 years later).

A camp meeting in 1873 increased the size of Mariner's Bethel, as 117 were converted and most of these joined the church.

In June 1894 the Trustees of Mariner's Bethel purchased 4 acres of land adjoining the property for \$1050, intending to build a new church. This structure was started in 1898 and completed and dedicated in the summer of 1899. It is the shell of our present church.

Mariner's Bethel decided to leave the Roxana Circuit in 1904 and in 1905 it became a separate charge. We had no parsonage, so the pastor, Rev. J. B. Conoway, lived in a part of Mrs. Rhoda Evans' house until 1906. On May 8, 1906 property was purchased and a house costing \$1700 was built. It was a little over a block away from the church on the west side of Central Avenue.

For a few years Mariner's Bethel maintained its independence as a station, but in 1914 Millville was added to form the Ocean View-Millville Charge. There was preaching every other Sunday and class meetings were held on the off Sundays.

In 1922 an electric light plant was purchased for the church. The same wiring and fixtures exist in part today as they were installed. A new community house was built onto the church in 1926 under the leadership of Rev. A. B. Frye. This addition served as both community house and Sunday School building for many years.

In 1947, during Rev. Louhoff's pastorate, a new heating plant was added to the church and plans were made to remodel the interior of the church with new choir benches, pipe organ, divided chancel, altar, and pulpit furnishings. Because of **World War II** building materials were hard to get, so the work was delayed several months. Rev. Jones was here when the work was completed. The sanctuary was dedicated February 1, 1948 by the pastor and Rev. Mulligan, who was District Superintendent at that time. The total amount of the indebtedness was \$9630 and the whole amount was raised in **one day** by a rejoicing congregation.

The first person we know of as handling cemetery affairs was Mr. Gove McCabe, father of Mr. Amos McCabe. He kept very accurate accounts of the monies received, but no record of people buried. When the new church building was put over on the new four acres of land, there was more room for the cemetery, and after a while a plot map was made and lots sold to individual families. This was because some people wanted Mr. Gove McCabe to save a place for the husband or wife to be laid to rest next to their spouse. The first records we have of these cemetery plots and owners date back to 1936.

In the Spring of 1949 Mariner's Bethel and Millville decided to become separate charges and Rev. Donzel Wildey was appointed to this church as a full time pastor. Soon after he arrived, his wife Ellen organized and directed "A Young Adult Choir." This is the same choir which you still hear every Sunday - **not quite so young** but still serving God with their voices.

During Rev. Wildey's ministry the church sanctuary was beautified with wall to wall carpeting and new, colonial style, pews. The parsonage received a forced hot air heating unit, a modernized kitchen and a few other alterations. The old pews were donated to Wesley Community Chapel, Wilmington, Delaware. Also, the church property lines were extended by the purchase of one acre of land on the west side of the church. This purchase was made to give opportunity for expansion of church facilities, parking accommodations, and additional cemetery space.

In 1956 Rev. Covington came to Ocean View and a larger Sunday School building became our dream. Many meetings and plans resulted in ground breaking services in 1958, and a new building was realized in 1959. All church services were held in the school during the six months period prior to June 1959. Our new building cost \$189,277.89 and a Building Treasury was set up to pay for it. In 1963, the Cemetery Committee took over the balance of the debt, which has since been paid.

In 1961 more land was purchased, graded and filled. This was the land for the future new parsonage. The parking lot was surfaced in 1964 and we started the new parsonage. Rev. Chap Hermann moved into a rental property of the late Harbeson Hickman

(across from the old school house). Mariner's sold the old parsonage, and completed the new one at a cost of \$32,507.29, dedication services were held for both the new church and the new parsonage.

In 1963 the Trustees accepted a request for a community kindergarten to be held in the Fellowship Hall. We needed more rooms upstairs so, in 1965 the large room was divided by a sliding partition and 2 new bathrooms were installed on the second floor of the Sunday School area. That year greeters were chosen to always be in the Narthex to greet people as they came to worship; a practice still in place today.

A security light was installed in 1966, then a large sum of money was received from the Clara Daisey Estate in 1967, and more acreage was added to the cemetery plot. Chimes were installed that year and placed in the tower. They were played each night during Christmas week. They were paid for by donations in memory of deceased members. A plaque was installed for the memorials and is on display in the church office.

In 1968 Mariner's again added to the cemetery and had new lots laid off. The ceiling of the Sunday School was painted and in 1969 a patio was built on the parsonage.

Early in 1970 the new red hymnals were purchased with monies received for memorials. A new picture Church Directory became a reality in 1971, with almost every member coming to the church to have his or her picture taken in family groups. This directory came out in 1972. The "Pop Parsons Fund" was established in 1972, providing the church with a projector and screen, later a tape recorder was also purchased.

In 1973 Clarence Holt purchased red cushions for all the church pews. Also in 1973, the church sanctuary was fully air conditioned. Rev. Magill donated a large number of his personal books for a library. Raymond Hickman built shelves along the two sides of our new library. The nursery was refurbished with new carpet and air conditioning.

In February of 1974 a group of women formed a "Bazaar Group" and began working toward an annual bazaar. One of their chief purposes was to make it possible for the new members to get to know the former members of the church. The first year they presented the church budget with \$1500 and have made many donations to the church every year since. A "Home Missions Committee" was also formed that year by a group of church women, this group works discretely to help alleviate suffering and need when it is brought to their attention.

A Public Address system was installed in the church in 1975, and wired to the nursery so those taking care of the children

could hear the services. An "Organ Fund" was started to enable the for making of general major repairs to the pipe organ, and a classical Recital was held during the summer to augment this fund. Mrs. Florence Rickards and her husband presented the church with enough Bibles to have one placed in the rack of each pew. The added book caused the racks to pull loose so in 1976 the "Bazaar" group had the racks enlarged to accommodate the hymnals and Bibles. A new piano, for the upstairs Sunday School room, was purchased this same year, also a new typewriter for the office, and many smaller things were donated. Also in the year of 1976, the Active Adults Sunday School class provided new carpet, drapes and mimeograph machine for the church office. The church had the parking lot re-surfaced. In the Spring the church had a revival, the first of many years, and in the summer another Classical Recital was held to help increase the "Organ Fund." On July 4th Sunday of this Bicentennial year we had an old fashioned meeting, participants fully costumed and some in the congregation too. This idea continued for several years, not every Sunday, of course.

In 1977 the decision was made to sell the old Pipe Organ because of the upkeep and the lack of adequate repair services. Mariner's purchased a new electronic Allen organ for \$19,000. Our organ fund paid a nice down payment and the Cemetery Committee loaned the difference. The Active Adult Sunday School class purchased a new refrigerator for the kitchen, a new fire door for the furnace room, and the required fire extinguishers. The Bazaar group purchased new flags for the front of the sanctuary and a filing cabinet for music in the choir room. The United Methodist Women found secretarial help for the minister and a new railing was put on the front steps to the church.

After much discussion the 1977 Administrative Board agreed to accept the Minister's Pension Fund plan for one year only, but when it came up the next year for renewal they accepted the other two years of the plan.

In 1978 the choir gave two "Evenings of Beautiful Music," the Active Adult Class remodelled the large Sunday School room to make a comfortable lounge, and the Bazaar group re-plated the brass collection plates, altar vases, the cross and the candlesticks. The cornerstone monument was erected at the 120th Anniversary Celebration held that year. New shelves were put in a storage closet for the Bazaar group renamed "The Dorcas Circle."

The year 1979 brought about the renovation of the western Narthex which included new lights. The church school was air-conditioned and the front of the church saw new material in the openings above the organ. Rugs were installed up the stairs and in the upstairs hall. A stainless steel top was put in the kitchen.

In 1980 the windows in the Fellowship Hall were insulated and the cement block walls were covered with paneling. New electric service was installed to alleviate electric problems. There was an old fashioned "strawberry festival" in June and in the Fall an order was placed for plates decorated with a picture of the church.

In 1981 a new well was drilled. Some repairs were in order at the parsonage, along with new carpeting where needed.

On Mother's Day of 1982 the men began serving breakfast for the women to celebrate their day. The ladies reciprocated by giving the men a Banquet dinner on Father's Day. This custom continued through 1987.

The year 1983 showed the choir outgrowing the choir loft, so it was decided to move the seats around in order to make a fourth row. A new refrigerator was purchased as well as a large window air-conditioner for the Fellowship Hall. Edna Taylor visited Africa that year. As a result of her trip, a fund was started by the United Methodist Women to help begin a "piggery" in Sierra Leone.

The new look in the church required having new carpeting installed in 1984 and it was decided to get the same color -red, as the cushions which Clarence Holt had donated. The church members found that rummage was beginning to be a problem, so the Dorcas Circle purchased a Lantz building (10' x 20') to hold the rummage until the annual sale. The Lantz building is located on Loren Evans' property. Some stress was placed on missionary work during that year, both foreign and local. The Active Adults decided the church office needed sprucing up, so the walls were panelled and the floor given new carpeting. This is where the secretary is now housed.

New draperies went up in all the Sunday School rooms in 1985. Outside, a wheelchair ramp, new steps, railings, and sidewalk were installed.

That was also the year our minister was transferred to Georgetown and we found ourselves without a pastor for close to six months. During this time Wendy Schrider, church secretary, held the church together. Then in December, Rev. Ivan Downing came to our church as an interim pastor and completed the year with us. While Rev. Downing was here the library was reclaimed, for a minister's study, so that when our new minister came, in June of 1986, it was practically finished. Elizabeth Graef furnished the study completely as a memorial for her husband, Fred Graef. Also, that year four new glass doors were installed in the church buildings, and Wendy Schrider gave up her job as church secretary, to Theresa Pitman.

When Rev. Slonin came in 1986 he was instrumental in organizing the Ministerium - a group of ministers from the area churches - Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopal, and our own.

The Ministerium has been cooperating in Ecumenical services and projects. Of significant note: yearly pancake suppers have been held with everyone working together and, in 1988 a crop walk, and Ecumenical Vacation Bible School became annual events. Also, the annual Thanksgiving Eve Service, featuring a combined choir and over 300 in attendance, is one of the year's highlights for our area.

At the end of 1986 the church negotiated to purchase the property across the street and next to the parsonage (Baxter Property) for the sum of \$90,000. The deal was closed in 1987. A drive for funds paid for half of this venture and the church has since retired the remainder of the debt. Also in 1986, through the generosity of a church member, a Panasonic Copier was given to the church office.

The parsonage needed a new dishwasher, roof, water pump, boiler, and stove in 1988. The Dorcas Circle purchased the dishwasher and stove.

During the year 1988 the Dorcas Circle saw their dream of having central air in the Fellowship Hall and kitchen, become a reality. The group also purchased a complete computer unit for the church office. More electric service also had to be installed.

In 1988 the men served a Mother/Daughter Banquet which was planned by the younger generation and was enjoyed immensely. New shrubs were planted around the church, and part of the parking lot has been re-surfaced and striped, which has allowed more parking spaces.

Our church family was growing so fast that 1989 found the Trustees struggling with ways and means to enlarge the church and Sunday School rooms. Reverend Slonin helped the church situation by having two worship services on Sunday morning, one at 8:30 AM and another at 11:00 AM through the summer months. This helped accommodate our many visitors along with our regular church family. However, the Sunday School was pushing out the walls and we were constantly looking for a vacant space for storage.

The two Hocker sisters helped with the storage problem. They had two sheds built and placed on the back lot of the cemetery grounds. These they donated in memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Boyer Hocker, and their grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Wilmer VanSant.

A \$50,000 grant was given to the church that began a program to build a new church. So we have been busy, hiring an architect and presenting plans to the Administrative Board. The church agreed to go ahead with the building program. Everyone has been thinking of ways to make money for this program, as it was necessary to raise an additional \$400,000 before the Sunday School part of the plans could be started.

This was also the year that our sister church, Millville United Methodist, became a separate charge. They now have a full time minister and their church family has been growing each year. Mariner's Bethel Dorcas Circle has been helping Millville whenever and however they can, since several of their ladies belong to the Dorcas Circle and are a great help to the group.

The women of Dorcas Circle and the United Methodist Women cannot be praised too highly for their contribution to the church and community. They continually take food (\$100 at a time) to the Edward W. Pyle Center, for they are always in need of food for those less fortunate. The women also take gifts and lap robes to the area nursing homes so the folks there will know they have not been forgotten. Each year the women send a "thank offering" of money to some place special; for example...the migrant workers, the Methodist Manor House, American Indians, and Camp Pecometh. Their monetary gifts to the Building Fund has exceeded \$20,000 to this date.

The Adult Sunday School classes have also been busy. Each year a delicious dinner is prepared by them for our older citizens, (those over 70). They also remember the mothers and fathers by giving a yearly banquet for both, along with the daughters and sons.

The men of Mariner's Bethel have formed a United Methodist Men's group which meets the first Sunday of each month for breakfast, they have been very active. The group has taken care of needed repairs around the church and they are participating in "Adopt A Highway."

The Ministerium has become so important in our area, that other ministers are inquiring how they can be involved in the work they do for the community.

The year 1989 found Evelyn Eby (one of Mariner's family) and the ministerium putting together an ecumenical thrift shop. Through their efforts the Atlantic Community Thrift Shop, (ACTS) has been formed. ACTS has been thriving for the past two years, and they have now been able to purchase a piece of property on which they will build a large one-story building in order that the community may be better served.

Choir Director E. Russell Williams, Jr. gave notice of his retirement in 1990. The choir now has Dr. C. Richard George, who is a voice major with a lifetime of experience. The Adult choir has been actively participating in the building program of Mariner's Bethel. They have been giving their CD's to the fund whenever they come due. They presented an Easter Cantata and play, "How Great Thou Art," which was video taped and then the tapes were sold for the building fund. Ray Hickman rearranged the choir loft, adding two more pews, to make room for all the choir members.

At present most of our efforts are toward the Building Fund. Kitty Pusey suggested collecting a mile of pennies (84,400). Two jars were placed at entrances to the building and to this date have collected \$100. Everyone is saving their aluminum cans which are taken to the recycle location where thus far we have been given \$699.92. In the spring the church treasury gave a \$5 talent to those who would participate in doubling, tripling, and so on, this money. All had until September 1991. Not everyone divulged their projects, but we did hear of some; three spaghetti dinners, homemade cheese cakes, candy, party mix, cakes, Italian bread and rolls, fresh vegetables, cleaning beach houses, making apple butter, cutting grass, and picking blueberries to make goodies to be sold on the boardwalk. When September came round another \$12,000 was added to the building fund from all these talents.

We had a "bowling for fund" raiser in 1991 which consisted of those participating, getting people to sponsor them for bowling three games, paying so much per pin for their best game. We added approximately \$400 more to the building fund at that time.

In recent years Mariner's Bethel has become known for its participation in many civic organizations. We host the following: Lord Baltimore Lions Club, two dinner meetings each month and one Board meeting each month, (the choir has served these dinners since 1980). The Lord Baltimore Women's Club, one meeting each month. Three AA groups, two Al-anon groups and an ACOA/ACODF groups twice each week. Blue Hen and Omar Homemakers one meeting each month. Scout Pack 281 on Monday and Thursday each week. Lions Diabetic testing, once each year. Five yearly meetings of Home Owners' Associations, plus the churches own committee meetings, along with prayer and bible study and a Disciple class each week.

God has richly blessed our church, our members and our community. To **Him** we give the honor, thanks, glory and praise.

Mariner's Bethel
United Methodist Church



1858 - 1998

Alexander E. Stonin, Jr., Pastor

The
Mariner's Bethel Methodist
Church

Ocean View, Delaware



1858 - - 1959

October 18, 1959

The
100th Anniversary

-- of the --

Dedication

-- of --

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church
Central and Atlantic Avenues
Ocean View, Delaware

1858 - - 1959

Rev. Charles E. Covington, S.T.M., Minister

October 18, 1959

Contents



Title Page	1
Dedication	3
G. Bromley Oxnam	4
Roy L. Tawes	5
Charles E. Covington	6
History of the Church	7
The Morning Order of Worship	11
The Order for the Laying of the Cornerstone	12
The Afternoon Order of Worship	13
Pastoral Record	14
Picture of Church	15
Church Directory	16
Commissions and Committees	17
Church Membership List	18
The Future	20

Dedication



The fact that a Church is celebrating its one hundredth anniversary signifies a certain measure of success within that community. However, success stems from mutual endeavor and depends upon total cooperation.

Therefore, in the distribution of the centenary laurels for the successful growth of the Church, the wreaths of credit must be apportioned equally among

those who have had the vision and have dared to dream —

those who have given of their time and efforts in meetings too numerous to mention —

those who have given unstintingly of their talents, so many and so varied —

those who have given of their financial means, sometimes at great sacrifice —

and those who have continually offered their prayers that this Church might occupy its rightful place in the Kingdom of God.

In grateful recognition of their faithful service, this booklet is dedicated to those who are mentioned above, for without their invaluable support and cooperation this Church could not have survived to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its dedication.



BISHOP G. BROMLEY OXNAM

One of the truly great leaders of the Christian movement of our time is Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam. He is Bishop of the Washington Area of the Methodist Church, Secretary of the Council of Bishops of the Methodist Church, Chairman of the Methodist Commission on Chaplains, and Vice-Chairman of the Council on World Service and Finance of the Methodist Church.

In the field of inter-church relations, he was president of the Federal Council of Churches, 1944-46, and one of six presidents of the World Council of Churches.

He has served his Church as a pastor, Poplar Church, California, 1916-17; as the founder, pastor and director of the Church of All Nations, Los Angeles, California, 1917-27; as a professor at the University of Southern California and Boston University School of Theology; as a college president, DePauw University, Greencastle, Ind.; and as Bishop, Omaha Area, 1936-39; Boston Area, 1939-44; New York Area, 1944-52; Washington Area, 1952- .

Bishop Oxnam holds many honorary degrees from institutions of higher learning. He is the author of numerous books and has delivered twelve Lectureships. As a speaker and preacher he is in constant demand.

The Washington Area is justly proud of its Bishop and his gracious wife. He has won the esteem and love of all who know him and serve under him. May he continue to make a great contribution to the Church of Jesus Christ.



REV. ROY L. TAWES

Our District Superintendent was ordained an Elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1928. Since then he has served the following pastorates: Millington, 1928-29; Ridgely, 1930-32; Ocean City, 1933; Magnolia, 1934-36; Seaford Circuit, 1937; Hurlock-Washington, 1938-42, Silverbrook, 1943-48; Milford-Avenue, 1949-53; Wilmington-Peninsula, 1954-56; Superintendent of Dover District, 1957- .

Mr. Tawes has published three volumes of sermons, two of which have become Book Club selections, and contributed to several religious periodicals and devotional symposia. He writes the weekly review of religious books which appears each Saturday on the church page of the Wilmington Morning News. Also, he has been widely used on preaching missions of the denomination, as an inspirational speaker to civic organizations.

He is an Eastern shoreman by birth, a waterman by trade, a Christian by the Grace of God, and a minister by divine call. Through the combination of these unique qualities he has won the confidence, the respect, and the affection of all sorts of people of all parties and religions. We are happy to have him as our District Superintendent and we pray that God will continue to bless him, and his lovely wife, in the work.



REV. CHARLES E. COVINGTON

Dear Members and Friends,

Almighty God has certainly blessed us and made his face to shine upon us during the last few years.

This day will be remembered a long time in the history of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church because it marks not only the culmination of one hundred years of Methodist activity in this place but also the official opening of our new educational building and remodeled church sanctuary.

We can be proud of this new Church because it is the realization of a vision — a dream come true. It has come to pass because we have given our prayers, our work, and our sacrifices.

From the beginning of this great project I have believed that this was the thing we should do and that we could do it by the grace of God. Now it is done! Today as we rejoice in the work of our hands, let us view it as the preface to finer things, yet to come.

It is my sincere prayer that this church will bring us closer to Jesus Christ, the author and finisher of our faith, and that it will stand forever as a beacon light to guide men in His way.

Certainly it has been a precious privilege to share your joys and sorrows, and to be your pastor and friend. I shall treasure and cherish these days as long as I live.

God Bless you all, both now and forevermore.

Charles E. Covington

History of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church



Methodism began in southeastern Sussex in 1779 through the evangelistic preaching of the Rev. Freeborn Garrettson — the first Methodist preacher to visit the area.

At first he centered his Methodist activities at the head of the Assawoman Bay at a place called "The Sound". After preaching five or six sermons, he examined and admitted about forty weeping penitents into a society, which has continued ever since. From this beginning Garrettson branched out and established several preaching appointments — Gray's West's Wood's Evans' and others.

(John Gray)

(Solomon Evans)

It is highly probable that Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church began as one of these preaching appointments, was organized soon afterwards as a society, and later became established as a church.

We do not know exactly when the society at Hall's Store, now Ocean View, was formed; but we do know that it was prior to 1858 because when Frankford Circuit was formed out of territory belonging to Berlin Circuit in the spring of 1858 it was composed of the following appointments: Millsborough, Phillips Hill, Antioch, Salem, Sound, Bishopvilla, St. George's, and Cedar Neck. The Presiding Elder of Snow Hill District was Rev. Henry Colclazer and the preacher in charge of Frankford Circuit was Rev. Robert E. Hazzard.

Soon after becoming a regular appointment the Cedar Neck Society, which was conducting its meetings in the Ocean View Presbyterian Church, decided that their activities were too restricted by worshipping in a borrowed

Church and that they ought to erect a Church of their own.

Mr. William S. Hall, a staunch member of the Ocean View Presbyterian Church, recorded the following in his diary on October 17, 1858:

Our Methodist friends seem to take in their heads to break up our Sabbath School. Their minister, Rev. Hazzard, came in and surveyed the Sabbath School, went out and came in again, got up and spoke and said they must commence preaching at half-past two, and that if the Presbyterians would not let them have the church by that time he invited his congregation to leave and go into the school house. The congregation and about half of the scholars with two female teachers, Elizabeth F. Evans and Sarah Hudson, . . . both being proselytes to the Methodist Church, they left. Whether they will break up the school as they appear to be trying to do, time alone can tell.

On October 1, 1858, the trustees of the Methodist Society — Elisha Evans, Issac E. Burton, James Derrickson, Peter Quillen, and John Steele — purchased about one-half acre of land from Smiley and Hettie Calhoun for the sum of \$30.00 in order that they could "build thereon a house of worship for the use of the members of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America according to the rules and descriptions which from time to time may be agreed upon and adopted by the ministers of the said Church at their General Conference in the United States of America."

The next fall on November 9th the Cedar Neck Society dedicated their first Church and named it "Mari-

ner's Bethel Methodist Church" in honor of the sea going men who loyally supported the church. It was erected upon the land where the bulletin board now stands.

It may be noted in passing that the land which Smiley and Hettie Calhoun sold to the Trustees of the Methodist Society rightfully belonged to Selby H. Evans, an orphan who was raised by John and Nancy Betts. This fact was frequently discussed among the people of the community to the embarrassment of the Methodist Church. Finally, somewhere between 1880 and 1890, the trustees settled the question with Mr. Selby H. Evans by giving him \$25.00 or thereabout.

Mariner's Bethel was one of the churches of the Frankford Circuit until 1869. That March Centerville Circuit was set off from Frankford Circuit with the following appointments: Centerville, Mariner's Bethel, Sound, and Ebenezer. Joseph Lewis was appointed preacher in charge, and William R. Tubbs was appointed as the assistant pastor. During their ministry a number were added to the church and a new parsonage was built in Roxanna at a cost of about \$800.00. Also, under their leadership several members of Mariner's Bethel turned Campbellites.

At the Conference of 1873, which was held in Laurel, Delaware, Centerville Circuit took the name of Roxanna Circuit.

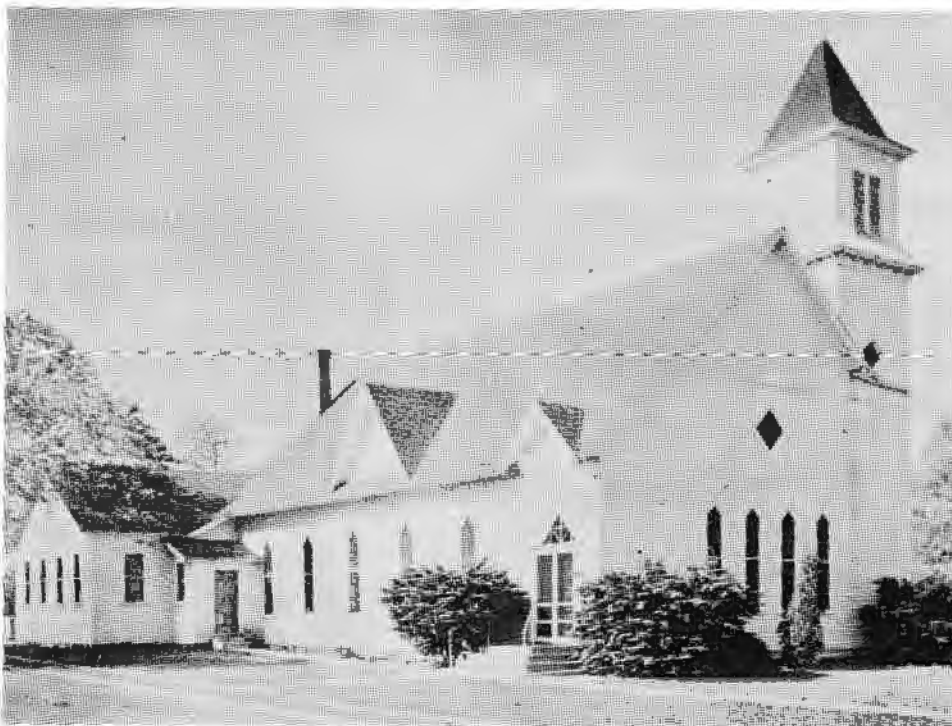
A campmeeting was held at Mariner's Bethel in July 1873, and one hundred and seventeen persons were saved and professed religion. Most of them joined the church.

For a number of years beginning about 1870 the official name of the church is somewhat in question. Sometimes it is written "Mariner's Bethel M. E. Church," or

"Sailor's Bethel," or "Bethel M. E. Church". On February 14, 1878, "the Methodist Episcopal Church called Bethel situated at Ocean View in Baltimore Hundred, Sussex County" elected seven trustees and became incorporated according to the laws of the State of Delaware. On May 3, 1894, the corporation of the church was revised by electing a new board of trustees and adopting "Mariner's Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church" as the corporate name of the congregation. The following board of Trustees was elected: John I. Betts, James A. Bennett, Joshua R. James, Thomas S. Rickards, M. T. Pusey, William L. Williams, and James A. Rickards.

According to the indenture made on June 6, 1894, the trustees of Mariner's Bethel purchased from Elisha and Rhoda P. Evans four acres of land adjoining the church property for the sum of \$1050.00. One half was paid on July 7, 1894 and Mr. Evans took a mortgage for the other half, which was to be paid off at the rate of \$100.00 a year, plus 6% interest on the unpaid balance.

\$1200 was subscribed by the members and friends of Mariner's Bethel in the spring of 1898 to build a new and larger church on the newly acquired property. The cornerstone was laid that same year, during the ministry of Rev. D. F. McFaul, and the building was completed and dedicated the next summer after Rev. Frederick J. Cockran had been appointed to this charge. Rev. G. L. Hardesty, a former minister, and Rev. L. S. Murray assisted the minister in the dedication services. The new church was 39' X 65' and cost approximately \$3,000.00. Meyers Betts of Millsboro was the contractor and James B. Hudson, Mrs. Hazel Simpson's Father, was the foreman during construction. "Old Bethel" was sold to Mr. Gove F. McCabe, who moved it to West Street and remodeled it into an apartment house. Later he sold it to the Church





of Christ, who in turn sold it to Mr. Gove McCabe's son, Paul B. McCabe, with the understanding that it was to be moved. He obliged them by purchasing a piece of land across the road and moving it there. Today it stands directly in front of the Church of Christ.

Rev. J. E. Graham was appointed to Roxanna Circuit in 1901. During the third year of his ministry Mariner's Bethel decided to leave the Roxanna Circuit and become a station. Rev. J. E. Graham moved to Ocean View and lived in a part of Mrs. Rhoda Evans' house, which served as the minister's residence until the parsonage was built.

Rev. J. B. Conoway came as pastor in 1905. While he was here a romance began and when he left to serve the Chincoteague Charge he took Mrs. Martha Burton along, as his bride.

Property was purchased for a parsonage on May 8, 1906 from Mary H. Townsend. A new parsonage was built thereon that same year for \$1700.00 and Rev. D. H. Willis moved in.

For a few years Mariner's Bethel maintained its independence as a station, but in 1914 Millville was added to form the Ocean View-Millville charge. Now there was preaching every other Sunday and class meetings were held on the off Sundays.

In 1922 an electric light plant was purchased for the Church. The same wiring and fixtures exist today as they were installed. A new community house was built onto the Church in 1926 under the leadership of Rev. A. B. Frye. This addition served as both community house and Sunday School building for many years.

During F. C. Louhoff's administration a new heating plant was added to the church and plans were made to remodel the interior of the church with new choir benches, pipe organ, divided chancel, altar, and pulpit furnishings. This was during World War II when materials were hard

to get, so the work was delayed for several months. Rev. T. C. Jones came to this charge in 1947 while the work was underway. On February 1, 1948, the sanctuary was dedicated by the pastor and Rev. Thomas C. Mulligan, the District Superintendent, who preached the dedicatory sermon. The total amount of the indebtedness, which was \$9630.00, was raised that day and there was much rejoicing among the people.

In the spring of 1949 Mariner's Bethel and Millville peacefully decided to become separate charges, and Rev. Donzel C. Wildey was appointed to this church as a full time pastor. Soon after he arrived, a Young Adult Choir was organized and directed by Mrs. Ellen Wildey. During his ministry the church sanctuary was beautified with wall to wall carpet and new colonial style pews and the parsonage received a forced hot air heating unit, a modernized kitchen, and a few other alterations. The old pews were donated to Wesley Community Chapel, Wilmington, Delaware. Also, the church property lines were extended by the purchase of one acre of land on the west side of the church from Howard B. Warren. The purchase of land





was made to give opportunity for expansion of church facilities, parking accommodations, and additional cemetery space.

On October 7, 1956, the Official Board accepted the following list of persons, the first nine of which were the trustees at that time, to serve as a Special Building Committee: Issac L. Bennett, Amos F. McCabe, John C. Mitchell, Everett Cannon, Francis Derrickson, William R. Murray, Harry H. Dukes, Jr., Thomas E. Hickman, Gove F. McCabe, Mrs. Jennie Parsons, Mrs. Eva Derrickson, Mrs. Florence Burbage, Fred Graef, Harbison H. Hickman, Sr., and Willis Mitchell. This group met monthly at first and more frequently as the planning progressed. The floor plans and blueprints were unanimously approved by the District Board of Church Extension and Relocation on November 8, 1957, and the committee began to concentrate on the detailed specifications. Notice to bidders was advertised during July and the bids received were opened and read on September 1, 1958. D. F. Quillen and Sons, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, was the low bidder at \$78,500.00. The Baltimore Trust Company, Selbyville, Delaware, agreed to loan the Church up to \$45,000.00 and we signed contract with the low bidder on September 25, 1958 for \$74,975.00. Ground breaking services were conducted on October 19, and the actual construction was

begun in November. All Church services were conducted at the Lord Baltimore High School from Thanksgiving to Father's Day. Construction progressed rapidly and on June 19, 1959, Jane Hargadine and Gerald Layton's wedding and reception were held in the new building. All work was completed according to the contract documents by September. Extra work and furnishing increased the actual cost of the project to \$89,277.89. A break-down of the expenditures is as follows:

Contract	74,975.00
Extras under Contract	9,578.91
Furniture and Equipment	3,314.97
Supervising Agent	1,268.31
Advertising and Legal Fees	140.70

This brings us to the present time. If this brief sketch of our history merits praise, give it to those who deserve it — the members and friends of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church, whoever they are and wherever they live. God Bless you all.



The Afternoon Order of Worship

October 18, 1959

2:30 P. M.

Organ Prelude	"Largo" by G. F. Handel
Choral Call to Worship	The Choir
*Hymn 279	Cwm Rhondda
*Invocation	

Almighty God, author of eternal light, illumine our hearts by the light of thy grace, that our lips may praise thee, that our lives may bless thee, that our worship may glorify thee; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*The Psalter — Forty-second Sunday, Second Reading	Page 610
*Gloria Patri	
*Affirmation of Faith — III	

We believe in one God, Maker and Ruler of all things, Father of all men; the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We believe in Jesus Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our Teacher, Example, and Redeemer, the Saviour of the World.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort and for strength.

We believe in the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need.

We believe in the word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and of practice.

We believe in the Church as the fellowship for worship and for service of all who are united to the living Lord.

We believe in the Kingdom of God as the divine rule in human society; and in the brotherhood of man under the Fatherhood of God.

We believe in the final triumph of righteousness, and in the life everlasting. Amen.

Solo, "I Believe"	Lois Brasure
Lesson from the Holy Scriptures	Psalm 145:1-21
Choral Call to Prayer — "An Evening Prayer"	The Choir
Silent Meditation	
Pastoral Prayer and Choral Amens	
Anthem, "Battle Hymn of Republic"	The Choir
Offertory Prayer	

Heavenly Father, giver of all good things, who hast taught us that it is more blessed to give than to receive; we dedicate our offerings to the service of thy Church, humbly beseeching thee that all our gifts and energies may be consecrated to the extension of thy Kingdom on earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	"God's Way"
*The Congregational Response—"All Things Come of Thee"	Page 606
*Hymn 244	The Solid Rock
The Sermon — "Saints As Managers"	The Rev. Roy L. Tawes
*Hymn 180	Trentham
*Benediction	

The peace of God which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. Amen.

*Doxology	
*Organ Postlude	"Postlude in C" by William C. Steere

*Congregation stands.

The Morning Order of Worship

October 18, 1959

11:00 A.M.

Organ Prelude	"Op. 28 No. 4" by Chopin
Choral Call to Worship	The Choir
*Processional Hymn 31	Laudes Domini
*Invocation	

O Lord our God, mighty and merciful, renew our spirits and draw our hearts to thee, that our work may not be to us a burden, but a delight; and give us such love for thee that it will sweeten all our service. Help us that we may serve thee with the cheerfulness and gladness of children, delighting ourselves in thee and rejoicing in all that is to the honor and glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Psalter — Forty-second Sunday, First Reading	Page 609
*Gloria Patri	
*Affirmation of Faith	

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Anthem, "The Perfect World"	The Choir
Lesson from the Holy Scriptures	Isaiah 61:1-11
Choral Call to Prayer	The Choir
Silent Meditation	
Pastoral Prayer and Choral Amens	
Anthem, "He Hideth My Soul"	The Choir
Offertory Prayer	

Accept, O Lord, the offerings which thy people make unto thee, and grant that the cause to which they are devoted may prosper under thy guidance, to the glory of thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings	"Alone"
*The Congregational Response—"All Things Come of Thee"	Page 606
*Hymn 164	Coronation
The Sermon	The Rev. Dr. Albert E. Day
*Hymn 179	Morecombe
*Benediction	

Now the God of Peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make you perfect in every good work to do His will, working in you that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

*Doxology	
*Organ Postlude	"Postlude in B Flat" by Franz Liszt

*Congregation stands.

Order for the Laying of the Cornerstone of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church

2:00 P. M.

Minister: Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Dearly beloved, we are assembled to lay the cornerstone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly invoke his blessing on this, our undertaking.

Responsive Reading

Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

People: **For He Hath Founded It Upon The Seas, And Established It Upon The Floods.**

Minister: Who shall ascend into the hall of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place?

People: **He That Hath Clean Hands, And A Pure Heart; Who Hath Not Lifted Up His Soul Unto Vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.**

Minister: He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

People: **This Is The Generation Of Them That Seek Him, That Seek Thy Face.**

The Gloria Patri

Congratulations The Rev. Roy L. Tawes

Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, the Rock of Ages, on thee we build all our hopes for his life and that which is to come. Other foundation we would not seek to lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ; and we have built upon this cornerstone a holy temple to the living God. Accept the act by which we lay this cornerstone. Bless those whose offerings enable us to build this house of worship. May the walls of this church be secure and beautiful always; and may the hearts of these thy people be fitly joined together into a living temple, builded upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Amen.

Litany for Laying of Cornerstone

To the glory of God our Father, to the service of our dear Master and His Church, and to the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit,

We Lay The Cornerstone Of This Church.

For a building of which Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone, the pillar and ground of the truth,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a building that shall stand as a symbol of the Church Universal, the cornerstone of which is truth, the creed of which is love, and its towers eternal hope,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall exalt not a religion of creed or of authority, but a religion of saving grace, of personal experience, and of spiritual power,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall exalt the ministry of the open Bible, with its faithful record of human life, its unfolding of the redeeming grace of God through Jesus Christ, its message of warning, inspiration, comfort and hope,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall be a renewing and cleansing power in the community, and that loves every other communion that exalts Christ in the service of man,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church with an open door for all people, rich or poor, homeless or desolate, who need the help of God through us,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall gather the children in its arms and hold them close to Christ, that they may grow up in the Church and never be lost from the fold,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

In loving memory of those who have gone from us, whose hearts and hands have served in this church; with gratitude for all whose faith and consecrated gifts make this house possible, for all who may share this spiritual adventure; and with hope for all who shall worship in this house in years to come,

We Lay This Cornerstone In The Name Of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Unto The Ages Of Ages, World Without End. Amen.

Laying of Cornerstone

Benediction

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore. Amen.

Pastoral Record

FRANKFORD CIRCUIT

Robert B. Hazzard — William T. Tull	1858—1859
Edward Townsend — James McLaughlin	1859—1860
Edward Townsend — W. Matthews	1860—1861
W. Talbot — William Formosa	1861—1862
W. Talbot — J. T. Van Burkalow	1862—1863
William W. Redman — T. B. Killian	1863—1865
? ? ? ?	1865—1866
George W. Burke	1866—1868
J. W. Weston	1868—1869

ROXANNA CIRCUIT

Joseph Lewis	1869—1872
Joseph A. Arters	1872—1875
James Conner	1875—1877
John Shilling	1877—1878
Joseph Dare	1878—1881
Thomas B. Hunter	1881—1882
Edwin H. Hynson	1882—1884
E. P. Roberts	1884—1885
William R. McFarlane	1885—1888
Alfred T. Melvin	1888—1889
Andrew D. Davis	1889—1890
Clinton T. Wyatt	1890—1893
George L. Hardesty	1893—1895
Joshua W. Gray	1895—1897
William G. Chance	1897—1898
Daniel F. McFaul	1898—1899
Frederick J. Cockran	1899—1901
James E. Graham	1901—1905

OCEAN VIEW CHARGE

J. B. Conoway	1905—1906
Daniel H. Willis	1906—1907
Edward H. Marshall	1907—1908
L. T. McLain	1908—1911
Charles H. Williams	1911—1913
Emory W. McDowell	1913—1915

OCEAN VIEW — MILLVILLE CHARGE

James W. Fogle	1915—1917
George E. Sterling	1917—1919
H. W. Holter	1919—Sept
Ernest C. Hallman	1919—1922
Goldsboro W. Hastings	1922—1924
Alpha B. Frye	1924—1927
Charles W. Branford	1927—1933
D. J. Moore	1933—1935
W. S. Grant	1935—1939
John E. Parker	1939—1943
Charles E. Davis	1943—1945
F. Charles Louhoff, Jr.	1945—1947
Thomas C. Jones	1947—1949

OCEAN VIEW CHARGE

Donzel C. Wildey	1949—1953
A. Jason Blundon	1953—1956
Charles E. Covington	1956—

The
Mariner's Bethel Methodist
Church



Ocean View, Delaware

Church Directory

CHURCH OFFICIARY

The Rev. G. Bromley Oxnam Bishop, Washington Area
The Rev. Roy L. Tawes District Superintendent, Dover
The Rev. Charles E. Covington Minister, Ocean View
Mrs. Ella Mezick Choir Director
Mrs. Dorothy Murray and Mrs. Sally Jane Hickman Organists

CHURCH OFFICERS

Chairman of the Official Board Willard R. Pusey
Secretary of the Official Board Mrs. Gloria Evans
Financial Secretary William Collins
Current Expense Treasurer William F. Wilgus, Jr.
Building Fund Treasurer Willis W. Mitchell
Church Lay Leader Willard R. Pusey
Chairman of the Board of Trustees John C. Mitchell
President of the W. S. C. S. Mrs. Mabel H. Dukes
President of the Y. A. F. Edward R. Button
President of the M. Y. F.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

1960

Isaac L. Bennett
Amos F. McCabe
John C. Mitchell, President

1961

Francis Derrickson
William R. Murray, V. Pres.
George Robinson

1962

Edward L. Simpson
Thomas E. Hickman
Harry H. Dukes, Jr., Secretary

BOARD OF STEWARDS

1960

Mrs. Ethel Davidson
Mrs. Bessie Evans
Edward R. Button
Elliott C. Evans
Fred Graef
Herman Mumford
Edwin O. Murray, Sr.
Irwin Steele
Albert Russell
William Townsend

1961

Mrs. Della Holt
Mrs. Helen Kauffman
Mrs. Margaruite McCabe
Mrs. Dorothy Murray
William P. Bant
John H. Hargadine
Robert I. Hudson
David L. Murray
Minos J. Parsons
George Robinson

1962

Mrs. Harley Burbage
Mrs. Mabel H. Dukes
Mrs. Eva Derrickson
Norman Calhoun, Sr.
Vernon C. Cobb
Harbison Hickman, Jr.
Vernon McCabe, Sr.
Myron Mezick
William R. Murray
Edward L. Simpson

WOMAN'S SOCIETY OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE

Mrs. Mabel H. Dukes, President
Mrs. Helen Kauffman, Secretary

Mrs. Kathryn Hickman, Vice-President
Mrs. Lillian D. Evans, Treasurer

COMMUNION STEWARD

Mrs. Jennie M. Parsons

CHURCH CUSTODIANS

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Derrickson

Commissions and Committees

COMMISSION ON EDUCATION

Lee Kinley	Vernon McCabe, Sr., Chairman	
Mrs. Florence Burbage	Miss Elizabeth Derrickson	Mrs. Gloria Evans
Mrs. Edna Taylor	Mrs. Eva Derrickson	Mrs. Alice Lathbury
Jacob B. Hocker, Jr.	Mrs. Lois Powell	Edward L. Simpson
Oliver McCabe, Jr.	Miss Yvonne Long	William P. Bant
Mrs. Helen Kauffman	Mrs. Clara McCabe	Fred Graef
	Mrs. Ella Pusey	Raymond Swadley
	Mrs. Della Holt	

COMMISSION ON MEMBERSHIP AND EVANGELISM

	Thomas E. Hickman, Chairman	
Mrs. Jennie Parsons	Mrs. Eva Derrickson	Mrs. Viola Robinson
William P. Bant	Edward L. Simpson	I. Robert Willey

COMMISSION ON MISSIONS

	Dr. Ruth Rivard, Chairman	
Mrs. Mary H. Collins		Mrs. Alice B. Lathbury

COMMISSION ON FINANCE

	Harry H. Dukes, Jr., Chairman	
William Collins	William F. Wilgus, Jr.	Willis W. Mitchell

SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Issac L. Bennett	Francis Derrickson	Edward L. Simpson
Amos F. McCabe	William R. Murray	Thomas E. Hickman
John C. Mitchell	George Robinson	Harry H. Dukes, Jr.
Mrs. Florence Burbage	Mrs. Eva Derrickson	Mrs. Jennie Parsons
Fred Graef	Harbison H. Hickman, Sr.	Willis Mitchell

AUDITING COMMITTEE

Ralph Helm	Willard R. Pusey	David W. Steele
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MUSIC COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ella Mezick	Mrs. Sally Jane Hickman	Mrs. Dorothy Murray
Mrs. Helen Kauffman		Mrs. Gloria Evans

CEMETERY COMMITTEE

Mrs. Eva Derrickson	Mrs. Florence Rickards	Thomas E. Hickman
John Mitchell	Amos F. McCabe	Mrs. Florence Burbage

PARSONAGE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Margaruite McCabe	Mrs. Gladys S. Helm	Mrs. June Steele
Harry H. Dukes, Jr.	Francis Derrickson	George Robinson

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Vernon McCabe, Sr.	William R. Murray	Willard Pusey
Free Graef	Thomas E. Hickman	John C. Mitchell
Harry H. Dukes, Jr.	Mrs. Hettie Gray	Herman Mumford, Chairman

Members
of the
MARINER'S BETHEL METHODIST CHURCH
on
October 1, 1959

Bant, William P.	12- 1-46	Dolby, Nelson P.	1- 9-49	Edna M.	2- 5-50
Eileen C.	12- 1-46	* Alvanna	Old Book	*Hickman, Helena	11-29-08
Robert H.	12-28-58	Dukes, Harry H., Jr.	12- 9-45	Hickman, Betty S.	3-17-35
Barker, Beverly Anne	3-29-53	Mabel H.	12- 9-45	Hickman, Manie	3-17-35
*Beauchamp, Sarah L.	6-13-02	Nancy L.	4- 3-55	Hickman, Nettie	12- 9-45
*Bennett, Isaac L.	11-10-01	Harry H., III	12-28-58	Hickman, Raymond J.	3-17-35
* Mary E.	11-29-08			Sally Jane W.	2- 5-50
*Bishop, Agnes E.	Old Book	Evans, Elliott	3-29-14	Hickman, Thomas E.	2-13-27
Bunting, Gladys H.	4-21-46	Lillian D.	10- 1-15	Kathryn R.	1-25-48
*Burbage, Harley R.	Old Book	Evans, Anita H.	3-29-53	Sue	4- 3-55
* Florence	11-29-08	Evans, Harold, Sr.	12- 9-45	Hiestand, Verona	10-26-24
Burton, Allen H.	1-27-52	Katherine	12- 9-45	Hill, John R.	4-21-46
Jean B.	1-27-52	Harold, Jr.	4-11-54	Roxie	2-15-20
Burton, Howard	4-20-52	Evans, Linwood H., Jr.	2- 1-48	Charllotte	4-21-46
Viola D.	4-20-52	Bessie H.	2- 1-48	Jackie	4- 3-55
Button, Edward R.	4-16-50	Kenneth C.	4- 1-56	Hocker, Clayton L.	3-17-35
Catherine M.	3-21-48	Evans, Louis L.	4-21-45	Mary M.	2- 1-48
		Gloria	6-10-37	Delores H.	4-3-55
		Laura	3-29-51	Faye Anne	12-28-58
		Loren	5- 9-48	Hocker, Jacob B., Jr.	2-13-27
		Miriam	4- 3-55	Ruth H.	2- 1-48
		Amos	12-28-58	Hocker, Helen V.	3-29-14
Calhoun, Norman C.	4- 2-50	Evans, J. Oliver	9-14-58	Holt, Adella B.	10-26-24
Anne	4- 1-56	Mabel	9-14-58	Howeth, Elma C.	12-16-46
Calhoun, Norman E.	3-20-27	Evans, Orville	3-29-14	Hudson, Robert I.	10-19-15
* Sallie W.	11-29-08	Helen	10-5-25	Sallie C.	10-19-15
Cannon, Everett N.	11-15-31	Evans, Wm. Burton	3-29-51		
Marion	11-15-31	Fatone, Florrie	11-19-50	*Johnson, Cora Maud	11-29-08
Carpenter, Howard	1-25-48			Justice, Sanford C.	3-14-48
Mildred C.	12-16-46	Gemza, Matthew C.	4- 2-50	Margaret K.	9-20-59
Carole M.	4- 3-55	Louise N.	4- 2-50		
Cobb, Vernon C.	11- 2-36	Graef, Fred	1-25-48	Kauffman, Charles M.	4- 9-44
Ralph D.	12-16-46	Elizabeth	1-25-48	Kauffman, Helen J.	4- 1-16
Collins, William	11-18-51	Linda	4- 3-55	Keen, L. Gertrude	6-14-12
Mary H.	4-21-46	Gray, Joshua	2-13-27	Keen, Mabel	3-29-53
Conner, William T.	3-14-48	Hettie D.	2-13-27	Mary K.	12-28-58
Lois J.	12- 9-45			Kinley, Lee	10- 2-55
**Conoway, Martha B.	10-19-84	Harbaugh, Buddy	4- 1-56	Mary S.	10- 2-55
		Hargadine, John H.	1- 9-49		
Daisey, Clara M.	1- 1-15	Hazel H.	1- 9-49	Lamb, John T.	5- 3-53
Daisey, Clara B.	1- 1-56	Harmon, Minnie	1-25-48	Lathbury, Ernest E.	4-24-49
Davidson, Andrew	3-29-14	Helm, Ralph N.	11-18-51	Alice B.	2-13-27
Davidson, Ebe H.	3-29-14	Gladys S.	11-18-51	Walter	4-11-54
* Ethel B.	1- 1-96	Herrington, Robt. L.	6-26-55	Frank	12-28-58
Derickson, Allen B.	2- 3-21	Phyllis L.	4-21-46	Layton, Jane H.	4-17-49
Derickson, Lloyd A.	2- 6-21	Hickman, Doris	10- 5-25	Lenon, Janet H.	4-21-46
Derrickson, Catherine	11- 1-45	*Hickman, Elsie F.	Old Book	Long, Horace	1-25-21
*Derrickson, Francis	11-29-08	Hickman, Harbson, Jr.	3-17-35	Dorothy M.	5- 9-48
* Eva H.	6-13-02	Geraldine E.	2- 5-50	Yvonne	4-20-52
Elizabeth	2-15-20	Geraldine E.	3-29-53	*Long, Ida	Old Book
Derrickson, Iona H.	4-21-45	Delores M.	4- 1-56	*Long, Isaac N.	11-29-08
Derrickson, Myrtle	3- 7-41	*Hickman, Harbson, Sr.	3-10-01	Anne M.	5- 9-48
Derrickson, Owen J.	11- 2-35				
Mary J.	3- 9-13				
Diven, William B.	12- 1-57				
Elsie B.	12- 1-57				

Long, Mary J.	12-18-45	Parsons, Minos J.	2- 6-38	Townsend, William S.	1- 6-52
*Lynch, Lulu S.	Old Book	Jennie M.	2- 6-38	Melba D.	4- 6-47
McCabe, Amos F.	3-29-14	Parsons, Robert J.	4- 3-55	Turner, Ruth E.	4-21-46
Margaruite	4-10-27	Phillips, Frank, Sr.	1-25-48	Tyre, Jean Q.	2-27-49
McCabe, Paul B.	3-29-14	Pickering, Joseph C.	5-3-53	Tyre, Ruth B.	4-10-49
McCabe, Vernon, Jr.	4-21-46	* Almira	Old Book		
*McCabe, Vernon, Sr.	11-19-05	Powell, Lois S.	8-28-48	Vickers, Flora M.	4-21-46
Oliver	4-21-46	Powell, Janice M.	12-26-48	Vogel, Ruth Anne	4- 1-56
McFarland, Andrew	4- 1-16	*Pusey, Clara B.	Old Book		
Eva	4- 1-16	Pusey, Harold	9-20-59		
McGee, Harold	11-21-54	Elia W.	10- 5-25	Walston, Minnie A.	12- 9-45
Alice	11-21-54	Pusey, Willard R., Sr.	2-13-27	Wilgus, Donald L.	4-21-46
		Catherine P.	4- 5-52	Wilgus, Gerald	2-27-49
		Jean E.	4-11-54	Wilgus, Anne	4-20-52
		Billy	4- 1-56	Wilgus, Jane	4-20-52
				Willey, I. Robert	1-27-52
*Melson, Eime M.	Old Book	Quillen, John E.	4- 2-50	Ola	1-27-52
Mezick, Myron D.	1-27-52	Mary E.	4- 2-50	Judith A.	4-20-52
Ella S.	1-27-52	Quillen, Mary E.	4-22-28		
Adrienne	4-11-54				
Michelle	12-28-58				
Mitchell, Harry P.	2-13-27				
Anne P.	1-25-48				
*Mitchell, John C.	10- 8-03	Rickards, Chester K.	6- 4-11		
* Ethel R.	Old Book	Florence	12- 9-45		
Mitchell, Paula	4- 1-56	*Rickards, Clara B.	Old Book		
Mitchell, Willis W.	1-30-21	Rickards, Anna Mae	4-13-58		
Frances	1- -34	Rickards, G. Kendall	1-30-21		
Connie	4- 1-56	Etha	1-25-48		
Kendall	4- 1-56	Nancy J.	12-28-58		
John G.	12-28-58	Rickards, Virginia M.	3-29-14		
Moore, Gladys D.	3-17-35	Rivard, Dr. Ruth	2-13-55		
Mumford, Herman	1- 1-56	Robinson, George A.	2-13-27		
Laone	1- 1-56	Viola	3-13-26		
Dirk	1- 1-56	Russell, Albert, Sr.	12- 1-57		
Sheila	1- 1-56	Hattie T.	12- 1-57		
Murray, David L.	3-20-27	Billie Jean	12-28-58		
Leonor R.	12- 9-45				
Neil W.	4-11-54				
Murray, Edwin O., Sr.	3-20-27	Sheaffer, Benjamine R.	1-27-52		
Gladys C.	3-21-48	Grace H.	1-27-52		
Edwin O., Jr.	4-20-52	Showell, Hilda Anne M.	5- 9-48		
Murray, Gene	4-20-52	Simpson, Edward L.	8-28-48		
Elizabeth	4-13-58	Hazel H.	2- 6-21		
Murray, Grant W.	5- 9-48	Smith, Joshua	3-29-53		
Bernice L.	5- 9-48	Smith, Richard	4-29-51		
Murray, Bonnie L.	12-28-58	Roxanne	4-29-51		
Murray, Orlando	12- 9-45	Smith, Rupert	4- 1-56		
Kathryn	12- 9-45	Steele, David W.	3-17-35		
Murray, Mary	12-26-48	June	2- 1-48		
Gerald E.	12-26-48	Steele, Elva K.	1- 6-29		
Joyce	12-26-48	Steele, Daniel	5- 9-48		
Murray, William O.	4-20-52	Steele, Irwin E.	3-17-35		
Jeanette D.	4-13-58	Virginia T.	1-25-48		
Murray, William R.	2- 3-21	Wilmer	4- 1-56		
Dorothy H.	3-20-27	Terrie Lee	12-28-58		
		Stroud, Frances M.	4-21-46		
		Sutton, Barbara	4- 6-47		
		Kenneth, Jr.	12-28-58		
Oakley, Grace R.	12-22-40	Taylor, Stanley	9-20-59		
Oothoudt, Mabel	2-13-55	Edna	9-20-59		
		Freddie	9-20-59		
Parker, James S.	11-28-54				
Ruth W.	11-28-54	Toomey, Louise B.	4-10-49		
Jay	4- 1-56				

* Denotes Fifty
Year Membership.

** Denotes Seventy-five
Year Membership.

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church

The Future

As Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church moves into its second century of service, no one can predict what that century will bring to our Church, the nation or the world. Literally speaking the sky is the limit. The advances and changes of the past hundred years, as great and marvelous as they are, will probably be eclipsed by the developments and achievements of the next century. New discoveries will be made; new materials will be introduced; new processes will be invented; new methods will be employed; and new markets will be opened. With these will come changes in our standard of living, but the needs of the soul will be the same and to them our Church must continue to serve.

It is, therefore, both unsound and unwise for our Church to view the future with a static concept of progress. The times call for increased flexibility in our thinking, planning, and developing in all areas of our Church's program. Our Church's service must be geared to the needs and requirements of the advancing Age, and our Church's message must be pertinent to the conditions of the people.

As We Step Into Tomorrow

Every step must be in the right direction —
one step ahead with Christ.

Long or short, every step which
Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church
takes into tomorrow must be made
in the faith that Jesus Christ,
who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life,
is guiding us.

Our Church's progress depends upon you,
the members and friends of the Church,
as you join in the worship of God
and the fellowship of the saints
with your prayers, your gifts,
and your talents.

Together we shall step into tomorrow
with the Gospel of Jesus Christ,
which must be made meaningful
to all people of the earth
through lives of service
and deeds of love.

Collection of Amelioration of the Poor Law

The undersigned certify that in pursuance of the Statute in that behalf made...

It is the duty of the Poor Law Commissioners to see that the Poor Law is carried into effect in a manner that shall be for the benefit of the poor and for the improvement of the country...

The undersigned do hereby certify that they have examined the returns of the Poor Law Commissioners and find that they are correct and conform to the provisions of the Statute...

Witness my hand and seal this 15th day of October 1834.

James St. John, Secretary to the Poor Law Commissioners.

At February A. D. 1875. for the purpose of electing trustees for said Church and Chapel to become incorporated as by the laws of the State of Delaware required. Elisha Evans was chosen the chairman and W. G. H. Williams name Church and the members of said Congregation they proceeded to elect seven Trustees for the said Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church at Ocean View and thereupon Giles J. Bette Henry B. Henry William J. Williams William E. Dutton Samuel Benckson William W. M. Neal and William H. Bette was duly elected. the Trustees thereof may each having received a plurality of the votes cast at such meeting
Elisha Evans Treasr
W. G. H. Williams Secretary. Lodged and Recorded Apr 9th 1875.
B. W. Burton Recorder.

✓ Deed Thomas W. Ralph and Joshua H. Mannel
which indenture made the thirtieth day of March in the year of our Lord 1874
between hundred and seventy eight between Thomas W. Ralph administrator of the
singular goods chattels rights credit which were of John Hoopes late of
Sussex Delaware dec'd of the one part Joshua H. Mannel of Little Creek
and his estate of the other part. Whereas the said John Hoopes in
his lifetime at the time of his death was seized in his demesne as of fee
of a certain lot piece parcel of land situate in the town of Laurel adjoining
land of S. H. Mannel William H. H. Mannel the county of and leading from James
the significant of which land has been assigned to the executor of said
deed containing eight square perches on a certain lot of land situate in
Mannel in Little Creek hundred Sussex adjoining lands of S. Mannel the
square feet of said land containing eight square perches also to the herein
mentioned in the land assigned to the executor of the said John Hoopes situate in the
hundred of said Sussex adjoining the S. H. Mannel land of James Mannel and
James Mannel street containing eight square perches being so the said John
intestate. Whereas the said Thomas W. Ralph and Joshua H. Mannel as of fee
said John Hoopes as executor of the said John Hoopes estate of the one part
at an adjourned time of the said Court at 1874 representing to said Court that
the personal estate of said John Hoopes dec'd was not sufficient to pay discharge
the debts due and outstanding against the estate of said dec'd prayed the Court to
make an order for the sale of the said land. In pursuance of the said order
was at the time of the payment of such part of the debt of said dec'd as his personal estate
was not sufficient to satisfy. Whereas the said John Hoopes Court after due notice
in the said petition application did come in view of said Court the issue
thereof they authorizing and empowering the said Thomas W. Ralph and Joshua H. Mannel
John Hoopes dec'd as executor of the said John Hoopes estate to sell dispose of the above
of the purpose of said order. Whereas the said Thomas W. Ralph and Joshua H. Mannel
said order of the Court of the one part authorized in his name as such a trustee of
the herein mentioned order of the said Court did in pursuance of the said order
statement of the land herein before described at public sale and auction
the 2nd day of March last past said that at the said sale all the lands
tenements heretofore herein before described to the said Joshua H. Mannel
for the sum of one hundred twenty seven dollars in the said Joshua
H. Mannel being the highest bidder thereof. Whereas the said sale
was made as aforesaid and the proceeds thereof were returned to the said John Hoopes Court

their Heirs and Assigns forever all the right title and claim whatsoever in law and equity
of the said Elisha E. Hudson to all the contents lands and parcels of land above described
to wit: as sets number one two and three To Have and To Hold the above granted land to the
said Shepard S. Hudson and Christopher C. Rapp their Heirs and Assigns to the truly proposed
and behoof of the said Shepard S. Hudson and Christopher C. Rapp their Heirs and Assigns forever
In Testimony whereof the said Charles H. Stebbins Sheriff as aforesaid hath hereunto set his
hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed sealed and delivered in the presence of us

Wm. L. Dunning James Stuart

Charles H. Stebbins Sheriff

State of Delaware Doit Remembered that on the third day of May in the year of our
Sovereign Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight Charles H. Stebbins

Sheriff party to the foregoing Indenture personally came before me James
Stuart a Notary Public for the State of Delaware and did acknowledge the same
to be his deed. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed
my Notarial Seal at Georgetown the State aforesaid the day and year aforesaid.

James Stuart N. P.

This deed was lodged in the Recorder's Office in and for Sussex County on the twenty first
day of March A. D. eighteen hundred and fifty nine William Harris Recorder

I, Wm. L. Dunning Trustee of the E. P. Church from Emily Calhoun's Kelly et al. his wife
The Indenture made the first day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and fifty eight between Emily Calhoun and Kelly et al. his wife of the County of
Sussex State of Delaware of the one part, and Elisha Evans Isaac E. Burton James B.
Nichols Peter Quillen and John Stiles Trustees in trust for the uses and purposes herein after
mentioned all of the County of Sussex in the State of Delaware aforesaid of the other part
Witnesseth that the said Emily Calhoun and Kelly et al. his wife for and in consideration
of the sum of thirty dollars lawful money of the State of Delaware to them in hand paid at
and upon the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged
have given granted bargained sold released confirmed and conveyed and by these presents
do give grant bargain sell release confirm and convey unto them the said Elisha Evans
Isaac E. Burton James B. Nicholson Peter Quillen and John Stiles and their Successors
Trustees in trust for the uses and purposes hereinafter mentioned and declared all the estate
right title interest property claim and demand whatsoever either in law or equity which
the said Emily Calhoun and Kelly et al. his wife have in or upon all and singular
or certain lot or piece of land Situate lying and being in the County and State aforesaid
hereunder and called as follows to wit: beginning at the boundary of Wall's lot, thence
running S 37 1/2 W 9 1/2 poles to a post thence N 44 W 13 1/2 poles to the County Road, thence
N 7 1/2 E 10 poles to an iron stake thence S 15 1/2 poles East 9 1/2 poles to the Beginning containing
and held out for 1/2 acre and 26 poles of land together with all and singular the houses roads
water ways privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining
To Have and to hold all and singular the above mentioned and described lot or piece of
land Situate lying and being as aforesaid together with all and singular the houses roads
water ways and privileges thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining unto them the
said Trustees and their Successors in Office aforesaid in trust that they shall erect and build
or cause to be erected and built thereon a house or place of worship for the use of the members
of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States of America according to the rules and
discipline which from time to time may be agreed upon and adopted by the ministers and
preachers of the said Church at their General Conferences in the United States of America;
And in further trust and confidence that they shall at all times forever hereafter permit such
ministers and preachers belonging to the said Church as shall from time to time be duly author-
ized by the General Conference of the ministers and preachers of the said Methodist Episcopal
Church or by the annual Conferences authorized by the General Conference to preach and
at home God's Holy Word therein; and in further trust and confidence that as after

any one or more of the trustees herein before mentioned shall die or cease to be a member
 or members of the said Church according to the rules and discipline as aforesaid then and
 in such case it shall be the duty of the Stationed Minister or preacher (authorized as aforesaid)
 who shall have the pastoral charge of the members of the said Church to call a meeting of
 the remaining trustees as soon as conveniently may be; and when so met, the said minister
 or preacher shall proceed to nominate or name persons to fill the place or places of him or
 them whose office or offices have been vacated as aforesaid. And the said Smiley hath been
 and Holly d. h. his wife doth by these presents warrant and sever defend all and singular
 as the before mentioned and described lot or piece of land with the appurtenances thereto be-
 longing unto them the said Trustees and their Successors chosen and appointed as aforesaid
 from the claims of them the said Smiley hath been and Holly d. h. his wife their heirs
 and assigns and from the claims of all persons whatever. In testimony whereof
 the said Smiley hath been and Holly d. h. his wife have hereunto set their hands and seals the
 day and year aforesaid. P. V. The words here in the first second line read ought for the execution
 of this deed

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us two Witnesses
 Ebenezer D. Helm, Peleg W. Helm
 Smiley ^{his} hath been (Seal)
 Holly d. h. ^{his} hath been (Seal)
 Witnessed the day of the date of the above written Indenture the before mentioned therein
 mentioned couple
 W. H.

In Testimony whereof Be it Remembred that on the first day of October ad. 18. in the
 State of Delaware year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty eight before Peleg W.
 Helm a Notary Public in and for the State of Delaware in said County Smiley
 hath been and Holly d. h. his wife parties to the Indenture and personally present
 to make her oath and acknowledged the same to both her said and deposed it might
 be recorded and at the same time and place the said Holly d. h. being privately examined
 by me apart from her husband acknowledged that she executed said Indenture willingly
 without compulsion or threat or fear of her said husband's displeasure.

Given under my hand and official Seal of Office the day and year aforesaid
 Peleg W. Helm N. P.

This Deed was lodged in the Recorder's office in and for Sussex County on the twenty first day
 of March ad. 18. eighteen hundred and fifty nine
 William Harris Recorder

W. H. John Stewart from Jacob Kindra wife
 This Indenture made this twenty first day of March ad. 18. eighteen hundred and fifty nine be-
 tween Jacob Kindra of North West York Hundred Sussex County and State of Delaware and Eliza
 Kindra his wife of the one part and John Stewart of the City of Wilmington in the County
 and State aforesaid of the other part It witnesseth that the said Jacob Kindra and Eliza his wife of
 her and in consideration of the sum of three thousand and fifty dollars lawful money of the Uni-
 ted States of America to them in hand paid or received to be paid by the said John Stewart at or
 before the making and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof she hereby acknowledged have
 and each of them hath granted bargained and sold aliened conveyed and
 confirmed and by these presents do and each of them doth grant bargain and sell alien convey
 release convey and confirm unto the said John Stewart his heirs and assigns all and
 singular that messuage tract farm and parcel and parcels of land lying and being Situate
 in North West York Hundred aforesaid adjoining lands of the heirs of Ralph Robinson
 deceased together with the heirs of John Richards deceased and others it being in part the same
 lands which Salisbury Hobbs and Eleanor his wife and Mary Edmunds by Indenture bearing
 date the twentieth day of March eighteen hundred and fifty seven conveyed to this grantee, also a

...presents Warrant and from beyond. In Witness whereof, the
said Party of the first part has hereunto set his Hand and Seal.
Dated the day and year first above written.
Sealed and Delivered. Jennie Cunningham Seal

In the Presence of
Elinor H. Tyler
Charles F. Richards
State of Delaware
Sussex County ss.
I, Be A. Remondina, that on this
Twenty-sixth day of July in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and ninety four (1894) person

(Circular stamp)
Elinor H. Tyler
Notary Public
July 29th 1894
Sussex County
Delaware

ally came before me, Elinor H. Tyler, a
Notary Public for the State of Delaware
Jennie Cunningham, Party to this Indenture
person to me, personally to be read and acknowledged
this Indenture to be her true and voluntary act and
deed of office, on this day of year of our Lord

Received for Record
July 31st A.D. 1894
Elinor H. Tyler, Notary Public
John J. Morris, Recorder

Deed of Elisha Evans, et al, to The Mariners Bethel M. E. Church
This Indenture, made the 16th day of June, in the year of our
L. a. one thousand eight hundred and ninety four (1894) between
Elisha Evans and Rhoda P. Evans, his wife of Baltimore
County, Sussex County, Delaware parties of the first part,
and The Mariners Bethel M. E. Church of Baltimore
County, Sussex County, Delaware, party of the
second part. Witnesseth, that the said Parties of the first part,
for and in consideration of the sum of Four Hundred and
fifty Dollars (\$450.00) Current lawful money of the United States
of America unto them well and truly paid by the said Party of the
second part, at and before the sealing and delivery of this presents
the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged both parties hereunto
sole, abovesigned, released, conveyed and confirmed and by them
presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, convey, release, confirm and
confirm unto the said party of the second part its successors and as-
signs, All that certain tract, piece or parcel of Land lying
and being situate in Ocean View, Baltimore County, Sussex County,
Delaware on the South side of the Methodist Episcopal Church,
adjoining lands of John Parbage, John W. James, heirs, William
B. Barlow, Washington Evans and Van Court, road leading
through Ocean View, containing four Acres be the same more
or less. Being the same tract, piece or parcel of Land conveyed
by Deed of Benjamin and sale from Nathaniel W. Jarnice and
Elizabeth L. Jarnice his wife to Elisha Evans said Deed being
dated the twenty first day of December A.D. 1872, and now of
record in the office of the Recorder of Deeds, in and for Sussex
County, in Deed Record B.B.J. 20117 folio 101. Relation there-
unto being had well more fully and at large appears together with all
and pertain the Buildings improvements, ways, water courses, rights,
privileges, tenements and appurtenances whatsover thereto belonging
or in anywise appertaining and of services, rents, issues and

= profits thereof and all the estate, right, title, interest, property claim and
 claim whatsoever of them the said Parties of the first part in law equity or
 otherwise howsoever from and to the same and any part and parcel thereof. Letter
 can be hold the said tract of land, hereditaments and premises hereby granted or
 mentioned or intended to be with the appurtenances unto the said Party of the
 second part its successors and assigns and for the only proper use and behoof
 of the said Party of the second part, its successors and assigns forever. —
 And the said Parties of the first part for their Heirs Executors and Administrators
 do, by these presents, Covenant grant and agree to and with the said Party of
 the second part its successors and assigns that they the said Parties of
 the first part their Heirs all and singular the hereditaments and premises
 herein above described and granted or mentioned or intended to be with
 its appurtenances unto the said Party of the second part its successors and
 assigns against them the said Parties of the first part their Heirs and
 against all and any other Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming
 or to claim the same or any other part thereof by through from or under
 them or any of them shall and will by these presents, Warrant and force
 defend. In Witness whereof the said Parties of the first part have
 hereunto set their Hands and Seals. Dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered

In the Presence of

L. W. Evans

May L. Evans

State of Delaware

Issued by

David Green
 Notary Public
 in and for the
 State of Delaware
 July 13th 1894
 July 24th 1894
 July 12th 1894

Elisha Evans Seal

Rhoda P. Evans Seal

Be it Remembered that on this sixteenth
 day of June in the year of our Lord one
 thousand eight hundred and ninety four
 personally came before me David Green a
 Notary Public for the State of Delaware Elisha
 Evans and Rhoda P. Evans his wife, parties to
 this Indenture known to me personally to be such
 and severally acknowledged this Indenture to be their
 deed. And the said Rhoda P. Evans being at the
 same time privately expressed by one apart from her husband
 acknowledged that she executed the said Indenture willingly
 without compulsion or threats or fear of her Husband's displeasure.
 Given under my Hand and Seal of office, the day and year aforesaid.
 David Green, Notary Public.
 John J. Morris, Recorder

Witness the Hand of John S. Stuart (Adminstr) To Philip H. Rawlins.
 This Indenture, made this twenty eighth day of July in the year of our
 Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety four (1894)
 Between John S. Stuart Administrator of all and singular
 the goods and Chattels, rights and Credits, which were of William
 N. Stuart, late of Sussex County and State of Delaware (decd)
 of the one part, and Philip H. Rawlins of Wicomico County
 and State of Maryland of the other part.
 Whereas the aforesaid William N. Stuart in his life-time and
 at the time of his death was seized and in his demesne and

of to in or out of the same and every part and parcel thereof to have and to hold the land and premises hereby granted bargained and sold or intended to be with the appurtenances therunto belonging unto the said Sarah E Steving her heirs and assigns to have and for the only proper use benefit and behoof of her the said Sarah E Steving her heirs and assigns forever In witness whereof the said Thomas E Sharp and Susan E Sharp have hereunto respectively set their hands and seals the day and year first herein written signed sealed and delivered in the presence of

Thomas E Sharp Seal
Susan E Sharp Seal

Received the day of the date of the within instrument of the within named Sarah E Steving the full consideration money mentioned.

Thomas E Sharp
Sarah E Sharp

State of Delaware }
Sussex County SS }



Be it Remembered that on this eighteenth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety four personally came before me John H Satterfield a Notary Public for the State of Delaware Thomas E Sharp and Susan E Sharp his wife parties to this instrument known to me personally to be such and severally acknowledged this instrument to be their act and deed respectively and that the said Susan E Sharp being at the same time privately examined by me apart from her husband acknowledged that she executed the said instrument willingly without compulsion or threats or fear of her husbands displeasure given under my hand and seal of office the day and year aforesaid

John H Satterfield Notary Public

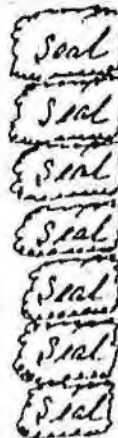
Received for Record
May 22 A.D. 1894

John J. Morris Recorder

Certificate of Incorporation of Mammie Bethel M E Church in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 37 of the revised code of the state of Delaware. The society or corporation of Mammie Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore Hundred Sussex County Delaware upon ten days notice posted upon the front door of their usual place of worship met at said place of worship on the third day of May A.D. 1894 and after effecting an organization by the election of a chairman and secretary proceeded to the election of trustees and did elect by a plurality of votes of the members present the following trustees Joseph A Bennett John R James John I Betts Thomas S Richards M S Purdy W L Williams and James A Richards and did then and at said meeting adopt the corporate name of said society or congregation as the Mammie Bethel Methodist Episcopal

Witness the hands and seals of said trustees this
third day of May A.D. 1874
attest

James A Bennett
Joshua B James
John I Batts
Thomas S Richards
M. J. Reese
Wm L Williams



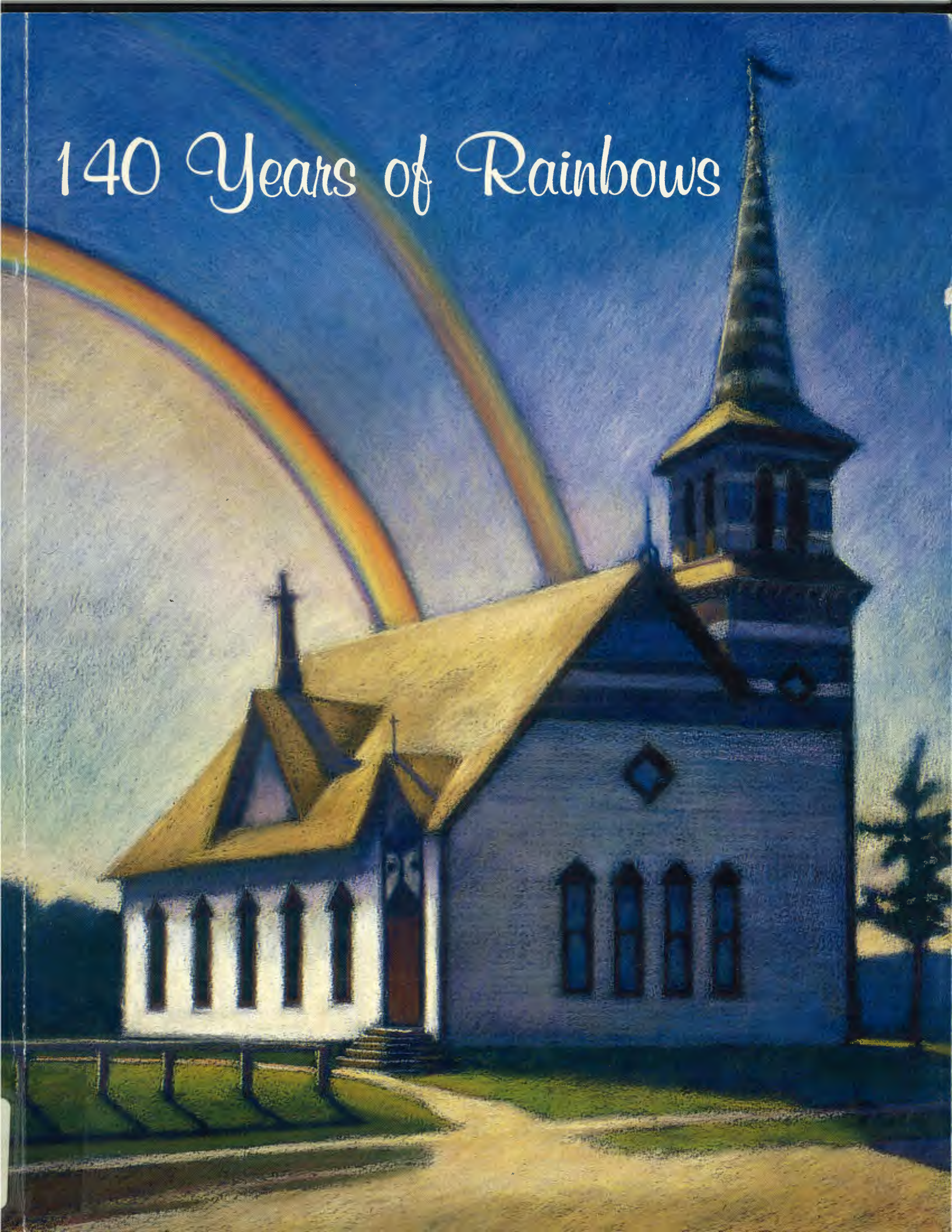
Received for Record

May 21 A.D. 1874 John J. Morde Recorder

D & E D, Trustees of Mount Olive Methodist Protestant
Church of Delmar. To Levin R Lowe
This Indenture Made this twenty third day of November in the
year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety three
Between Henry J. O Neal Daniel H Neal George W Elliott
Edward W Palmer Jefferson D Mills Charles S Goodby Benjamin
H Elliott Henry W Guman Willard S Chipshant Mitchell P
Geman and Barclay C Ellis trustees of the Delmar Methodist
Protestant Church now called Mount Olive M P Church situate
in the town of Delmar Sussex County and State of Delaware
parties of the first part and Levin R Lowe of the said town
county and State party of the second part witnesseth that
the said parties of the first part for and in consideration of
the sum of four hundred dollars lawful money of the united
States to them in hand paid by the said Levin R Lowe at or before
the sealing and delivery of these presents the receipt whereof is
hereby acknowledged have granted bargained sold aliened conveyed
released conveyed and confirmed and by these presents they do grant
bargain sell alien convey release convey and confirm unto the
said Levin R Lowe his heirs and assigns = All = that certain
lot piece or parcel of land lying and being in the western
part of the town of Delmar in Little Creek Hundred Sussex
County and State of Delaware which is included within the
following metes and bounds courses and distances to wit;

Beginning for the same on the north side of the public road
shown as west state street leading westerly from Delmar
station at the south west corner of a lot belonging to the
heirs of William J. Gillis deceased thence running by and with
the said road or street North eighty three degrees and fifteen
minutes west seventy feet to the east side of an alley or
street thence by and with the same North ten degrees and
fifty five minutes east one hundred and sixty five feet
to the middle of a ditch thence by and with the same East
seventy feet and six inches thence south ten degrees and forty
five minutes west one hundred and seventy four feet six
inches to the first Beginning be the contents what they may
as per survey made in the year 1885 and being the same
land which was conveyed to Shepard J. Hitchcock by deed

140 Years of Rainbows



God said, "This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth."

Genesis 9:12-13 NRSV

The dictionary describes a "rainbow" as an arc formed in the sky by the refraction, reflection and dispersion of light in rain. God told Noah after the great flood that it "is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations...". God promised that he would be with us throughout all the generations to come, and the rainbow above Mariner's Bethel United Methodist Church reminds us that he is still with us 140 years after the first Methodists formed a new congregation here in Ocean View, Delaware. It is our prayer that God will continue to be with all of us in all the generations yet to come as we continue to reach out to all of God's children in worship, mission and ministry together.



Yours in Christ,

Rev. Joseph G. Burris
Pastor

Bethel Methodist
Episcopal Church
1899

Cover painted by
Laura Lee Hickman

METHODISM IN SOUTH-EAST DELAWARE

by Rev. W. C. Poole

Delaware is a Methodist State to which one can scarcely find a single community of fifty people situated two miles from a Methodist Church. The traveler can travel from its north end to its south end, and find a Methodist Church within three miles of him at almost every spot of its territory.

The city of Wilmington has probably more Methodist Churches than any city of its size in the United States. The old mother church is Asbury at Third and Walnut Streets, founded in 1789, which remained the only Church until Old St. Paul's was founded in 1846. Today twenty-two Methodist churches are located in Wilmington, and about as many more within ten miles of the city.

Methodism in Delaware, however is noted outside of Wilmington for its history. Old Barratt's Chapel, near Frederica, built about 1780, is probably the most historic Methodist Church in America, standing as built. Here Bishop Coke, coming as the special messenger of John Wesley, met Francis Asbury in November 1784, and the messengers were sent out to assemble the Methodist preachers to meet in the Christmas Conference at Baltimore.

Among the oldest Methodist Congregations in Delaware are the following founded during the revolution. Chester Bethel, near Wilmington, where the warrior Captain Webb preached; Old Union, Odessa, Smyrna, Dover, Milford, Lewes, Georgetown, St. Thomas, near Dover; Barratt's Chapel, Whitesville or Line Church, and Old Moore's Chapel near Laurel which was the first Methodist Church built in Sussex, about 1780.

The official records of the minutes of conferences which have been kept since 1773, make no mention of any preacher being appointed to any congregation in Delaware until 1775, when Francis Asbury, Caleb Pedicord, Freeborn Garretson, Lewis Alfrey, and Micajah Debruler were appointed to spread Methodism in Delaware. So far as we know, they had not a single church or official member except a few members scattered in various places who had been converted in Maryland or Pennsylvania. As the first census taken in 1790 shows the entire population of Delaware in that year to have been 59,060 souls, we may assume that they were sent out to serve over 50,000. At that time, Wilmington was a little town of perhaps 1,000 souls or less. The three counties reported about half as many people as they reported in 1920—after 130 years of growing. The only appointment names in the minutes for these evangelists was Delaware. At the following year they reported 795 members gathered as they preached in homes, barns, and highways. Camp meetings had not then appeared, and did not appear till about 1800.

In 1780, Sussex first appears in the minutes with 260 members, but Delaware appears with 150 members making a total of 410 members as compared with 795 members reported the previous year, indicating some had not been faithful. In 1783, Dover is substituted for appointments in Delaware and remained the appointment for preachers sent to Delaware until 1789 when preachers went to Wilmington, Dover, Dover Circuit, and Milford. In 1790, Dover Circuit is not named, but Dover, Wilmington and Milford are the only appointments, until 1802 when St. Martin's appears. I have not been able to locate this church absolutely, but am fully convinced this was old Head of Sound, near Roxana, in the southeast corner of the state.

Settlers had followed the old boundary line surveyed, across the south end of the state, and the old Head of the Sound Church, as well as Whitesville were established before the close of the revolution. Surrounding churches soon sprang up and we have reason to believe that the following churches were established and buildings erected as follows: Old Salem (Selbyville) 1810, Old St. Georges, near Ocean View, 1815, and Old Zion or Antioch between Dagsboro and Frankford, about the same time.

For the benefit of thousands of people interest in Methodism in South-East Delaware, I herewith give the list of the pastors who have served this section now so well occupied by a score or more of healthy growing churches, in Baltimore and Dagsboro hundred.

Preachers Who Have Served Methodism
in South-East Delaware at Frankford,
Selbyville, Roxana, Ocean View,
Millsboro and Dagsboro

The METHODIST EPISCOPAL Church was organized at the Christmas Conference in Baltimore in 1784. Reformers who wanted laymen to have more representation in the church began to organize separate churches in the early 1830's calling them THE METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH. In 1939, these two groups united taking the name, THE METHODIST CHURCH. The merger with the Evangelical United Brethren in 1968 resulted in the present name, THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.



Ocean View, Del.



Upper left
Before 1926

Upper right
Struck by
Lightning 1942



Lower left
New steeple

The following information was recorded in the annual minutes of the Wilmington Conference regarding Mariner's Bethel UMC then known as "Bethel on Roxanna" as it was part of the Roxana Charge or Circuit.

- 1893 - "We have completed this year two new churches that were begun previously -----and have laid plans for seven more -----Bethel on Roxanna ---- all of which will be heard from in the near future."
- 1894 - "After long waiting for the necessary legal service the lot for a new church at Bethel is secured and the building will be begun soon."
- 1895 - "Work will begin soon on the much needed new church at Bethel."
- 1898 - "Twelve hundred dollars has been subscribed towards the building of a new church at Ocean View, Roxana Circuit, and the structure will soon be commenced."
- 1899 - "A new church at Ocean View is a trophy to rejoice over. It is a most commodious and convenient frame structure, 36x65 feet, with a shapely spire, arched ceiling, stained glass windows and modern seating—an ornament to the village. Its cost is about \$3,000, of which \$2,000 have been paid. It is to be dedicated soon."
- 1907 - "Ocean View, D. H. Willis, pastor, erected a beautiful parsonage at the remarkably low cost of \$1,700, including the lot."
- 1914 - "Ocean View and Millville go together."
- 1922 - "Ocean View and Millville continue to advance under the leadership of Rev. E. C. Hallman, Pastor. Eight accessions during the year. Women's Foreign Missionary Society organized, parsonage painted, bought and paid for an upright piano for one of the churches, installed electric lights, and paid off every debt. Nothing now outstanding but what is covered by reliable subscriptions. Salary advanced \$1200 this year. The Pastor rejoices, and the people are happy and united."

From The Christian Advocate dated November 11, 1926

"Sunday, October 24, Was a Great Day in Ocean View, Del. The new Sunday school and recreational building was dedicated in the afternoon, after a most appropriate address by Dr. Croft of Salisbury, Md. Dr. John Krantz, the veteran church dedicator, conducted the ritual service of dedication. He delivered the morning and evening sermons, and raised the money needed to finish paying for the new building. The pastor, A. B. Frye, and the faithful building committee overcame all difficulties and won a notable victory in seeing the enterprise finished and dedicated debt free."



Mariner's Bethel Methodist
Church around 1926

MARINER'S BETHEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY 1858-1998

Way back in 1779, an evangelist named Freeborn Garrettson was preaching around the Assawoman Bay area. He became the first Methodist minister who centered his work at a place called "The Sound". About 40 persons joined together as a society which grew into the Cedar Neck Society, a part of the Berlin Circuit. We hear of a Hall's Store Society which later turned into Ocean View and, in 1858, they broke away from the Berlin Circuit and joined the new Frankford Circuit. They had no church building so they held services in the afternoon in the Presbyterian Church for awhile. They purchased a half acre of land for \$30. on which to build a "House of Worship" and on November 9, 1859 the first church building was dedicated and called Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church, because of so many seafaring members. It stood where the bulletin board is now. When anyone died they were buried "out back". Hence the old part of the cemetery has no numbers.

Mariner's Bethel remained in the Frankford Circuit until 1869, at which time the church joined the Centerville Circuit (changed to Roxana Circuit three years later).

A camp meeting in 1873 increased the size of Mariner's Bethel as 117 were converted and most of these joined the church.

In June 1894, the Trustees of Mariner's Bethel purchased four acres of land adjoining the property for \$1,050. intending to build a new church. This structure was started in 1898 and completed and dedicated in the summer of 1899. It is the shell of our present church.

Mariner's Bethel decided to leave the Roxana Circuit in 1904 and in 1905 it became a separate charge. We had no parsonage, so the pastor, Rev. J. B. Conoway, lived in a part of Mrs. Rhoda Evans' house until 1906. On May 8, 1906 property was purchased and a house costing \$1,700. was built. It was a little over a block away from the church on the west side of Central Avenue.

For a few years Mariner's Bethel maintained its independence as a station, but in 1914 Millville was added to form the Ocean View-Millville Charge. There was preaching every other Sunday and class meetings were held on the off Sundays.

In 1922 an electric light plant was purchased for the church. The same wiring and fixtures exist in part today as they were installed. A new community house was built onto the church in 1926 under the leadership of Rev. A. B. Frye. This addition served as both a community house and Sunday School building for many years.

In 1947, during Rev. Louhoff's pastorate, a new heating plant was added to the church and plans were made to remodel the interior of the church with new choir benches, pipe organ, divided chancel, altar, and pulpit furnishings. This was during World War II when materials were hard to get, so the work was delayed for several months. Rev. Jones was here when the work was completed. The sanctuary was dedicated February 1, 1948 by the pastor and Rev. Mulligan, who was District Superintendent at the time. The total amount of the indebtedness was \$9,630., and the whole amount was raised in one day by a rejoicing congregation.

The first person we know of as handling cemetery affairs was Mr. Gove McCabe. He kept very accurate accounts of the monies received, but no record of people buried. When the new church building was put over in the new four acres of land there was more room for the cemetery, and after awhile a plot map was made and lots sold to individual families. This was because some people wanted Mr. McCabe to save a place for the husband or wife to be laid to rest next to their spouse. The first records we have of these cemetery plots and owners date back to 1936.

In the spring of 1949 Mariner's Bethel and Millville decided to become separate charges and Rev. Donzel Wildey was appointed to this church as a full time pastor. Soon after he arrived, his wife Ellen organized and directed "A Young Adult Choir". Although older, the same choir still sings every Sunday serving God with their voices.

During Rev. Wildey's ministry the church sanctuary was beautified with wall to wall carpeting and new colonial style pews. The parsonage received a forced hot air heating unit, a modernized kitchen and a few alterations. The old pews were donated to Wesley Community Chapel in Wilmington. Also the church property lines were extended by the purchase of one acre of land on the west side of the church.

This purchase was made to give opportunity for expansion of church facilities, parking accommodations, and additional cemetery space.

In 1956 Rev. Covington came to Ocean View and a larger Sunday School building became our dream. Many meetings and plans resulted in ground breaking services in 1959. All church services were held in the school during the six month period prior to June 1959. Our new building cost \$89,277.89 and a Building Treasury was set up to pay for it. In 1963, the Cemetery committee took over the balance of the debt, which has since been paid.

In 1961 more land was purchased, graded and filled. This was the land for the future new parsonage. The parking lot was surfaced in 1964 and we started the new parsonage. Rev. Chap Hermann moved into a rental property of the late Harbeson Hickman (across from the old school house). Mariner's sold the old parsonage, and completed the new one at a cost of \$32,507.29. Dedication services were held for both the new church and the new parsonage.

In 1963 the Trustees accepted a request for a community kindergarten to be held in the Fellowship Hall. We needed more rooms upstairs so, in 1965 the large room was divided by a sliding partition and two new bathrooms were installed on the second floor of the Sunday School area. That year greeters were chosen to always be in the Narthex to greet people as they came to worship. This practice is still in place today.

A security light was installed in 1966, and with money received from the estate of Clara Daisey, more acreage was added to the cemetery plot. Chimes were installed that year and placed in the tower. They were played each night during Christmas week. They were paid for by donations in memory of deceased members.

In 1968 Mariner's again added to the cemetery and had new lots laid out. The ceiling of the Sunday School was painted and in 1969 a patio was built on the parsonage.

Early in 1970 the new red hymnals were purchased with monies received for memorials. A new picture church directory became a reality in 1971, with almost every member coming to the church to have his or her picture taken in family groups. This directory came out in 1972. The "Pop Parsons Fund" was established in 1972, providing the church with a projector and screen. Later a tape recorder was also purchased.

In 1973 Clarence Holt purchased red cushions for all the church pews. Also in 1973, the church sanctuary was fully air-conditioned. Rev. Magill donated a large number of his personal books for a library. Raymond Hickman built shelves along the two sides of our new library. The nursery was refurbished with new carpet and air-conditioned.

In February of 1974 a group of women formed a "Bazaar Group" and began working toward an annual bazaar. One of their chief purposes was to make it possible for the new members to get to know the former members of the church. The first year they presented the church budget with \$1,500. and have made many donations to the church every year since. A "Home Missions Committee" was also formed that year by a group of church women; the group works discretely to help alleviate suffering and need when it is brought to their attention.

A public address system was installed in the church in 1975, and wired to the nursery so those taking care of the children could hear the services. An "Organ Fund" was started for making major repairs to the pipe organ, and a classical recital was held during the summer to augment this fund. Mrs. Florence Rickards and her husband presented the church with enough Bibles to have one placed in the rack of each pew. The added book caused the racks to pull loose so in 1976 the Bazaar group had the racks enlarged to accommodate the hymnals and Bibles. A new piano for the upstairs Sunday School room was purchased the same year. Also a new typewriter for the office, and other small items were donated to the office. Also in the year of 1976, the Active Adults Sunday School class provided new carpet, drapes and a mimeograph machine for the church office. The church had the parking lot resurfaced. In the spring the church had a revival, the first of many, and in the summer another classical recital was held to help increase the "Organ Fund". On July 4th Sunday of this Bicentennial year we had an old fashioned meeting with participants fully costumed as well as some in the congregation. This idea continued for several years during a Sunday in July.

In 1977 the decision was made to sell the old pipe organ because of the upkeep and the lack of adequate repair services. Mariner's purchased a new electronic Allen organ for \$19,000. Our organ fund

paid a nice down payment and the Cemetery Committee loaned the difference. The Active Adult Sunday School class purchased a new refrigerator for the kitchen, a new fire door for the furnace room, and the required fire extinguishers. The Bazaar group purchased new flags for the front of the sanctuary and a filing cabinet for music in the choir room. The United Methodist Women found secretarial help for the minister and a new railing was put on the front steps to the church.

After much discussion in 1977, the Administrative Board agreed to accept the Minister's Pension Fund plan for one year only. However, when it came up the next year for renewal, they accepted the other two years of the plan.

In 1979 the choir gave two "Evenings of Beautiful Music". The Active Adult Class remodeled the large Sunday School room to make a comfortable lounge, and the Bazaar group replated the brass collection plates, altar vases, the cross and the candlesticks. The cornerstone monument was erected at the 120th Anniversary Celebration held that year. New shelves were put in a storage closet for the Bazaar group renamed "The Dorcas Circle".

The year 1979 brought about the renovation of the western Narthex which included new lights. The church school was air-conditioned and the front of the church saw new material in the openings above the organ. Rugs were installed on the stairs and in the upstairs hall. A stainless steel top was put in the kitchen.

In 1980 the windows in the Fellowship Hall were insulated and cement block walls were covered with paneling. New electric service was installed to alleviate electric problems. There was an old fashioned "strawberry festival" in June and in the fall an order was placed for plates decorated with a picture of the church.

In 1981 a new well was drilled. Some repairs were in order at the parsonage, along with new carpeting where needed. Rugs were installed on the stairs and in the upstairs hall. A stainless steel top was put in the kitchen.

On Mother's Day of 1982, the men began serving breakfast for the women to celebrate their day. The ladies reciprocated by giving the men a banquet dinner on Father's Day. This custom continued through 1987.

The year 1983 showed the choir outgrowing the choir loft, so it was decided to move the seats around in order to make a fourth row. A new refrigerator was purchased as well as a large window air conditioner for the Fellowship Hall. Edna Taylor visited Africa that year. As a result of her trip, a fund was started by the United Methodist Women to help begin a "piggery" in Sierra Leone.

The new look in the church required having new carpeting installed in 1984 and it was decided to get the same color red as the cushions which Clarence Holt had donated. The church members found that rummage was beginning to be a problem, so the Dorcas Circle purchased a Lantz building (10'x20) to hold the rummage until the annual sale. The Lantz building is located on Loren Evans' property. Some stress was placed on missionary work during that year, both foreign and local. The Active Adults decided the church office needed sprucing up, so the walls were paneled and the floor given new carpeting. This is where the secretary is now located.

New draperies went up in all the Sunday School rooms in 1985. Outside, a wheelchair ramp, new steps, railings and sidewalk were installed.

In 1985 our minister, Wayne Grier, was transferred to Georgetown and we found ourselves without a pastor for approximately six months. During this time Wendy Schrider, church secretary, held the church together. Then in December Rev. Ivan Downing came to our church as an interim pastor and completed the year with us. While Rev. Downing was here the library was reclaimed for a minister's study, so that when our new minister came in June of 1986 it was practically finished. Elizabeth Graef furnished the study as a memorial for her husband, Fred Graef. Also, that year four new glass doors were installed in the church buildings, and Wendy Schrider gave up her job as church secretary to Theresa Pitman.

When Rev. Slonin came in 1986, he was instrumental in organizing the Ministerium - a group of ministers from the area churches - Catholic, Presbyterian, Episcopal, and our own. The Ministerium has been cooperating in Ecumenical services and projects. Of significant note yearly pancake suppers have been held with everyone working together, and in 1988 a Crop Walk, and Ecumenical Vacation Bible Schools held in the summertime. Also, the annual Thanksgiving Eve Service featuring a combined choir

and over 300 in attendance.

At the end of 1986 the church negotiated to purchase the property across the street next to the parsonage (Baxter Property) for the sum of \$90,000. The deal was closed in 1987. A drive for funds paid for half of this venture and the church has since retired the remainder of the debt. Also in 1986, through the generosity of a church member, a Panasonic copier was given to the church office

The parsonage needed a new dishwasher, roof, water pump, boiler and stove in 1988. The Dorcas Circle purchased the dishwasher and stove.

During the year 1988 the Dorcas Circle saw their dream of having central air in Fellowship Hall and kitchen become a reality. The group also purchased a complete computer unit for the church office. More electric service also had to be installed.

In 1988 the men served a Mother/Daughter Banquet which was planned by the younger generation and enjoyed immensely. The Ecumenical Ministerium held a community "Crop Walk" and raised funds for developing nations. New shrubs were planted around the church, and part of the parking lot was resurfaced and striped, which allowed more parking spaces.

Our church family was growing so fast that 1989 found the Trustees struggling with ways and means to enlarge the church and Sunday School rooms. Rev. Slonin helped the church situation by having two worship services on Sunday morning, one at 8:30AM and another at 11:00AM through the summer months. This helped accommodate our many visitors along with our regular church family. However, the Sunday School was pushing out the walls and we were constantly looking for a vacant space for storage.

The two Hocker sisters, Mary and Bessie, helped with the storage problem. They had two sheds built and placed on the back lot of the cemetery grounds. The sheds were donated in memory of their parents, Mr. & Mrs. Boyer Hocker, and their grandparents, Mr. & Mrs. Wilbert VanSant.

A \$50,000. grant was given to the church that began a program to build a new church. The process of hiring an architect and presenting plans to the Administrative Board began. The church agreed to go ahead with the building program. Everyone thought of ways to make money for this program as it was necessary to raise an additional \$400,000. before the Sunday School part of the plans could be started.

This was also the year that our sister church, Millville United Methodist became a separate charge. They acquired a full time minister and their church family continues to grow. The Dorcas Circle has helped Millville whenever and however they could, since several of the Millville ladies belong to the Dorcas Circle and did much work with them thru the years

The women of Dorcas Circle and the United Methodist Women cannot be praised too highly for their contribution to the church and community. They continually take food (\$100. at a time) to the Edward W. Pyle Center, for they are always in need of food for those less fortunate. The women also take gifts and lap robes to the area nursing homes so the folks there will know they have not been forgotten. Each year the women send a "thank offering" of money to some place special, for example.. the migrant workers, the Methodist Manor House, American Indians, and Camp Pecometh. Their monetary gifts to the building fund has exceeded \$20,000 to this date.

The Adult Sunday School classes have always been a busy group. Each year a delicious dinner is prepared by them for our older citizens, (those over 70). They also remember the mothers and fathers by giving a yearly banquet for both, along with the daughters and sons.

The men of Mariner's Bethel formed a United Methodist Men's group which meets the first Sunday of each month for breakfast, they have been very active. The group has taken care of needed repairs around the church and they are participating in "Adopt A Highway".

The Ministerium has become so important in our area that other ministers are inquiring how they can be involved in the work they do for the community..

The year 1989 found Evelyn Eby (one of Mariner's family) and the ministerium putting together an ecumenical thrift shop. Through their efforts the Atlantic Community Thrift Shop, (ACTS) was formed. ACTS has been thriving for the past ten years, and they have now been able to purchase additional property and built a large one story building in order that the community may be better served.

Choir Director, E. Russell Williams, Jr., gave notice of his retirement in 1990. Dr. C. Richard George, who is a voice major with a lifetime of experience, led the choir and under his direction, pre-

sented for several seasons an Easter Cantata and play, "How Great Thou Art". The play was video taped and sold for the building fund. Dr. George relinquished his baton in December of 1994 and was followed by our present director, Harry Humes, in January 1995. The Adult choir has always actively participated in the building program of Mariner's Bethel. They gave their Certificates of Deposit to the fund whenever they came due. Ray Hickman rearranged the choir loft, adding two more pews, to make room for all the choir members.

Most of the efforts were toward the Building Fund. Kitty Pusey suggested collecting a mile of pennies (\$84,400). Two jars were placed at entrances to the building. Everyone saved their aluminum cans which were taken to the recycle location realizing \$60 to \$80 on each visit. In the spring the church treasury gave \$5.00 to all those who would participate by using their talent to double or triple the money by September 1991. Some of the projects were spaghetti dinners, homemade cheese cakes, candy, party mix, cakes, Italian bread and rolls, fresh vegetables, cleaning beach houses, making apple butter, cutting grass, and picking blueberries to make goodies to be sold on the boardwalk. When September came round another \$12,000. was added to the building fund from all these talents.

We had a bowling fund raiser in 1992 which consisted of those participating, getting people to sponsor them for bowling three games and paying so much per pin for their best game. We added approximately \$400. more to the building fund at that time.

In April of 1994 we broke ground for the construction of the Sunday School rooms and social hall. The building was completed and officially approved for occupancy in April of 1995.

In July 1996 Rev. Joseph G. Burris became our fifty seventh minister. Rev. Joe together with his wife Patty, daughter Kathy, and son Chris sensed the spirit of the church and community and immediately became involved.

In the late summer of 1997 we all breathed a sigh of relief as the letter of credit was paid off for phase two of the building program, and in early October we had the so called mortgage burning ceremony.

The church continues to grow with a membership nearing five hundred members, making phase three, building of the new sanctuary, a goal to attain. Bill Evans has been named building chairperson and is continuously meeting with the Board of Trustees discussing long range goals. In the immediate future the need to repair and refurbish the exterior of the old building is top priority.

The visitation of the hospitalized, homebound and those who have suffered the loss of a loved one continues to be a large focus of the church along with counseling.

Rev. Joe is planning a trip to Israel in the coming year and earlier this year toured with a group to the Wesley home in England. He and Patty are very much involved in Marriage Encounter.

In recent years Mariner's Bethel has become known for the participation in many civic organizations. In addition to the churches own committee meetings and prayer and bible study, we also host the following; Lord Baltimore Lions two dinner meetings and one board meeting each month, (the choir has served these dinners since 1980), the Lioness meeting, Promise Keepers, three AA groups, one Al-Anon group, scout pack 281, Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, five yearly meetings of Home Owners' Associations; the Miss Delaware Pageant, Flossie Dance Studio revue, Minister and Mates meeting, Angel Tree program, and the ever popular pancake supper and Lenten suppers.

God has richly blessed our church, our members and our community. To Him we give the honor, thanks, glory and praise.

Gloria Evans

Architect's Conception of Completed Building



Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church

Central & Atlantic Avenues

Ocean View, Delaware

CHARLES E. COVINGTON
Minister

Phone
DICKINSON 9256

October 6, 1959

Dear Members and Friends,

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church has encountered a great challenge and has won the victory. We have seen our needs and have met them adequately. Today we are united closer as a Church than when we began, because we have joined together our forces to accomplish the desire of our hearts.

We have remodeled and repaired the exterior and the interior of the Church sanctuary and have built a new educational building. To do either achievement as we have done it is enough to make any Church happy, but we have done both and have done them well.

On Sunday, October 18, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church and the official opening of the new educational building by having special services in the morning and in the afternoon.

The Rev. Dr. Albert E. Day of Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D. C., will deliver the morning message at 11:00, and the Rev. Roy L. Tawes, Dover District's Superintendent will be the guest speaker for the afternoon service, which will begin at 2:30. The cornerstone of our new Church will be laid at 2:00 with the assistance of all former ministers of the Church who are present. The W.S.C.S. will serve lunch following the Morning Worship Service.

The total cost of the entire project is \$89,277.89. Thus far, on October 1, we have received many promises and \$42,821.82 in cash.

Many have contributed and sacrificed in order that the above report could be made, but there are others who have not given. In order to meet our bills in full as they are received and to have a good report for Homecoming Sunday, each of us must assume his responsibility by giving a generous contribution, now.

Sincerely,
CHARLES E. COVINGTON

Order for the Laying of the Cornerstone of Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church

2:00 P. M.

Minister: Except the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it. Dearly beloved, we are assembled to lay the cornerstone of a new house for the worship of the God of our fathers. Let us not doubt that he will favorably approve our godly purpose, and let us now devoutly invoke his blessing on this, our undertaking.

Responsive Reading

Minister: The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

People: **For He Hath Founded It Upon The Seas, And Established It Upon The Floods.**

Minister: Who shall ascend into the hall of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place?

People: **He That Hath Clean Hands, And A Pure Heart; Who Hath Not Lifted Up His Soul Unto Vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.**

Minister: He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

People: **This Is The Generation Of Them That Seek Him, That Seek Thy Face.**

The Gloria Patri

Congratulations The Rev. Roy L. Tawes

Prayer of Consecration

Almighty God, the Rock of Ages, on thee we build all our hopes for his life and that which is to come. Other foundation we would not seek to lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ; and we have built upon this cornerstone a holy temple to the living God. Accept the act by which we lay this cornerstone. Bless those whose offerings enable us to build this house of worship. May the walls of this church be secure and beautiful always; and may the hearts of these thy people be fitly joined together into a living temple, builded upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Amen.

Litany for Laying of Cornerstone

To the glory of God our Father, to the service of our dear Master and His Church, and to the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit,
We Lay The Cornerstone Of This Church.

For a building of which Jesus Christ is the chief cornerstone, the pillar and ground of the truth,
We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a building that shall stand as a symbol of the Church Universal, the cornerstone of which is truth, the creed of which is love, and its towers eternal hope,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall exalt not a religion of creed or of authority, but a religion of saving grace, of personal experience, and of spiritual power,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall exalt the ministry of the open Bible, with its faithful record of human life, its unfolding of the redeeming grace of God through Jesus Christ, its message of warning, inspiration, comfort and hope,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall be a renewing and cleansing power in the community, and that loves every other communion that exalts Christ in the service of man,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church with an open door for all people, rich or poor, homeless or desolate, who need the help of God through us,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

For a church that shall gather the children in its arms and hold them close to Christ, that they may grow up in the Church and never be lost from the fold,

We Lay This Cornerstone.

In loving memory of those who have gone from us, whose hearts and hands have served in this church; with gratitude for all whose faith and consecrated gifts make this house possible, for all who may share this spiritual adventure; and with hope for all who shall worship in this house in years to come,

We Lay This Cornerstone In The Name Of Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Unto The Ages Of Ages, World Without End. Amen.

Laying of Cornerstone

Benediction

Now unto him that is able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy, to the only wise God our Saviour, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and evermore. Amen.



Completion of 1959 construction



The old parsonage
located on Central Ave
Built in 1906



PARSONAGE BUILDING COMMITTEE

Harry H. Dukes, Jr., Chm.
Willard R. Pusey
John C. Mitchell
Mrs. William R. Powell
William O. Murray

William P. Bant
William R. Murray
George A. Robinson
Ralph K. Graves
Mrs. Raymond J. Hickman

Amos F. McCabe
Isaac L. Bennett
Thomas E. Hickman
Mrs. Harry H. Dukes, Jr.
William W. Collins



construction

and

completion

of

Sunday School
Rooms and
Social Hall

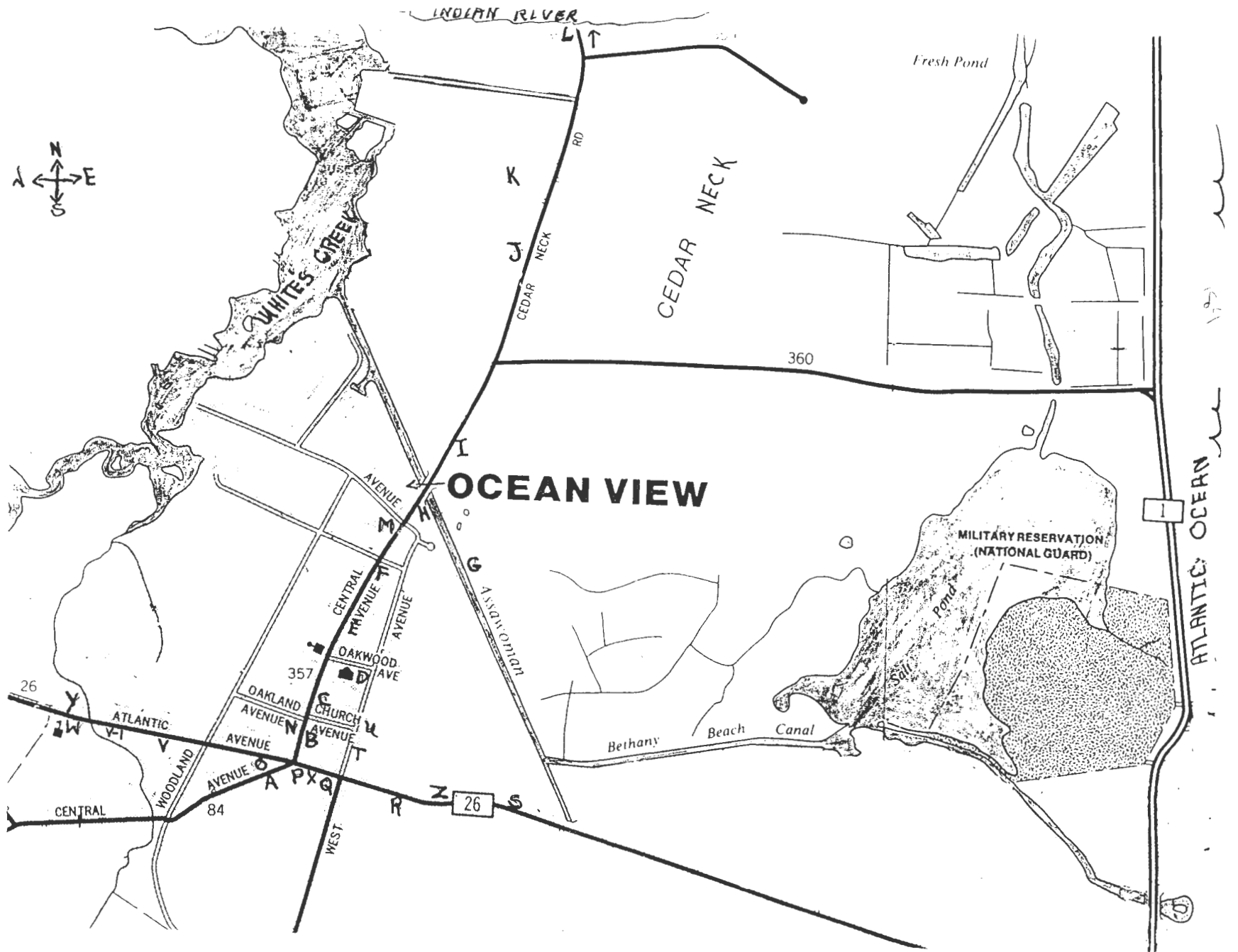
1995





199?

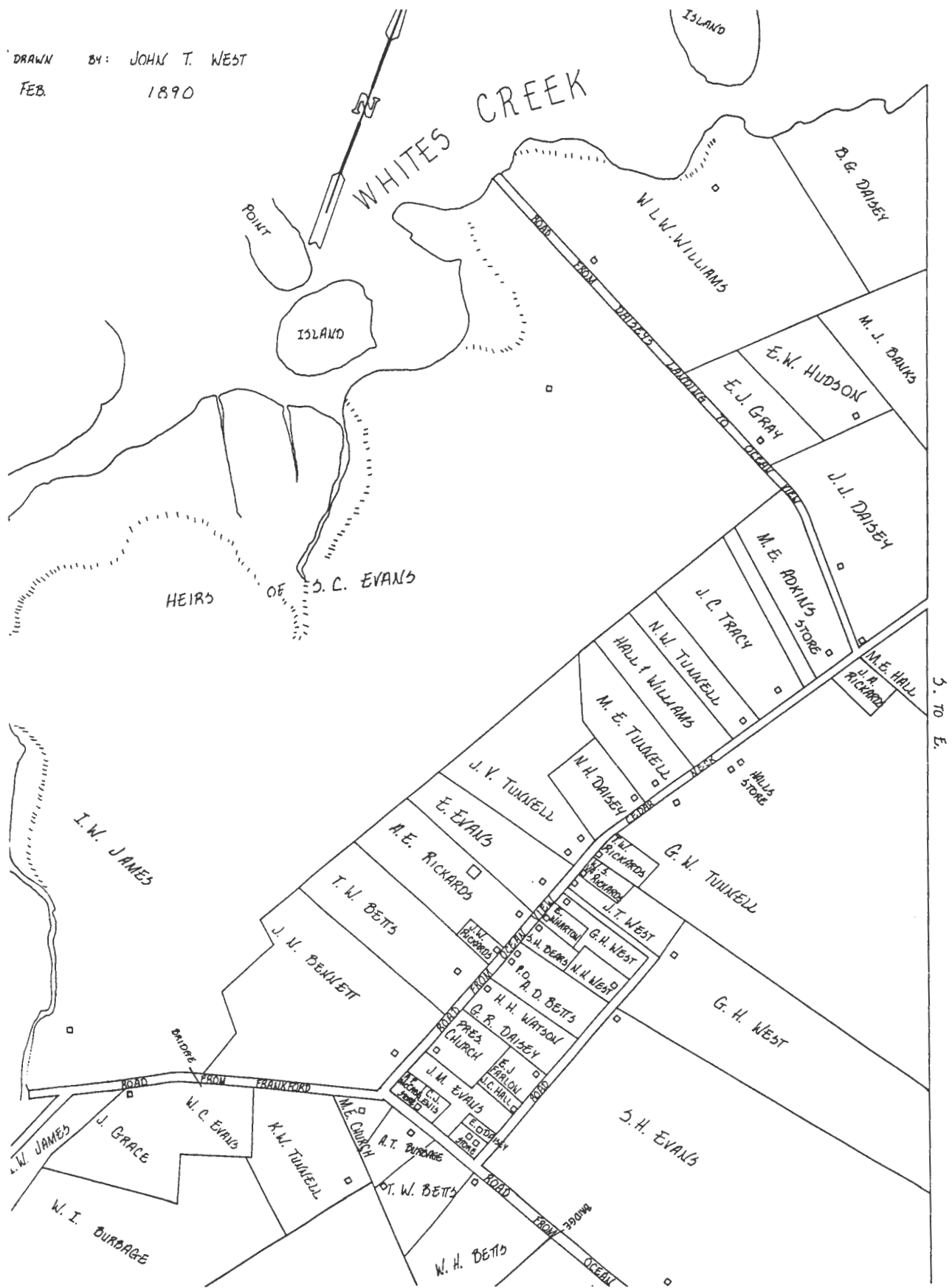
1995



1867



DRAWN BY: JOHN T. WEST
FEB. 1890



THE CHURCHES OF DELAWARE

by

FRANK R. ZEBLEY

Author of "Along the Brandywine"



*A history, in brief, of the nearly 900 churches
and former churches in Delaware as
located by the Author.*

1947

was opened for services in the fall of that year. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 2, 1907, and the dedication service was held on Dec. 1, 1907. The title to the site was deeded to the church by Mr. Hall's daughter, Elizabeth A. Evans, on Aug. 14, 1909. There is a large, well-kept graveyard. The oldest legible tombstone is that of Mary P. Hall who died on Oct. 3, 1838. This is probably a reinterment.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ at Ocean View. This congregation was organized in 1880, when a church was built at Bayard. Trustees were elected on Oct. 20, 1881. The first church was burned; a second church was built and it was also burned. A church site in Ocean View was purchased on Apr. 22, 1899, from James M. Evans. It was stipulated that there should be no cemetery. The present church at Ocean View was built in 1901 and rebuilt in 1940. Their ritual includes baptism by immersion which leads many persons to refer to them as Baptists.

Mariner's Bethel Methodist Church (M.E.) was organized in 1859 and a frame church was built. It was incorporated on Feb. 14, 1878 and again on May 3, 1894. Four acres of land were purchased on June 16, 1894, from Elisha Evans. The corner-stone of the present church was laid on July 14, 1898 and the building was completed in 1899. It was rebuilt in 1904. Additional land was purchased on May 8, 1906, from Mary H. Townsend. On July 21, 1930, Geo. W. Mitchell donated a small strip of land to the church.

There is a large graveyard to the rear of the church, the tombstones dating back to 1862. During the night of Sun., July 19, 1942, the steeple was struck by lightning, ripping off shingles and doing considerable damage. Some time later, the spire was removed.

St. Martin's P. E. Church at Bethany Beach. Although meetings have been held in Bethany Beach by the Episcopalians since 1914, a church was not built until 1940. The erection of St. Martin's Church was begun in May, 1940. The first service and the dedication were held on Sun., Aug. 4, 1940.

The Christian Church, Disciples of Christ Tabernacle at Bethany Beach. About 1900, a group of members presented to the church, sixteen acres of land at Bethany Beach. The tabernacle, which was then built, is of similar design to the study of Alexander Campbell, one of the founders of the church. For a number of years Chatauquas were held here. At the present time the tabernacle is used during July and August to accommodate various group conferences from the Capital Area of the church, which includes the church at Ocean View and fifty-one other churches. More land was donated on April 30, 1923 by Hiram J. Penrod. A large two-story building was erected near the tabernacle, in 1939, to be used as a dormitory and dining-hall.

Zion Methodist Church (M.E.) at Roxana. The first church was built in 1839 and was named "Sound M. E. Church." It was known to many persons as "Centerville Church," that being the name of Roxana until 1872. The present site, measuring 40 sq. poles was secured on May 21, 1855 from Nathaniel W. Evans. At that time the trustees of Sound Church were Isaac C. West, Wm. B. Tribbs, Zadoch P. Collier and N. W. Evans.

A second church was built and it was dedicated on May 2, 1858, by the Revs. Robt. L. DaShiell and Alfred A. Cookman. The present church was built in 1874. The corner-stone was laid on Tues., Apr. 21, 1874, by the Revs. T. O. Ayers and J. A. Arters, the pastor. It was arranged to dedicate the church on

TWBBBS



MARINERS NEWS

A LETTER FROM THE PASTOR

Written by Pastor Rebecca Collson

Dear Friends,

October is here and leaves in the trees are not the only thing changing. Parking spaces are easier to find down near the boardwalk. Days are getting shorter. And Mariners is now in a new season of ministry.

As of October 1st, we launch as a Global Methodist Church. While the denominational logo of cross and flame have been replaced by circles representing the Trinity, we are continuing the Wesleyan understanding of our God- Father, Son, Spirit - who is full of grace and truth and who calls us to "make the world our parish." Familiar songs will still be sung, familiar faces will be seen, and familiar events like the Trail Run, will still occur. However, God is also doing a "new thing." And for that, we all need help.

The church-wide study, "Help Is Here" by Max Lucado, will begin this month in various study group & small group opportunities to help us rely upon the Holy Spirit to do more than we can think or imagine. After all, we have never been in this place in culture, history, or even in our lives before - who better to help us navigate these new waters than the One who gives us life and supernatural power for the glory of God.

And this newsletter is the first installment of a monthly publication that will attempt to increase communications and make you aware of not only upcoming events, but also how our events, programs, and ministries all tie in with our mission.

Our mission statement of "Know God, Grow in Christ, Go in the Spirit" focuses on how we, as individuals, are called to be disciples and faithful followers of Christ. Discipleship means we intentionally hold ourselves accountable to our membership vows as Global Methodists, including:

- We commit ourselves to a life of personal and social holiness, going onto Christian perfection...
- We commit to practice the means of grace to keep our faith vibrant and growing...
- We will worship passionately in the spirit of our heritage of faith...love extravagantly with the mercy and compassion of Jesus Christ...witness boldly empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Our help - the Holy Spirit - is how we can covenant to "faithfully participate in the ministries of this church family through our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness." Because apart from our Lord and by His Spirit, we can do nothing and nothing we do will last. (ref. Jn 14:26, Jn 15:5, Acts 1:8)

So, as the leaves change and the times change, may Christ continue to change us as we are all works in progress...as we continually fall on our knees in praise and thanksgiving for Jesus Christ who is the same - yesterday, today, and forever (ref. Heb. 13:8)

*Peace,
Pastor Becky*

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **New Denomination/New Logo - p. 2**
- **Operations Manager - p. 2**
- **Help is Here - p. 3**
- **Annual Church Conference - p. 4**
- **Prayer Warriors Needed - p. 6**
- **Enrichment of Hope - p. 7**

Church Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00 am - 3:00 pm

81 CENTRAL AVENUE, OCEAN VIEW, DE 19970
WWW.MARINERSBETHEL.ORG ~ 302.539.9510

NEW DENOMINATION, NEW LOGO



With our new membership as a Global Methodist Church now complete, our former Mariners logo has gone through a redesign. Thanks to the efforts of the logo committee (Chair Scott Carey, Dave Metzger, Dennis Rader, Liz Heinzelman, Russ Archet, Brenda Kerber, Cindy Hawkins, and Pastor Becky Collison) the logo is similar to the old one but with a new focus.

The logo is designed to reflect our tradition as a "seafarer's house of prayer" – Mariners Bethel. The Trinity is displayed in this image: the circle overarching the boat represents the all-knowing, all-present God the Father; the red cross representing God the Son and his sacrifice for us on the cross; the sail and waves that show movement by unseen wind representing God the Spirit. The boat in a simple form shows us as vessels of God's love and grace, sitting in the chaos of the water (world around us) and being lifted and led by our Lord.

Another logo you may see is that of the Global Methodist denomination. While the United Methodist logo was the cross and two-part red flame, the Global Methodist logo emphasizes who God is and who we are called to be as the church.

According to the denomination's website:

"The Global Methodist Church's logo brings together in its three circles the one God – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit – who alone we worship. The circles intersect at the center of the cross of Jesus Christ, the symbol of our deliverance from our slavery to sin and fear of death. The outer circumference of the rings represents the globe. As a whole, the logo communicates God's sending of the church into the world. The sky blue color reminds us that even though Global Methodists live all around the world, they are all united together in God's great creation."

Over the coming weeks, both logos will be seen as web presence, print, and other forms of advertising Mariners. A new look for a new day.

WHAT IS AN OPERATIONS MANAGER AND WHY DO WE NEED ONE?

By Dennis Rader

As the Church Operations Manager, I am responsible for the day-to-day business operations of the organization. I oversee:

- The administrative staff and makes sure the office runs smoothly.
- Ensure the staff has everything they need to do their job effectively and that they meet all deadlines.
- Establishes project schedules and sees that deadlines are met or adjusted when necessary.

- Develops and implements operational procedures based on church policy.
- Manages budgets and financial reports.
- Awareness of all legal and reporting requirements for the organization and monitors adherence to them.
- And of course, assist the pastor, as necessary, to support the spiritual well-being of the church and supports any worship needs.

The goal is to have a church that runs smoothly so the focus and energy remains on our primary mission of making disciples for Christ.

Now, if that sounds like the Operations Managers do a bit of everything, it's because that's true! An operations manager, by definition, manages people, projects, and even communication. They don't need to be an expert at any one thing but they need to be able to be proficient at project management and integration of many things to build a highly productive team to achieve great results for their organization.

How is the Operations Manager "integrated" at Mariners? The Mariners Operations Manager is part of and works with the Finance Committee to develop, implement, and oversee Mariners yearly budget ensuring effective utilization of each and every dollar. He also attends the Trustee meetings each month and works with them to ensure effective utilization of all facilities and assists with their maintenance oversight and upkeep. The Operations Manager works with the Staff Parish Relations Committee regarding staff salaries, hiring, and all other personnel issues, however, he does not attend their meetings as they are one of the few committees whose meetings are not public. And finally, he is a member of and attends all the meetings of the Church Council (formerly called the Shepherding Council) and is responsible to report on all business aspects of church operations.

If you have any comments or questions regarding this position, feel free to drop in and see me. I will be sure to make time to address any of your concerns, questions, or comments. I look forward to seeing you!



HELP IS HERE! FINDING FRESH STRENGTH AND PURPOSE IN THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

As we embark on the journey as a Global Methodist Church, we have to know God's Holy Spirit is with us. Starting the week of October 8, we're offering Max Lucado's study, "Help Is Here!" as a Small Group Church Wide study. For those of you who would like to join a Small Group, we'll watch the video in the Sanctuary Monday evenings, and then break out into various new Small Groups. We also have openings every day at various times of the week (except Saturday). Sign-ups and study guides are available (\$10) in Fellowship Hall between services. Study guides are recommended, but not mandatory.

The Holy Spirit doesn't have to be a mystery. Understand who He is and how He works and discover that His help is here when you need it. Any questions, contact Melinda Shue, our Small Groups Leader at masfide19@carolina.rr.com or 717-968-9963.

ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023 AT 6:30 P.M.
IN THE SANCTUARY.



While in past years the Annual Church Conference was determined by the district superintendent and conference, we currently do not have a district superintendent who is locally overseeing these meetings. In order to be accountable to our church family, we will hold our own church conference to conduct the following business:

- approve the church budget for the coming year,
- approve leadership nominations, and
- review/celebrate church ministry and outreach.

All are welcome to attend. Those who are full Mariners Bethel Global Methodist Members may vote on business items.

WOMEN CENTRAL FALL KICKOFF

Written by Trina Williams



Women Central Fall Kickoff was a red-carpet event held on Wednesday, September 20. Formal attire was encouraged, but not required. Those in attendance were treated to free refreshments, pictures in their glamorous outfits, and a free movie, "Unashamed," featuring Chondra Pierce, a female Christian comedian. The goal was to provide a relaxed atmosphere for women to gather and enjoy each other's company, and to welcome women to the Fall Study. The evening was a great SUCCESS!

Beginning September 27 at either 10:00 A.M. or 7:00 P.M., women participated in a Biblical study written by Jennifer Cowart, based on the book, "Fierce: Women of the Bible Who Changed the World." Each 90-minute session consists of a 15-minute video, then breaks out into small group discussions.

What is Women Central? WC provides a place where women of all ages meet, discuss, and study in-depth current Biblical studies that affect women. All women are welcomed, both members of Mariners and others from the community. For information, please contact Joanne Trois, jtrois53@gmail.com, or call the church office.

TIME FOR CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM PRACTICES



It's time again for the ARMOR Children's Christmas Program. Upcoming practices will include Sundays - 10/1 from 10:30-11:30 A.M., and 10/15, 10/29, 10/5, 11/19, and 11/26 - all from 1-3 P.M. Additional practices will be held in December. The show will be on Sunday, Dec. 17. For more information about participating or volunteering to help, email kidschurch@marinersbethel.org or call Michelle at 302-236-6759.

METHODIST WOMEN MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH



The women of Mariners are invited to join this group of servant-hearted women whose purpose is to use their gifts to develop a creative, supportive fellowship, and through missions, to participate in the global ministries of the church. The next one is scheduled for Monday, October 9th at 1:00 P.M. A craft demonstration will be given, and enjoy delicious refreshments. (Bring a Cool Whip lid for the project). It's always a great time of fellowship.

Also, mark your calendars for Sunday, November 5th and Sunday, December 3rd for our annual knife, card and book sale in Fellowship Hall, held between services. It's a great time to pick up a few Christmas gifts!

With the affiliation of the Global Methodist Church, the United Women in Faith will be voting on a new name at their upcoming meeting.

Lastly, we would like to acknowledge the fine efforts of **Ruth Davis, Jane McLaren and Cora Burgan** for their outreach and visitation to members of our congregation.



RAISING CANE MEETS THE FIRST TUESDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN THE HOPE CENTER FROM 10:30-11:30 A.M.



Bring your Bibles, your cane, and share your favorite Scriptures. You really don't need a cane!

MEN'S 2ND SATURDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST MEETS THE SECOND SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH IN FELLOWSHIP HALL AT 7:30 A.M.

Chris Brown and his team will be serving up pancakes, eggs & sausage with a side of Tony Evans' study, "The Power of the Holy Spirit's Names."

MARINERS PANTRY

We are collecting 'your choice' of grains and sauces during October. Grains: rice, pasta, barley, egg noodles, or cereal. Sauces: tomato, pasta, salsa, alfredo, soy.

Engage your inner-chef and donate something yummy!



JOIN OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEERS We have many opportunities for you to serve!

- Praise and worship band - instrumentals and/or vocals
- Audio and video support in the tech booth on Sundays and for special events
- Support our children's ministries in the nursery and in Sunday school classes
- Drivers needed for various ministries like Feed My Sheep or Angels on the Go
- Ushers and greeters during Sunday services
- Trail Run (October 22) - cooks, servers, dishwashers, registration check in, and clean up

Check the church bulletin boards, or contact the office and we will help you find a way to give to others by using your gifts and talents. It's a "win-win."

PRAYER WARRIOR

NEW DAY, NEW WAY PRAYER WARRIORS NEEDED

Join in the New Day, New Way prayer focus in October on three Tuesdays (10/10, 10/17, 10/24) from 6 A.M. to 6 P.M. with prayer slots available at 20-minute increments. Sign up at All Hands on Deck Tables. The sanctuary will be open for prayer with the specific request for God's provision of financial and people resources needed to fulfill the vision He is unfolding before us. Folks can pray at home if it is not possible to be at the church in person.

Ahead of our Stewardship Sunday, October 29, we need to saturate the ground with prayer for God's provision in the days ahead. Often, we have been diligent in our planning, asking God to bless our work. As a church, Mariners has been blessed by God providing what we need in terms of the disaffiliation and meeting our bills. Yet currently our expenses are greater than our income. Our reserves have been emptied by our payment to the United Methodist Church. And almost every ministry area is crying for more volunteers help to accomplish the mission before us. And yet we do not fear - for when financial and people resources are limited, our reliance and dependence is upon God who is the owner of cattle on a thousand hills (Ps. 50:10-15). Nothing is too hard for our Lord, for He who gives the Vision will supply the Provision.

On the subject of prayer, John Wesley - founder of Methodism - said the following:

"I continue to dream and pray about a revival of holiness in our day that moves forth in mission and creates authentic community in which each person can be unleashed through the empowerment of the Spirit to fulfill God's creational intentions...In using all means, seek God alone. In and through every outward thing, look only to the power of His Spirit, and the merits of His Son. Beware you do not get stuck in the work itself; if you do, it is all lost labor. Nothing short of God can satisfy your soul. Therefore, fix on Him in all, through all, and above all."

All are welcome to be a part of this new day and new way God has opened before us. To God be the glory. For more information, contact Pastor Becky or the church office.

FINANCES AND GIVING

January - September 2023 Contributions:

Actuals: \$671,610* Budget \$833,337. Variance (\$161,727)

*Excludes disaffiliation payment

Mariners offers several ways to give in the spirit of worship and generosity.

- Log into www.MarinersBethel.org and click on the "Giving" tab at the top of the page.
- Send a Text to "84321"
- Mail checks to Mariners Bethel Global Methodist Church, 81 Central Avenue, Ocean View, DE 19970
- Place cash or check offerings in an envelope with your name clearly written on the outside and drop off at one of the offering boxes located inside the church building.
- Scan on the QR code shown above to give via Church Center.

For assistance contact our Financial Secretary, Marty Quillen, FinancialSec@MarinersBethel.org or leave a voice message at 302-542-1959.

ENRICHMENT OF HOPE AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Thank you all for your love, prayers, and support over the past months as we prepared for the 2023/2024 school year. We are happy to update you on how things are going. We are one month in, and everything is great! The students love coming each week and are already participating in some awesome activities. We currently have a cooking class led by Connie Sprengle, and the students LOVE it. The South Coastal Library is here monthly with some furry friends, supplied by the PAWS program. Students have the opportunity to read a book to (and to snuggle) with a dog. We also have a few of our regular pickleball players coming in to teach the students the game. In addition to all of these super fun activities, the students are learning about the love of God and how they fit into the world today. Each day they are here, we read a short story or share a personal experience and tie it to scripture to remind students of the love God has for them and help them to understand their purpose and identify in Christ. This month's theme is "Being True to Yourself," where they discover the different masks we wear and how they can separate us from Christ. We currently have 15 students enrolled and are at capacity. God is so GOOD! Any new applications received will be placed on a waitlist until we are able to take on additional students. However, we need your help! We need additional volunteers in all areas (kitchen, homework help, activities, and transportation). Would you prayerfully consider joining the after-school program to help enrich the lives of students and families in our community? Please contact Tiffany Kelley for more information on how you can get involved at familyandyouth@marinersbethel.org



TRUNK OR TREAT

Mariners will have its annual free, family Halloween event on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30 - 7:00 PM outside of the Hope Center. There will be lots of trunks, our beloved DJ Randie, a balloon twister, bounce house, hayride, food, and more! You DON'T want to miss this awesome event. If you are interested in getting involved, check out the "All Hands on Deck" table in the lobby for ways you can help out. Thank you for making this event so special for our community!



CELEBRATIONS



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---|---|
| 10/1 - Gavin Tritapoe | 10/16 - Don Degidio, Janie Rudakiewicz |
| 10/4 - Jane McLaren, Jack O'Day | 10/17 - Jane McCabe |
| 10/6 - Dakota Degidio | 10/18 - Brooke Good, John Mendenhall |
| 10/7 - Mark MacMicking, Bonnie Cannon | 10/19 - Mark McCowan |
| 10/8 - Dennis Rader | 10/19 - Jean Ronat (Turning 101 this year!) |
| 10/10 - Patricia Morris | 10/23 - Barbara Denner, Thomas Palmer |
| 10/11 - Sally Baker, Cary Ringold | 10/26 - Ada Carr |
| 10/12 - Harold Beam, Chris Brown,
Dawn Malmberg, Dorothy Rader | 10/27 - Karl Zook |
| 10/14 - Rob Cano | 10/29 - Kathleen Evans (Turning 103 this year!) |
| | 10/31 - Jim Jewell |

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 10/2 - Russell & Janie Rudakiewicz | 10/4 - Chris & Wendy Megee |
| 10/17 - Tom & Jeanne Pekar | |



Mariners Bethel Global Methodist Church

Navigating the seas of life together with Christ at the helm

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Collison

Senior Pastor

PastorBecky@MarinersBethel.org

Office

81 Central Avenue

Ocean View, DE 19970

Tel: 302.539.9510

Administrator@MarinersBethel.org

www.MarinersBethel.org

The purpose of Mariners News is to share the message, mission, and ministry of the church.

The release date is the 1st of each month; the submission deadline is 10 days prior.

All submissions should be sent digitally, if possible, to administrator@marinersbethel.org.

Any questions, contact the office.