

Annandale United Methodist Church



Photo from 1908 postcard

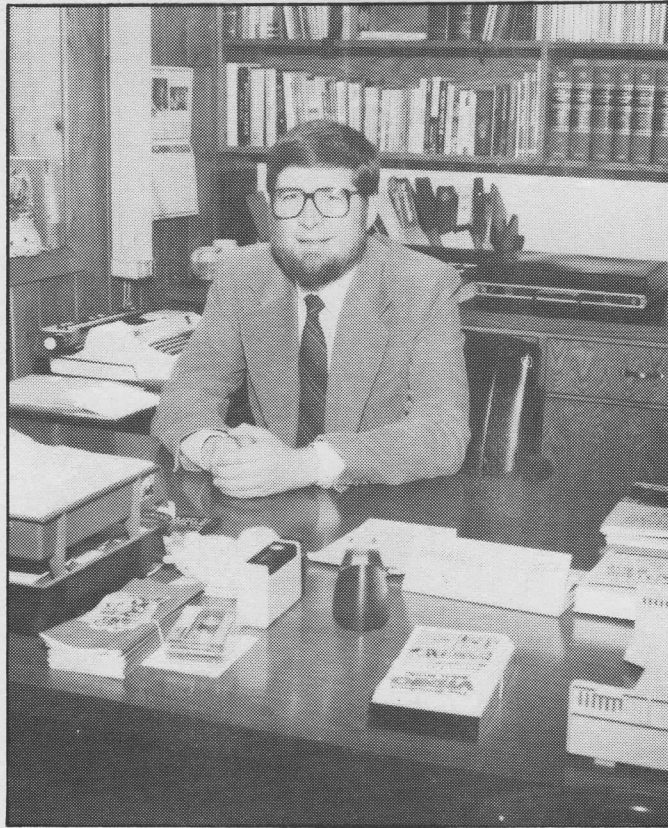
HISTORY OF ANNANDALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SECTION II

CENTENNIAL EDITION (1889 - 1989)

Celebrating the past...open to God's future!

Printed April 21, 1989



Pastor Mark Johnson

What a privilege we have to be here in this part of the body of Christ as we celebrate 100 years of ministry within this fellowship of believers. But our ministry has not been just within this fellowship (for that would be a contradiction in terms), but also through this fellowship of believers to our community and our world. The Lord has been gracious and we give thanks.

"I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord;
yea, I will remember thy wonders of old.
I will meditate on all thy work,
and muse on they might deeds." Psalm 77: 11, 12

"Celebrating our past..."

We have much to celebrate as a church. We celebrate our strength as a FELLOWSHIP. We care about one another. On rare occasions, I have opportunities to visit other churches. Each church has its gifts, but when it comes to fellowship, its always good to get back to Annandale. We celebrate our WORSHIP life. For our size, we are among the highest in our Conference in worship attendance. We celebrate our BUILDING. We have a beautiful and functional physical plant that stands as a witness to our community. We celebrate our OUTREACH in our community. The most important dimensions of our ministry do not go on in our building, but through the witness of our people in their daily lives. Though we are probably the smallest church in Annandale, we have a witness and influence far beyond our size in community affairs and organizations.

"...open to God's future."

The temptation is to view our work as largely complete. After all, we have everything we need, don't we? But for what? FOR MINISTRY. The church does not exist to build a building, or to have fellowship for fellowship's sake. We have a building, we have fellowship, we worship for the sake of ministry to the world.

Like John Wesley, the world is our parish. Resources that have gone into physical needs can now go into the support of ministries around the world. A fellowship that feels good to us can now be extended to those who do not know the love of Christ. Worship that warms our hearts, can be extended to touch hearts still cold.

We have the privilege to be here to celebrate 100 years. The privilege is also ours to begin the next 100 years. Let us not weary in well doing, but, following the example of our Lord, let us give of our selves that those near and far may know of the wonderful love of Christ. Let us "Lift High the Cross" that it may continue to be a witness to us, and we, a witness to others.

May God bless and keep this fellowship of believers for the next 100 years.

Mark R. Johnson

UNITED METHODIST MEN

On Sunday, April 16, 1989 after church service and Sunday School, the United Methodist Men of the Annandale Methodist Church treated their congregation to a free meal. Upwards of 150 people were served.

Using their own commercial-size portable stainless steel outdoor grill and an excellent chef, they grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, polish sausage and bratwurst. The men also prepared homemade baked beans, homemade cole slaw and homemade cookies. The balance of the menu was pickles, potato chips, lemonade, coffee and ice cream.

This was the first project of the newly organized UMM. The objective was christian fellowship, and it was abundantly achieved.

By Conrad Fitch

CHOIR

Our United Methodist Choir has made a policy for some time to sing for the regular service three times each month; usually the second, third and fourth Sundays. We try to use music which is appropriate for the seasons of the year. Although we acquire several new anthems each year, we repeat them because it is too expensive to get new music.

Back in the 1970's, Bea O'Brien and Marion Jensen served as directors. I have been the director since February 1979. Sally Froemming has been accompanist for many years, and Ruth Johnson is accompanist at the present time.

Members fluctuate between 15 and 20, but we are always looking for new members. Right now we could use another soprano or two.

By Kenneth Rudolph

REPORT OF UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

In September of 1986, I was elected to serve as President of our local unit of United Methodist Women. I have remained in office since that time, accepting re-election in 1987 and 1988. Women who have also served as officers during this time are:

<u>1986-87</u>	Mary Johnson: Vice President Carol Picken: Vice President Mildred Shadduck: Secretary Jean Haskin: Treasurer
<u>1987-88</u>	Carol Rogers: Secretary Jean Haskin: Treasurer
<u>1988-89</u>	LuAnn Vandergon: Vice President Sharon Planer: Secretary Roxanne McNellis: Treasurer

Over the past few years, our women have continued to work on traditional special events; plus they have developed some new programs and events. Some of the UMW activities are:

- *Serving the January Birthday Party for residents at the Annandale Care Center.
- *Putting on a spring event:
 - 1987 - "Spring Fling": Style show, music & luncheon
 - 1988 - "Mother-Daughter Banquet & Style Show", featuring Lee Stringer as our guest speaker.
- *Working as volunteers at the Annandale Community Food Shelf in July.
- *Annual UMW Picnic.
- *Putting on a fund-raiser "Lasagna Supper" for the 'AFFBRAM' bikers, who come through Annandale in July. (About 200 bikers were served in 1987 and again in 1988.)
- *Putting on a Fall event.
 - 1986 - "Potpourri Night": Garage sale between ourselves, dessert and hymn sing.
 - 1987 - "Ladies Night Out": Guest speaker Rev. Joyce Rosine on "Susanna Wesley".
 - 1988 - "UMW NIGHT": Northwest District UMW officers, Jan Heir and Flossy Higgins, were our guests, speaking about our "Purpose" as an organized unit of United Methodist Women, and suggested mission and program opportunities.
- *Bake & Craft Sales
- *"Circle-of-twelve-in-Prayer": A prayer circle that has periodically involved many of our women.

Our women have also helped with, and financially supported, funerals and the fellowship hour on Sunday morning. As of January 1989, the congregation has been organized into four work units that

involve all persons, women and men, so some of our responsibilities in these areas have been reduced.

We have contributed to remodeling and building projects within our church. Currently we are supporting the remodeling of the old kitchen in the basement, which will become a useful classroom area with a small kitchen facility.

For several years we have contributed annually to the Northwest District Mission Fund, the Emma Norton Home in Minneapolis, and, since 1987, the School of Christian Mission held at Hamline University.

In concluding this report, I am very happy to report that since January of this year, our organization has been experiencing a resurgence of interest and support. Attendance at meetings has increased 75-100%, as compared to attendance over the past few years. Our March meeting was attended by 23 women.

In setting our goals for the coming year, we re-adopted many previous programs and have also established new goals to work toward. These include a new mission outreach project (possibly in Sierra Leone, Africa), and/or adopting a child in a third-world country. We also plan to offer a spiritual retreat this year for our women and young girls.

The dawning of our centennial year has brought a rising enthusiasm among us to come together, to be unified in God's work within our congregation and in our world. We are grateful for all the wonderful fellowship and growth we have shared. We look forward to our 100th year.

By Jan McGinnis
(April 16, 1989)

ORGAN FUND RAISER

Our committee searched long and diligently to find just the right organ for our Sanctuary. A Rodgers organ with pipes was found at a cost of just under \$30,000, and was installed. Sally Froemming, Ruth Johnson, and Elwyn Nordberg enjoy playing it and the congregation enjoys listening to it as well.

One of the fund raisers for the organ was the assembling of a cookbook. Recipes were received from members and some were found in an old Methodist Church cookbook from 1904. Some of the helpers assembling were Donna Droeger, Audrey Jones, Ruth Johnson, Diane Engler, and Sally Froemming. Ada Dawson did the artwork.

LAY LEADERS & HYMNALS

In the last conference report, the following are named as Lay Leaders in our church: Merv Keeney, Jan McGinnis, John Didier, Tom Smart, Larry Wasmund, and Virginia Lee.

175 new Methodist hymnals have been purchased and will be ready for use soon.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The 1988-89 Sunday School has 91 students enrolled in Nursery through 12th grade. We have 20 adults teaching and another 40 adults attending the Adult Bible Study.

Sunday school is held from September through May following the church service and fellowship. Our hour starts with an opening worship for pre-school to 6th grade.

Throughout the year we have a variety of special activities, such as: Rally Sunday & Teacher Dedication, Succoth Booth & food shelf collection, Christmas program, helping with Palm Sunday worship, Senior Recognition and Promotion Sunday, and Confirmation Sunday.

During the summer, we plan a week-long Vacation Bible School for pre-school through 6th grade. Last year we had approximately 100 enrolled, with 20 adult teachers and helpers.

Mary Johnson, SS Supt.

Pat Larson, SS Supt.

YOUTH

The Education Work Area has organized and presented the Sunrise Service and breakfast on Easter Sundays. The proceeds go to campership funds to help send our Methodist youths to summer bible camps.

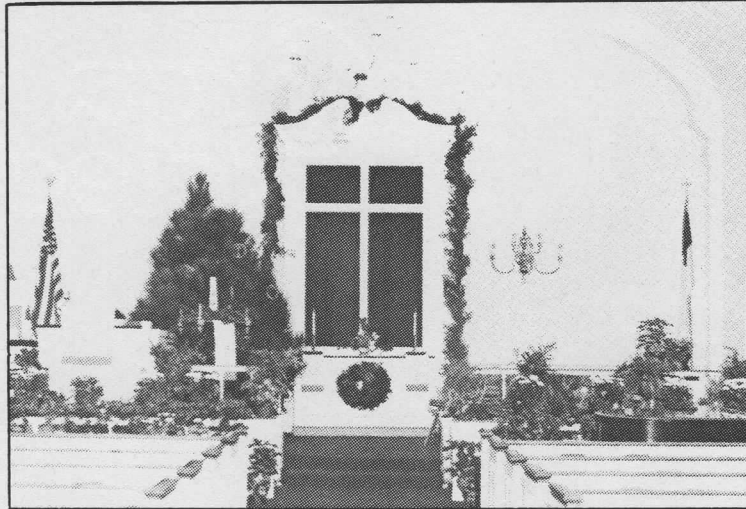
We make preparations for confirmation. In 1988, there were 14 students confirmed.

We now have a VCR and Videos of Bible stories, etc. We were thrilled when this VCR was donated to us.

These are just a few of the things that we are responsible for. Others are mentioned in the Sunday School report.

It is our goal to furnish our youth with the best quality Christian education we possibly can.

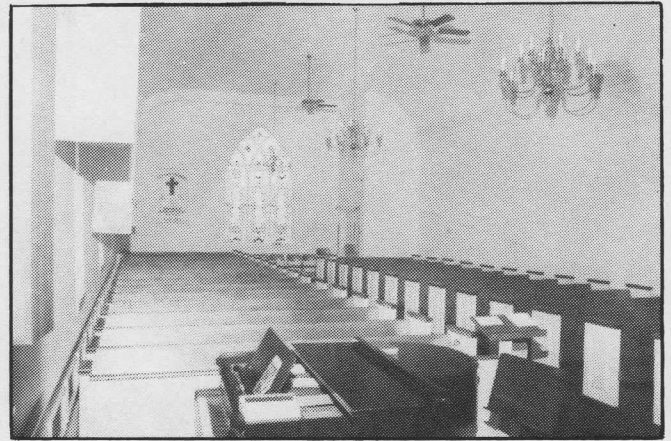
Patty Raiche, Past Chairperson
for the Education Work Area



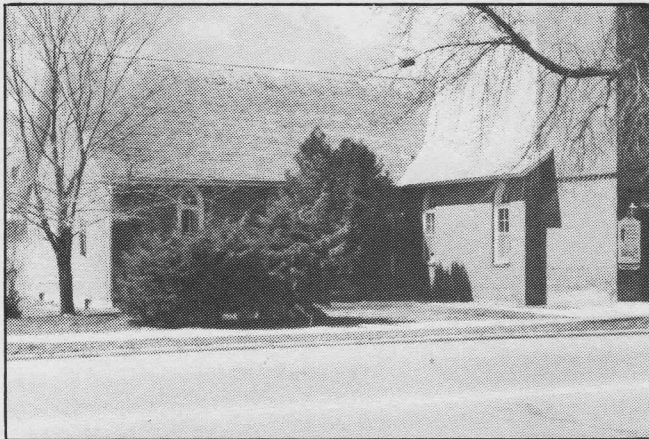
Sanctuary (Earlier Photo)



New Organ



Rear View



Fireside Room Addition



Interior of Fireside Room

LOOKING BACK

It was a long way for the early pioneers to go with oxen or horses to Clearwater for mail and supplies, and a longer wait for the stage that went from Monticello across the prairie and 'big woods' to Fair Haven. It made a stop at a wayside inn near Cedar Lake. So when the local settlers heard rumors of a railroad coming through, it meant a lot to them to have this transportation nearer to them. They proceeded to plat a townsite nearby, and the Minneapolis and Pacific Railway, now called the "Soo Line", was laid out in 1886. The townsite, originally called Abbeyville, was changed to Annandale and was incorporated in April 1888. Many trees had been cleared and establishments had sprung up already along Main Street, which was named Oak Avenue. Oak Avenue laid north from the railroad tracks to Pleasant Lake.

The Methodist Episcopal Church was organized October 2, 1889. It was built on the west side of Oak Avenue and about a block from the lake. It is still located there today. When first built, it was a white frame building, later remodeled and brick veneered. It looks very much the same today as it did at that time, except for the additions to the south and west sides. The stately bell tower is visible above the trees as it was in the earliest pictures of Annandale, especially in winter when the branches are bare.

The interior is beautifully done in white colonial decor, which is accented with a red carpet and red cushions for the pews. The sanctuary is aglow on special occasions, such as the Christmas season. At that time, it is enhanced with candlelight from the pew candelabras, many red poinsettia and evergreen garlands. At Easter the white lilies, the pastel spring banners, and the wooden cross with a white veil grace the sanctuary. Banners have been made to celebrate other seasons as well. Uplifting music from the piano, choir, and new organ fills the air. It is truly an inspiring place to worship God.

Ada Dawson
Sanctuary and Fine Arts

PASTORS AND THEIR YEARS OF SERVICE

Rev. W. H. Wilson	1888-89
Rev. Noah Lathrop	1889-90
Rev. Frank E. Higgins	1890-92
Rev. G. W. Kenniston	1892-94
Rev. G. E. Picard	1894-96
Rev. W. H. Barkaloo	1896-98
Rev. Rhoderick Murray	1898-1900
Rev. A. L. Fisher	1900-02
Rev. Harry Nobbs	1902-04
Rev. A. L. Spencer	1904-05
Rev. F. W. Hill	1905-07
Rev. J. M. Burns	1907-17
Rev. H. W. Knowles	1917-19
Rev. E. Leadbeater	1919-21
Rev. H. C. Kishpaugh	1921-27
Rev. L. H. Allen	1927-29
Rev. J. E. Dowler	1929-33
Rev. C. H. Blake	1933-39
Rev. Everette Groves	1939-40
Rev. F. R. Jardine	1940-44
Rev. T. B. Clark	1944-46
Rev. L. Paulson	1946-49
Rev. K. O. Brudevold	1949-53
Rev. Ed Bissel	1956-67
Rev. G. Arneberg)	
Rev. Kettlewell)	1957-60
Rev. J. Parish)	
Rev. Robert Howard	1960-61
Rev. D. Kinzer	1961-
Rev. J. White	-66
Rev. W. Abdella	1966-67
Rev. Robert McClelland	1967-72
Rev. Roy Lockhart	1972-74
Rev. George Toschak	1974-80
Rev. Dr. Rolland Robinson	1980-86
Rev. Mark R. Johnson	1986-