

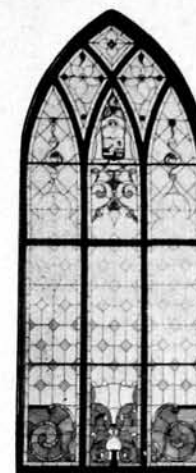
*60th
Anniversary
Year Book*



1891 — 1951

Brighton Reformed Church

Rochester, New York



This Book is Dedicated

In grateful tribute to our spiritual forefathers --- founders, pastors and loyal members --- whose faith in God, loyalty to Christ and devotion to His church left us a glorious heritage.

CHARTER MEMBERS

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Albright | Mr. and Mrs. John Faas |
| Mr. and Mrs. Marinus Asbroeck, Sr. | Mr. Rokus Hallings |
| Mr. and Mrs. Abram Baart | Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Johnson |
| Mr. Peter Beune | Mrs. James LeRoy |
| Mr. Abram Cambier, Sr. | Mr. and Mrs. Peter LeRoy |
| Miss Elizabeth DeBack | Mr. and Mrs. William H. Rowerdink |
| Mr. Josias DeBack | Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Van Bortel |
| Mr. Paul DeBack | Mr. and Mrs. Adrian VandenBroecke |
| Mr. and Mrs. Jacob DeCook | Mr. and Mrs. Jacob VandenBroecke |
| Mrs. John DeCook, Sr. | Mr. and Mrs. John Vanderlinde |
| Mr. and Mrs. Peter DeCook | Mr. and Mrs. John VandeWalle |
| Mr. and Mrs. Jacob De Hollander | Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Van Eeden |
| Mr. and Mrs. Isaac De Mallie | Mr. Peter VerMeulen |
| Mr. and Mrs. Adrian De Mey | Mr. and Mrs. Adrian Versluis |
| Mr. and Mrs. Abram De Potter | Mr. and Mrs. John Willink, Sr. |
| Mr. and Mrs. Isaac De Roo | Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Zonneville, Sr. |



Rev. John Van Westenberg
1891 - 1895



Rev. D. Lawrence Betten
1897 - 1910



Rev. Andrew Stegenga
1911 - 1918



Rev. Henry C. Jacobs
1920 - 1927



Rev. Richard J. Blocker
1927 - 1929

Historical Notes

Each one of us leaves some fond memory, trait of character or indelible impression upon certain lives as we meet, learn to know them and then pass on to other fields of our life's work. Pastors, more than most others, leave those impressions by which we build our lives in later years and upon which we construct guiding rules for our children. All the pastors of our church have left untold treasures of living examples of this type. You and I have been impressed in different ways; but each has been led unquestionably nearer to God as these lives have been lived and words of wisdom and love been given to us.

To say any material change stands above other points of service, or that one project outshines another would be unfair, since many effects have been wrought by more than one pastor's efforts. Here are a few of the events occurring during the several pastorates of these servants of God.

Our church corner stone dates the year Rev. Van Westenberg joined us. During his third year statistics show we had the largest annual membership increase in our church's history.

Rev. Betten was first to use the new Winton Road parsonage. Electric lights were installed in the church, and the Classis declared our church self supporting under his guidance.

Rev. Stegenga served us during World War One and during that time organized and taught the largest men's bible class in our history.

Rev. Jacobs guided his flock through the transition from Dutch to English services. During his work here the Far and Near group was organized. Daily Vacation Bible School and Week-day Classes in Religious Education were also undertaken, marking the transition toward the community wide service our congregation supports today.

Rev. Blocker will be remembered for developing that social Christian friendship expressed by the enjoyable suppers, parties and mixed group gatherings now characterizing our church as the "Friendly Church."

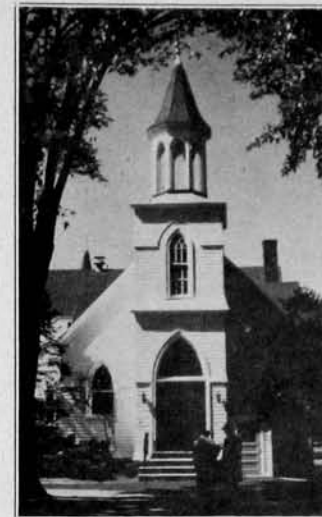
Following Rev. Blocker's services with us the elders cared for both the pastoral and lay work in a most masterful demonstration of what laymen can do. The new parsonage on Arbordale Avenue stands out as their offering during this period ending in 1930.

The worth of these efforts and the great foresight of all these men is daily being proven by our present pastor as he continues to find more and more opportunities to serve his congregation and the community at large.

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Rev. Anthony Luidens,
D.D.



Mrs. Mae Luidens

Our Tribute

"His not to fawn or seek for power,
By fashions suited to the varying hour,
True to his vows and prompt to every call,
He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all."

—Oliver Goldsmith

Samuel Johnson, the English author of Litchfield, writes of Omar son of Hassan, that at the age of seventy-five he began to seek the converse of the wise and the gratitude of the good. This will never be said of our pastor and his wife who, for these many years, have served with such zeal and selflessness that no seeking will be necessary on their part. Without waiting for them to attain that age, many endeavor now to repay in some small way the numerous occasions when invaluable services have been performed.

Dr. and Mrs. Luidens have lived among us these more than twenty years, sharing with all, the joys that came their way and bearing, wherever found,

some burdens from the hearts of others. They have never refused the task of the hour, desiring a more ambitious one to appear.

Their plans have not always succeeded, though endless hours of labor were spent. Their hopes have never faded that some blessing on others might be sent. Cares have never left them free for many hours. Health and strength have been granted them to work today and to pray that another day be given in which some greater task might be begun. In turn, such constant attention has been given to God's work among us, that many, seeing their labor, desire with the poet Hutton, to ask . . .

"Oh, show me where is He,
The high and holy One,
To whom thou bend'st the knee,
And prayest, 'Thy will be done!'
I hear thy song of praise,
And lo! no form is near:
Thine eyes I see thee raise,
But where doth God appear?"

Oh! teach me who is God, and where his glories shine,
That I may kneel and pray, and call thy Father mine."

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Brighton Reformed

"The Friendly Church"

REV. ANTHONY LUIDENS, D.D., Pastor



1951 Consistory

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| President and Pastor | Rev. Anthony Luidens, D.D. |
| Vice President and Pulpit Supply | Maylon Howell |
| Ushering and Sacraments | Mervin Baker |
| Treasurer | Edward De Brine |
| Youth Work | George Field |
| Fellowship Lodge | Leroy Hand |
| Evangelism and Benevolence Treasurer | Isaac Hubregsen |
| Publicity and Radio | John Olyslager |
| Men's Work and Delegate to Classis | Samuel Rounds |
| Property and Improvement | Harold Smalley |
| Financial Secretary and Finance Chairman | Gordon Tait |
| Music and Clerk of Consistory | Clarence Talsma |
| Boy's Work | Ro'and Woodhams |
| Sexton | Joseph Steehler |

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Rev. Edwin Luidens
Ruth Luidens
Carol
and
Donnie



Our Arabian Missionaries

Our 60th Anniversary year was brightened immeasurably by the return home from Arabia of Rev. Edwin Luidens and his wife Ruth, with their children, Donnie and Carol. "Ed" and Ruth have held our attention constantly during their years of preparation for Mission Work and news of their activities has been eagerly received while they were in the Near East going about their labor of love in our Lord's work. It was certain then that our groups would plan for them to tell of their experiences in that far-off field. They never disappointed us by being too busy, even though their schedules were full and the physician's caution to rest as much as possible was a real necessity.

Our women's societies have been enlightened by Ruth's reports of her work with the women. Ed. has given us an insight into his work with the men. Kings and princes and paupers alike heard of the Master while receiving some physical service. The esteem in which they are held in that far-away land is evidenced by the fact that a princess, visiting this land last summer for the first time, enjoyed her stay in New York because

of Ed's and Ruth's having known her and her brother while over there.

International conferences, interdenominational delegations and state-wide rallies have all heard the story of the need of the Moslem World and must, we feel, be much more sympathetic with these people now that their personal stories have been told. We are assured by Ed and Ruth that our continued interest in them has given the much needed extra energy and even greater desire (if that were possible) to get back into the new field at Amara to which they have now journeyed.

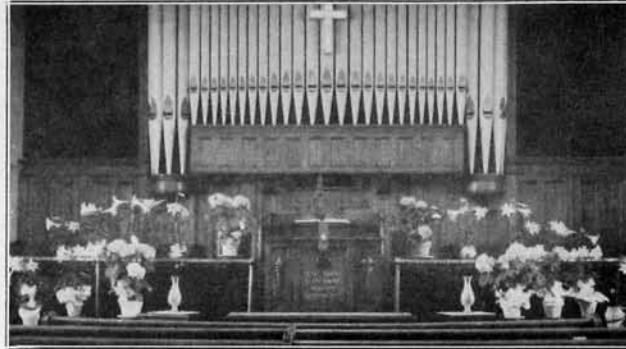
Our Missionaries are sponsored in their work by four churches. Each has given some added funds or equipment. We are glad to have been able to pay \$800 toward the car pictured below, \$200 for a tape recorder with extra rolls, and \$500 for personal needs during the next five years.

May their hearts be lighter and our prayers and works much stronger as we all work together in the Master's vineyard.



New Service Car for Mission Work

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Our Church

Many common church problems would be eliminated if all church members would realize that the church is theirs. Each member has equal privileges with every other member, and each has his own responsibilities. Some people act like visitors when they go to their own church, and sometimes get their feelings hurt because they are not shown all the courtesies due visitors. This only indicates their attitude toward their church and its work. To have any members of this kind, and we find some in every church, handicaps the work and growth of the church.

A member who has the right conception of his church and its work loves it and is loyal to it in every way. He realizes that if his church is to increase in number and in spirit as it should, he must do his full part. If he has really arrived at the right attitude toward Christ and His church, he will be as slow to criticize the members of

his church as he is the members of his family. He will ever be looking after the church's best interest. His example will be one of the church's assets. He will help by attending the services and inviting others to attend, and will do his part in making his church a friendly church with a warm welcome for all.

The loyal member will support his church, not according to what he has given, nor according to what he believes will appear respectable. He will give all that he is able in the light of God's word and his own conscience. This question is often asked and it is a good one: "What would my church be like if every member was just like me?" A church is always like its members. God always blesses the individual who is loyal to Him and the church. Let us resolve to make our church better and a greater power for good in the community by being better members.

Our Church School

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| General Superintendent | Maylon Howell | Missions Program Chairman | Mrs. Geraldine Jund |
| Asst. General Superintendent | Leroy Hand | Special Program Chairman | Mrs. Mary Urquhart |
| Secretary | Miss Agnes Woittiez | Church Nursery | Mrs. Ellen Hankamp |
| Treasurer | Gordon Tait | Crade Roll Superintendent | Mrs. Ruth VanDeWall |
| | Missionary Treasurer | | Miss Sarah Cambier |

ADULT DEPARTMENT

Superintendent, John Olyslager
 Asst. Superintendent, Lawrence Faba
 Teachers—
 Miss Sarah Cambier
 Leroy Hand
 Dr. LaMar Hankamp
 Mrs. Loretta Howell
 Rev. Anthony Luidens
 Mrs. Mae Luidens
 Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Mart
 Carl Pearson
 Arthur Stickney



ADULT DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR-INTERMEDIATE DEPT.

Superintendent, Mrs. Frances Tait
 Teachers—
 Arthur Brouwer
 Mrs. Martha DeRoo
 Mrs. Frances Faba
 Mrs. Susan Quant



JUNIOR-INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Superintendent, Mrs. Florence Woodhams
 Pianist, Miss Ann Tell
 Teachers—
 Miss Ruth DeRoo
 Miss Betty Hand
 Miss Ann Tell
 Mrs. Mary Urquhart



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

BEGINNERS DEPARTMENT

Superintendent, Mrs. Nellie Logothetis
 Teachers—
 Mrs. Margaret Anderson
 Mrs. Mildred Cole
 Miss Evelyn Hubregsen
 Mrs. Mae Hubregsen
 Mrs. Clara Ross
 Mrs. Gladys Sayles

**K. W. CLASS**

Teacher Mrs. Loretta Howell
 President Mrs. Gladys DeVuyst
 Vice President Mrs. Carol Scheerens
 Secretary Miss Lucille Merson
 Corresponding Secretary Mrs. Nellie Logothetis
 Treasurer Mrs. Grace Revier

MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

Teacher Dr. LaMar Hankamp
 President Henry DeRoo
 Secretary-Treasurer Ray Tell

**GOLDEN RULE CLASS**

Teacher Miss Sarah Cambier
 President Mrs. Ruth Hand
 Vice President Mrs. Frances Faba
 Secretary Mrs. Elsie DeBraal
 Assistant Secretary Mrs. Laura Mitchell
 Treasurer Mrs. Marjorie Fiach
 Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Ruth VanDeWall
 Mesdames Sunshine Mrs. Ethel Baker
 Mrs. Mae Hubregsen



MEN'S CHORUS
 and
LAYMEN'S SUNDAY SPEAKERS



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SENIOR

Advisor Kenneth Mart
 President Ronald Hand
 Vice President Harlan Fisher

**"C. E's"**

Secretary Evelyn Porteous
 Treasurer Kay Minnema

Snapped at 60th Anniversary Year C.E. Banquet

SPEAKER Rev. Carlton Harrison
 TOASTMASTER Chester Engler



SARAH CAMBIER
 Feted for many years of C.E. work.

SUNDAY NITE CLUB

President Roland Woodhams
 Vice President George Field
 Secy.-Treas. Mr.-Mrs. John Lauweret
 Program Chairman Jacob DeVuyst

**DAILY VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Superintendent Mrs. Elsie Rehberg
 Assistants: Mrs. Mildred Cole, Miss Harriet Jones, Mrs. Janet Langlois, Mrs. Doris Wahl, Mrs. Florence Woodhams.



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Fellowship Lodge



COMMITTEE

Rev. Anthony Luidens
Arthur Stickney
Leroy Hand



CONTRACTORS

Nicholas Koper
Rudolf Sassenhausen
David Ferguson
James DeWitte, Sr.
Thomas Koper
Elmer Lerch
James DeWitte, Jr.

Fellowship Lodge

Fellowship Lodge is the realization of several years of planning and working so that Brighton Reformed Church could offer a service center for all types of community activities sponsored by the organized groups in our church.

Along in 1943 Miss Mattie Guenther, living across the street from the church, also saw this need and offered the 3¼ acres of ground on which she resided as a site for this work. Her offer was accepted and the deed for the property transferred to the church at a total cost of approximately \$2800. This amount was to pay off the mortgage caused by pavement assessments.

Ground was broken in the Spring of 1949 with

Koper Builders as general contractors, assisted by volunteer manpower under Jacob DeVuyst. Arthur Stickney was the architect. The building progressed sufficiently to hold the 1951 Daily Vacation Bible School classes in June, followed by a Consistory meeting in July, then Sunday School class meetings, parties, and the C. E. 60th Anniversary Banquet on October 5th. The first public use was Sunday, July 29, on the occasion of the dedication service for Edwin and Ruth Luidens' car to be used for Foreign Missions work in Arabia. Thus its first use indicates the desire of those who contributed toward its erection and equipment to be of service to others that they might learn to do likewise.

FIESTA TIME



HENRY DE ROO and ROLAND WOODHAMS, Co-Chairmen
GORDON TAIT, Treasurer JOHN OLYSLAGER, Editor

Fellowship Fiesta Time

The energy within our group of church organizations was demonstrated during Fellowship Fiesta Time. Doing for the other fellow is always a lot more fun, even if hard work, than seeking personal gain.

Most of us remember our parts in the events. We list several of the activities: individuals performed no small task in laying out the Searles Park grounds, erecting the booths, providing and collecting materials and equipment, policing the property and caring for and returning all borrowed items; some women provided the food for the tables or baked goods and the Far & Near group served them; Cubs and parents sold pop and chill; men roasted hots and hamburgers; C. E.'ers attended games; Young Adults had kiddie rides; the Golden Rule class served waffles and ice

cream; the K. W. Class sold peanuts, popcorn and candy; the Ladies' Aid served doughnuts, cake and coffee; the Missionary Society offered plants and flowers; individuals demonstrated trinkets and gadgets; these efforts were announced to the public ear by the P. A. booth, and to the eye by the ticket committee activities and by the "Community Call" bulletin, which was prepared by others of the Young Adults, ably supported by enthusiastic ad canvassers from all groups, and by the Boy Scouts and Cubs in charge of distribution.

All these, along with a most responsive and generously cooperative community spirit combined to make the Fellowship Fiestas of 1949 and 1950 real successes. The proceeds approximating \$3500 were used in the erection of Fellowship Lodge.



Our Women's Groups



LADIES' MISSIONARY SOCIETY

President Mrs. Carrie Blaakman
 Vice President Mrs. Gertrude Clow
 Secretary Mrs. Ethel Baker
 Treasurer Mrs. Ann VandenBroecke
 Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Mary DeCook

LADIES' AID SOCIETY

President Mrs. Mayme Smith
 Vice President Mrs. Gertrude Clow
 Secretary Mrs. Nettie Brant
 Assistant Secretary Mrs. Wm. Butts
 Treasurer Mrs. Alice Zonneville
 Assistant Treasurer Mrs. Irene DeGraff



FAR AND NEAR CIRCLE

President Mrs. Ruth DeLyser
 Vice President Mrs. Evelyn Madera
 Vice President Mrs. Martha DeRoo
 Secretary Mrs. Ada Atman
 Cor. Secretary Miss Nellie Underhill
 Treasurer Mrs. May Fisher
 Sunshine Treasurer Mrs. Margaret Hegeman

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60th ANNIVERSARY BANQUET



Mrs. Mae Luidens

Rev. Anthony Luidens

Henry DeRoo
(Chairman)

Mrs. Signe Pearson

Carl Pearson
(Toastmaster)Mrs. Martha DeRoo
(Co-Chairman)

BANQUET SPEAKERS AND THEIR WIVES

Mrs. Jacob DeGraff
Charter Member

Rev. Jacobs - Rev. Blocker - Rev. Luidens

Mrs. Libby Willink
Charter Member

"THE REST OF US"



BETTY TALSMAN

**GIRL SCOUTS**

JEAN KUBITZ, Captain

MRS. GRACE HEBING, Committee Chairman

**CUB SCOUT PACK
No. 74**

ROLAND WOODHAMS, Cub Master

ROBERT GLASER, Asst. Cub Master

STANLEY ALBRIGHT,
Chairman Pack Committee**BOY SCOUT TROOP
No. 74**

JAMES WHITLEY, Scout Master

EDWARD PLANT, Asst. Scout Master

ARVID SEABLOM, Committee Chairman

**EXPLORER SCOUT
TROOP No. 74**

WALTER BLAKELY, Explorers' Advisor

**"The Field is the World"****OUR COMMISSION**

"Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you; and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

St. Matthew 13, Verse 38

Sixty years ago the Brighton Reformed Church was part of a rolling countryside. Near and around it were nurseries, small orchards and fields. Picket fences protected church lawn and family grounds from the intrusion of browsing cattle. At that time, ours was a country church. Sunday worship, an occasional mid-week meeting, excursions and trips to "the lake" and Coburg, were the yearly round of activities.

To-day we are a part of residential Rochester, with long streets bordered by houses, residential apartments, stores and factories. We have become part of a world-known city. This transition from country to city, from neighborhood to international outreach is completed. Truly, to-day our "Field is the World."

The red brick school on Winton Road, and the wooden structure on Landing Road, of 1901, are, in 1951, two large schools serving together nearly one thousand grade school children. Some of these studied and played with children from England, who, in returning home in recent years have caused the field of education to become world-wide in its interest and outreach.

Brighton Reformed stresses the spiritual training of her children. They that would have their children serve the world will do well to have them learn in the home, to love and serve the Saviour of the world.

On the panel of our church pulpit are two meaningful symbols, the Torch, the symbol of learning, and the Cross. They, together, express the high ideals of the Brighton Reformed Congregation.

"The Field is the World." A half century ago deeds of mercy were very real. Older mothers

watched over younger mothers when new babies came. These older mothers were often both nurse and doctor. The field of mercy was our intimate, friendly neighborhood.

Now our field, in ever widening circles of mercy reaches out into our city hospitals. We watch some of our girls enter into nation-wide and world-wide service. Daily, our nurses, working with the Red Cross Blood Bank, are gathering blood plasma for use in the army and navy hospitals the world over.

Clothing and gifts for the Indians of the South West; money to help build a dormitory for colored girls in Brewton, Alabama, and tools, toys and books for the mountaineers of Kentucky and Tennessee are sent annually. Warm clothing is sent into the immigrant centers of Canada. Many packages stream in mercy to the Netherlands and other countries in Europe. The little black and brown orphans of the House of Happiness in Bahrain, are clothed by the apparel we send. Our missionary gifts afford drugs for innumerable persons afflicted with eye diseases and leprosy. Surely our field of mercy has expanded to touch the outer rim of the world.

It is a source of gratitude to God that three of our young men have gone into full time Christian service at home and abroad. These men are our church's heart, hand and hope in our land and others. They represent us. Because we sustain and support them, they are actually ourselves at work in these fields.

It is our hope that in the coming half century many young men and women will go into foreign mission service. There is ever need of Christian teachers, nurses, doctors, farmers, evangelists and other guides in Christian living. Brighton Reformed has caught the Vision. We now see that "The Field is the World" and we shall expand the scope of our hope and enterprise until the small field of our personal concern shall encompass the whole world.

In the top section of the center window of our Church, on the side where the sun shines through, there are written these words, "Nisi Dominus Frustra." These words interpreted, say "Unless the Lord builds we labor in vain." With Him to guide us we shall face the future with confidence. He who has spoken the words will give us strength to make them come true. "The Field is the World!" With Him, we too shall be more than conquerors.

Anthony Luidens

A large collage of 24 black and white photographs depicting various social events, group portraits, and community activities from the mid-20th century. The photos are arranged in a grid-like fashion, with some larger than others. The subjects include groups of people at outdoor picnics, formal dinners, and social gatherings; individual portraits of couples and groups; and scenes of community events like a church service or a group performance. The attire is typical of the 1940s and 1950s, with women in dresses and men in suits or casual shirts and trousers. The settings range from outdoor parks and beaches to indoor venues like churches and restaurants.