

Church/Organization: Webster Baptist Church
59 South Avenue
Webster, NY 14580

Years of Operation 1830 – present

Volume Title: Anniversary 150th 1980

VOLUME CONTENT

**Photos and programs relating to the 150th Anniversary Celebration,
including a history of the church.**

Film/Scan Location: Webster Baptist Church
59 South Avenue
Webster, NY 14580

Dates Imaged: October, 2013

Number of pages: 57

Notes: Except for blank pages that were not photographed or scanned, the images represent Church records as they appear in their original form and order. **Note:** not all records follow logical, chronological or alphabetical order.

**Digitally photographed or scanned from original documents by
The Rochester Genealogical Society, Inc.
Church Records Preservation Committee**

Bob Coomber	Roscoe Hastings	Linda Koehler	Pauline Novick
Russ Green	Kathryn Heintz	Larry Lavery	Jay Palmer
Eila Harkonen-Hart	Carole Kerr	Larry Naukam	Sharon Perkins

~~1980~~ 1980
150th Celebration y.



Guests

Sept. 1980

Date	Name	Address
21	Andy	637
21	Christine L.	1539
21	Marie P.	824
21	Carrie Freida	1536
21	Heg + her Gaglio	485
21	Mr. Mrs H. Close	1071 Glen Rd
21	Nancy Thijs	72 Sapham Park
21	Bonnie Davids	
21	Amy Davids	15 Clover Drive Webster
21	Patricia Farley	1961 East Main Acob.

Guests

Date	Name	Address	
9-21-80	Adolph O Baker	1961 E. Main St	Rochester, N.Y.
9/21/80	Ann L. Mathew	925 E. Main St	Webster, N.Y.
9/21	Mrs. Mrs. Edwin Ford ^{Shoup}	1078 5 Mile Line Rd	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Donna M. Pascuzzi	49 Angell Dr	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Barbara Remensnyder	111 Sagamore Dr.	Rochester, N.Y.
9/21/80	Gladys Thornhill	635 Holt Rd	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Lynn M. Pellett	824 Shoemaker	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Thomas E. Pellett Jr.	824 Shoemaker	Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Harry Brewer Sr.	480 Bank 118	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Thomas F. Pellett Jr.	805 Denwith Rd	Webster N.Y.

Guests

Date	Name	Address
6-21-80	Larry H. Cary	637 Bendy Bough Ct. Webster NY
6-21-80	Luis B. Smith	769 John Churchill Webster NY
9/21/80	Katherine Finley	943 Shoemaker Rd. Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Lea H. Jander	1261 McCREEK RD Webster, N.Y.
	Millie Coonan	805 Duwitt Rd Webster
	Jane Harris	39 Lapham Pk. Webster
	Dave, Diane & Erick Clausen	46 Rustic St Rochester
	Gordon J. Allen	449 Thomas St Webster, NY
	Jeanne Allen	449 Thomas St Webster NY
	Esther J. Allen	501 Green Manor Rochester

Guests

Date	Name	Address	
9/21/80	Ronald D. Freiduse	1536 Ridge Rd	Webster NY
9/21/80	Diane Pugh	186 E Main St.	Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Ronald D. Freiduse	1536 Ridge Rd	Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Michelle Williams	1700 Quatrough Rd	Webster NY
9/21/80	Jennifer Kinkead	660 Salt Road	Webster, NY
9/21/80	Lynda Kinkead Cavers	135 Worthy Ave.	Medina, NY
9/21/80	Pauline J. Novick	933 State Rd.	Webster NY.
9/21/80	Peter & Donna Gaglio	488 Ridge Rd.	Webster, NY.
9/21/80	Dorothy Connor	663 E West Rd	Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Helen Northrop	118 E. Main St	Webster N.Y.

Guests

Date	Name	Address
9/21/80	Meredith Meddaugh	130 Scurry Ave Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Ruth M. Williamson	904 Krieger Rd. Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Ruth Ann Williamson	904 Krieger Rd Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Mrs John Fricker	1047 Klem Rd Web. N.Y.
9/21/80	Mr. & Mrs. Heinzman	1264 State Rd. Web N.Y.
9/21/80	Janice Jackiewicz	856 Parkidge Lane Webster N.Y.
9/21/80	Edith & Charlie Barnett	10 Webster Manor Dr. Webster, N.Y.
9/21/80	Junia Brewer	480 Plank Rd. Webster
9/21/80	Janice Brewer Smith	778 Klem Rd. Webster
9/21/80	Margery Hudson	1261 Wallcreek Run Webster

Guests

Date	Name	Address
9/21	Mr. & Mrs. Harold C. Elliott	114 Denise Lane Charlottesville, Va
9/21	Mr. & Mrs. Benjamin Akner	10 E. Seneca Rd Awarua
"	Beck & Benjy Akner	" "
9/21	Mrs. Richard Carver	3045 Buckport Rd. Spencerport
9/21	Ruth & Earl Hagg	560 Van Alstyne Rd Webster
9/21	The Don Filion Family	36 Meadow Dr. Webster
9/21	Marjorie Fleck	28 Maryvale Dr Webster
9/21	Helen DeWalt	21 Sherwood Ave "
9/21	Loris Harrison	1153 Bay Rd "
9/21	Mr. & Mrs. James H. Shepler	227 Curtice Pk "
9/21	Richard T. Buell	94 Baker St. "

Guests

Date	Name	Address
9/21	Jean Lyug	100 South Ave.
9/21	Lonnelle Howe	455 main st. Penn Yan, N.Y.
"	Lee Howe	"
9/21	Susan + Dee Howe	Pittsford, N.Y.
9-21	Robert Novich	933 STATE RD. 14580
9/21	Douglas Smith	789 John Glenn Blvd Webster
9/21	Janeylee Gaudin	1309 Mel Creek Run, Web.
9/21	Granville Chambers	183 E. main st WEBSTER N.Y.
9-21	Howard Chase	1071 Elm Rd Web.
9/21	Stanley & Joins McCoruach	1302 Robin Hood Ln Webster N.Y.
	Jeffrey	

Guests

Date	Name	Address
9/21	Betty Hoop	3711 Kyjia Ct Annandale, Va 22003
9/21	Darlene Wright Lansing	1539 Sweets Corners Rd Pentfield, N.Y. 14526
9/21	Jennifer Kay Martin	89 South Ave. Webster, N.Y. 14580
9/21	Jane Cook and Jay	190 South Ave Webster
9/21 ^{9/10/80}	Doug K. Lick + Susan	754 Saffronha Webster
9/21/80	Dolly (Kinkiel) Kujawa	1008 Bay Rd. Webster
9/21/80	Kim Simons	1008 Bay Rd. Webster
9/21/80	Tracey Cavers	3045 Brockport Rd. Spencerport
"	Neva Hoffmeier	Webster
9/21	Ann Richmond	54 South Ave WEBSTER

Guests

Date	Name	Address	
9/21/80	Sam Shodwin	1309 Mill Creek Run	Webster
9/21/80	Lylia Chambers	183 E. Main St.	Webster

WELCOME

This year the Webster Baptist Church is celebrating its 150th anniversary. We are glad to have each of you from the greater community share with us the vitality of our church.

Baptists have no formal creed. Each is responsible to search for his/her own beliefs in reaching a deeper and closer relationship with God. Because of this liberty of conscience we respect the beliefs of others.

We baptize people by immersion when they are old enough to have an understanding of the act. We also accept members by profession of faith or by letter of transfer.

Through the teaching of Jesus Christ we hope to fulfill his dream of each of us loving and praising God and learning to love our neighbors as ourselves. In fellowship with other searchers and believers we establish a closer relationship with each other and with God. Jesus saw this dream as a future hope that could begin in the here and now. We call his dream the Kingdom of God.

We invite each of you, with God's help, to make this dream a reality by joining the people in your church or, if you have no church, joining with us.

Webster Baptist Church

American Baptist Historical Society

Founded 1853

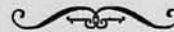


In recognition of

WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

ONE HUNDRED FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

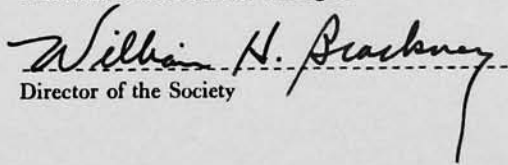
The Board of Managers and Staff hereby salute your congregation on the celebration and attainment of this milestone of ministry and service in the American Baptist tradition. This certificate also signifies our trust that your church will continue to minister uniquely as an important component of the American Baptist Churches, U.S.A.



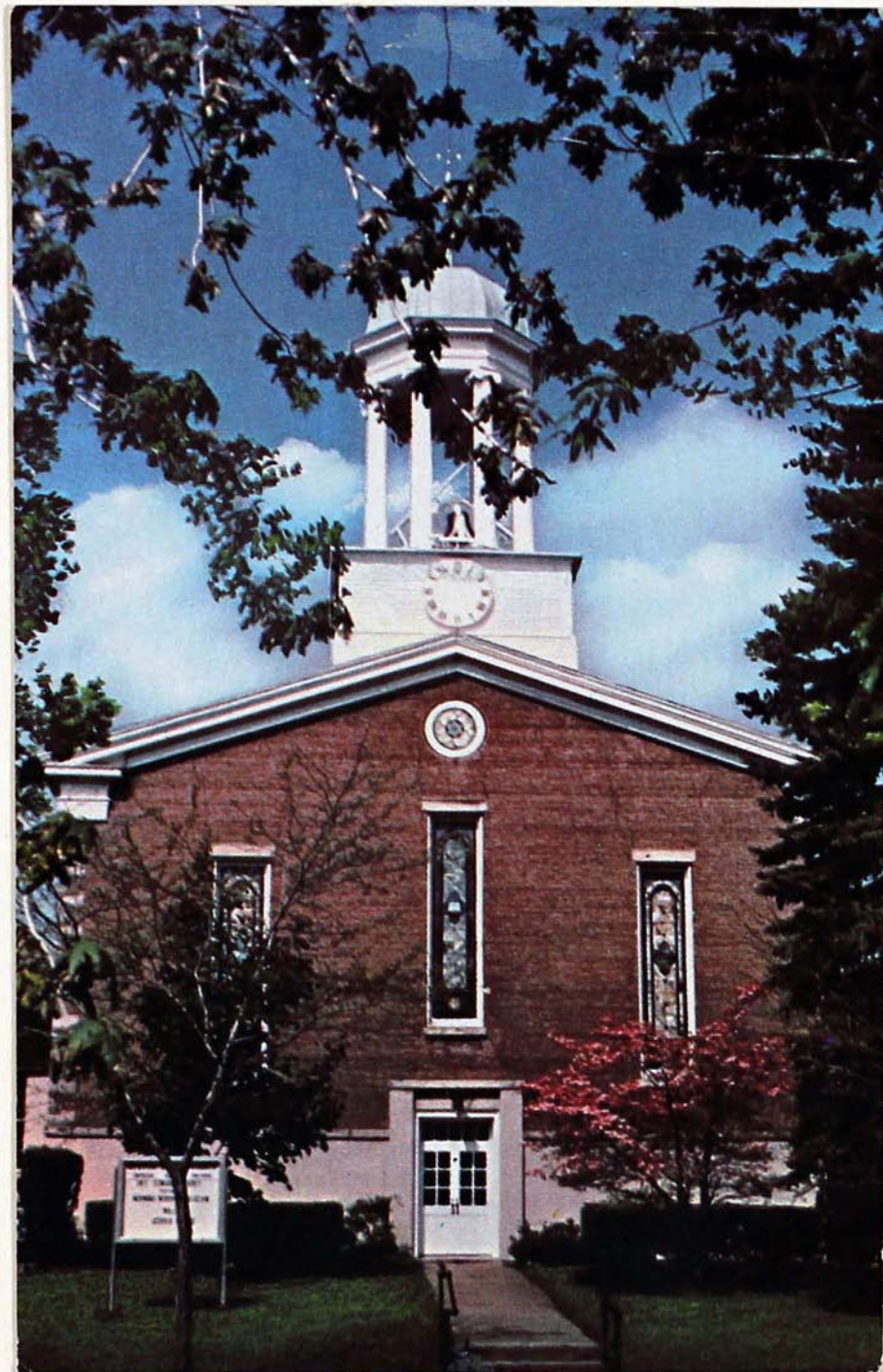
Given this 21st day of September in the year of our Lord 1980 in the city of Rochester, New York.




President of the Board of Managers


Director of the Society

Webster Baptist Church



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WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH
59 South Avenue
Webster, New York 14580
An American Baptist Church, 1830-1980.
Fellowship in all generations.

MWM Color-Litho "Bursheen" Finished, Made Only By MWM Co., Aurora, Mo.
Van Loon, 5 Schafer St., Rochester, NY 14609

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Postcard

167,133

Webster Baptist Church



Webster Baptist Church

Webster Baptist Church
Webster, New York

Webster Baptist Church



SESQUICENTENIAL CELEBRATION

ORGAN RECITAL

Saturday, September 20, 1980, 2:30 P.M.

Anne Musser, organist
assisted by
Roberts Wesleyan Brass Quartet
Terry Schwartz, trumpet
Paul Shewan, trumpet
Stephen Shewan, french horn
David Wachob, trombone

"150 YEARS - FELLOWSHIP IN ALL GENERATIONS"

* * * * *

Aria in F Major (from Concerto Grosso No. 12, Op. 6)
G.F. Handel-Guilmant
(1685-1759)

Pastorale in F Major, BWV 590
J.S. Bach
(1685-1750)

A "pastorale" is an instrumental or vocal piece written in imitation of the simple sounds and melodies of the shepherds' shawns and pipes. These compositions are usually in 6/8 or 12/8 meter. Two famous pastorales in 12/8 time are found in Handel's Messiah, "He Shall Feed His Flock" and the "Pastorale Symphony."

The first movement of Bach's Pastorale is in 12/8 time and follows the customary style and form of the pastorale. However, for some reason unknown to us, Bach added three more short movements that are for manual alone and not in the typical pastorale style.

Jesu, Come Let Us Praise Thee (from Contata No. 41)
J.S. Bach-King
Brass Quartet and Organ

Psalm 19
Benedetto Marcello-King
(1686-1739)
Brass Quartet and Organ

Pastorale
Louis Lefébure-Wély
(1817-1869)

This piece contains another typical feature of the pastorale style, a drone bass. A drone bass is a note or notes in the lowest voice that stays on the same pitch for many measures

WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

Formed in November of 1830, as the North Penfield Baptist Church, the Webster Baptist Church came into being shortly after the establishment of Webster Township in 1840. The year 1980 Marks 150 years of Christian Fellowship, 124 years congregated in the present cobblestone and fieldstone structure built by 250 members in 1856.

As part of the celebration, the 150 Year Committee, has been researching and revising the history of the Webster Baptist Church and plans to have a commemorative booklet published shortly after the Homecoming Weekend.

The booklet will include a revised history of the church and photographs collected from church members of church activities and members over the years as well as photographs taken during the 150th year celebration.

The cost of the booklet should not exceed \$3.00. If you would like a copy of this memory book, please make sure to reserve one by signing the reservation booklet or calling the church office.

* * * * *

PASTOR - Edward I. Carey
ORGANIST - Nan C. Filion
CHOIR DIRECTOR - Sylvia Chambers
CHURCH MODERATOR - Don Filion
CHURCH TREASURER - David Clausen
CHURCH SECRETARY - Nancy Lee Goodwin
Church - 265-9480 Pastor's Study - 265-3824
Home - 872-4104

Affiliated: Webster Council of Churches, Genesee Ecumenical Council, The Area Baptist Churches of Monroe County, American Baptist Convention, New York State Council of Churches, Nat'l & World Council of Churches.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGAN

The Chapin Memorial Pipe Organ was completely rebuilt and set up in the Webster Baptist Church by the Kohl Organ Company of Rochester in 1938.

Five large chambers from twelve to twenty feet in height are occupied by five distinct organ departments which are played from the console of four manuals and pedals. The front of the auditorium, from left to right, contains the Pedal, Swell, Choir, and Great Organs. An Echo organ is installed high in the belfry room, its distant tones carried through a shaft in the angle of the ceiling at the rear of the auditorium. A set of Deagan chimes is also located in the echo chamber.

The organ consists of over 4,000 pipes whose speaking lengths vary from five-eighths of an inch to eighteen feet. An electric motor connected to a centrifugal blower delivers the air to the pipes. Approximately 200 miles of wire form the electrical circuits from the consoles to the solenoids, that, lifting the valves, release air into the pipes. The entire equipment occupies around 10,000 cubic feet and weighs about 10 tons.

The organ was given to the church in memory of William Wisner Chapin and Elizabeth Lyon Chapin by their children in 1938. The Aeolian Pipe Organ was formerly heard by delighted audiences in the old Chapin residence on South Fitzhugh Street, Rochester.

Suite Gothique, Op. 25
Introduction-Choral
Menuet Gothique
Priere a Notre-Dame
Toccata

Léon Boëllmann
(1862-1897)

At this time, a donation of \$1.00 per adult will be taken to be contributed to the Organ Maintenance Fund.

Wondrous Love (Southern Folk Song) David N. Johnson

Congregational Hymn - No. 527

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Bourrée and Minuet (from the Fireworks Music)

G.F. Handel-King

Brass Quartet

O World, I Must Leave Thee

Johannes Brahms
(1833-1897)

Brass Quartet and Organ

Now Thank We All Our God

Siegfrid Karg-Elert
(1877-1933)

Webster Baptist Church

Anne Musser, Associate Professor of Music, is a member of the Music Faculty at Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester. She is a graduate of Houghton College and the University of Michigan and has studied organ with Charles H. Finney, Ray Ferguson, Marilyn Mason and Robert Glasgow.

The members of the Brass Quartet are also from Roberts Wesleyan College. Terry Schwarta is a member of the Music Faculty. He is a graduate of Houghton College and Yale University where he studied trumpet with Robert Nagle. He has also studied in Switzerland at the Institute for Advanced Musical Studies. The other members of the quartet are his students at the college.

* * * * *

150 YEAR CELEBRATION COMMITTEE

Nancylee Goodwin
Marian Frelrier
Douglas Klick
Anne Richmond

HOMECOMING WEEKEND EVENTS

Slides and movie presentation of church events and tours of the church building following the concert under the direction of Stan McCormack and the Senior High Youth in Room One.

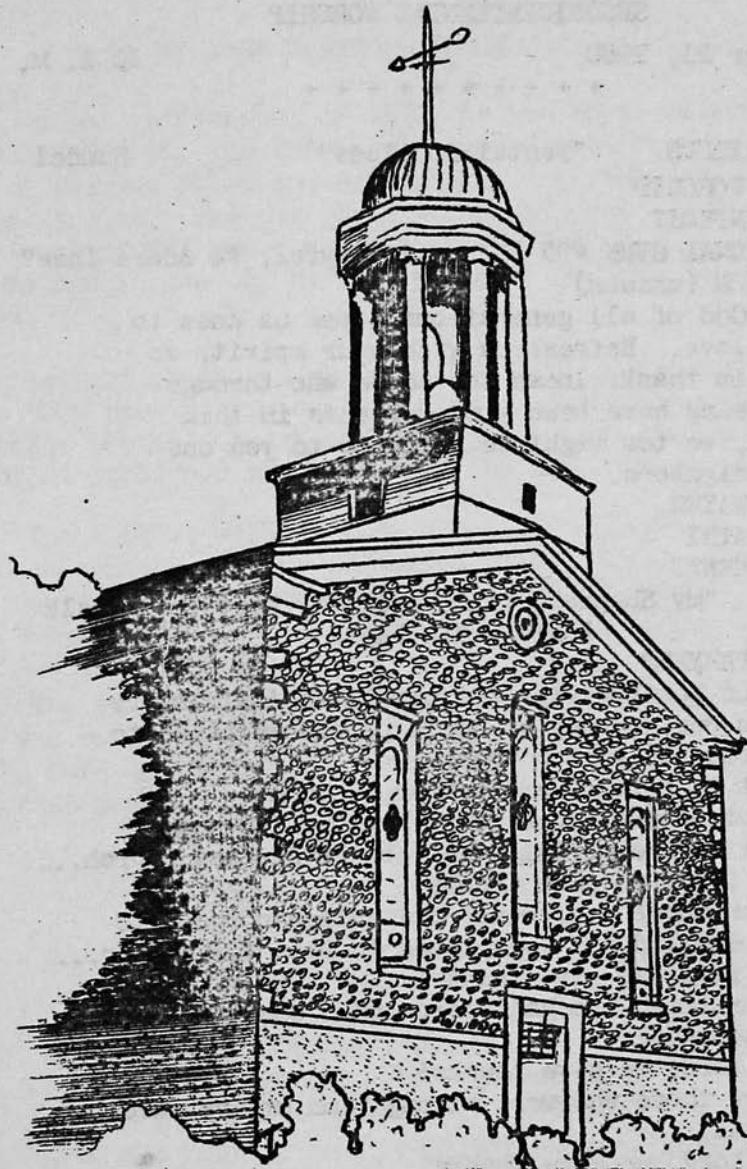
Chicken Barbeque at 5 P.M. today in the church parking lot. (Reservation only) Lakedale
Irregular String Band entertaining.

Sunday, September 21, worship, 10 A.M. at which time long time church members will be honored. A reception and Open House will follow the service at 11:15.

* * * * *

The 150 Year Committee extends thanks to everyone who assisted with ideas, worked on committees and helped with arrangements and thank you, musicians.

Webster Baptist Church



Webster Baptist Church

59 South Avenue, Webster, New York, 14580

SESQUICENTENNIAL WORSHIP

September 21, 1980

10 A. M.

+ + + + +

ORGAN PRELUDE "Festal Postlude" Handel

CALL TO WORSHIP

CHORAL INTROIT

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #95 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*INVOCATION (unison)

Lord God of all generations, open us anew to your love. Refresh us with your spirit, so that in thankfulness for those who through the years have been your servants in this place, we too might be servants to you and our neighbors.

*LORD'S PRAYER

*GLORIA PATRI

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Schalk
Flute - Kim Pugh

MORNING PRAYERS

Litany of Thanksgiving for our 150th Anniversary

L. In our journey as God's people we pause to communally give thanks.

P. It is fitting and proper to do so.

L. Let us pray together: For the 150 year existence of this the Webster Baptist Church...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For those men, women and children who have struggled and worshipped in this fellowship...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For those who had vision when others' sight failed...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For those who were strong when others were weak...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For those who continue to have vision and strength...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For that fellowship that has united your people in the past...

WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

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* * * * *

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For that present fellowship which joins us together today...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. For that future which is open before us if we but accept it...

P. O Lord, we give thanks!

L. Lord God, grant that the vision and strength of the past might unite with the hope of the future, so that this day we might truly be your people...

P. O Lord, hear our prayer!

L. Hear our prayers O Lord, as silently and individually we give thanks to you...

Silent Prayers

In the words of the Pastor

RECOGNITION OF MEMBERS

RECOGNITION OF THE CHURCH

*HYMN #598 "Now Thank we All Our God"

OFFERING

Offertory "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring" Bach
Prayer

*Doxology

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

In Scripture Hebrews 10: 32-11:2, 12:1
In Music Meditation from "Thais"

J. Massenet

violin - Abram Boone

In Sermon By Faith

*HYMN # 585 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

ORGAN POSTLUDE "Carillon for a Joyful Day" McKay

*congregation stands

+ + + + +

The Recognition of the Church is presented by Dr. William Brakney, the Director of the American Baptist Historical Society.

WELCOME - We are pleased to have you join us in worship today. If you are a guest, you are especially invited to join the reception in the Fellowship Hall following

Webster Baptist Church

the service. Please remember to sign the Guest Book in the foyer.

CHILDREN - Grades 5 and below will go down stairs during the singing of the second hymn. All church school classes will begin on September 28.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY - will meet at 10 A.M. in the church kitchen with Reverend Carey. They are discussing the book of Matthew.

WEDNESDAY SEW 'N' SEWS - will meet in the Craft Room from 10 A.M. til 2 P.M. They are busy working on projects for the November Craft Sale. They need help. Please join them and bring a sandwich.

WEDNESDAY - Choir rehearsal at 7:30 P.M. FOLK GROUP no rehearsal yet. What for an announcement.

ACTS IN THE 80'S - A major conference on the meaning of EVANGELISM in the 80's using the Acts of the Apostles as a model...from Pentacost to the Jerusalem Council; from Galatia to Rome; we will worship, learn and feel the dynamics of the early church as we enter fully into the 80's! September 26-28 at C.R.D.S.

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Church	Pastor's Study	Home
265-8490	265-3824	872-4104

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 9 A.M.-Noon

Affiliated: Webster Council of Churches, G.E.M.,

TABCMA, American Baptist Convention, N.Y. State

Council of Churches, Nat'l and World Council of Churches.

Webster Baptist Church

THE DIALOGUE

MAY 1980

VOL. XVII NO.3

God's House

One constant source of pride in the history of the church has been the church building itself. This beautiful structure, consisting of cobblestone and fieldstone, is actually the second building to be used by the congregation. The present building, like the form of worship, has undergone modifications and changes although the basic structure has remained the same.

November 10, 1830 marked the date that the church was officially recognized as an independent unit by a council of local Baptist Churches. The name given to this unit was the North Penfield Baptist Church (This name was changed to the Webster Baptist Church in May, 1846.). This newly organized church needed a common meeting place (It is not indicated where worship service and other church meetings were held prior to the completion of the first building, but records indicate that such congregational events did occur). From "A Brief History of Webster Baptist Church" comes this description: "By the spring of 1832 a frame meeting house, with a seating capacity of three hundred, costing \$2,000 had been erected on the site of our present building..."

In 1855 it was decided that a new meeting house was needed. It was decided that the old meeting house be removed and a new one made of fieldstone and cobblestone be erected on the same site. The old frame building was given to Spencer Holt, free of charge, with the understanding that it be used as an academy or school for at least five years. It was then moved to Corning Park and used as Webster Academy until it was destroyed by fire in 1872 (From "A Brief History...").

The project of preparing the ground and gathering the materials for the new building called for the direct involvement of the members of the congregation in helping to keep the cost down. Other people in the community as well as the members donated the fieldstone. The process of drawing the cobblestone as described in "A Brief History..." demonstrates the extent of congregational involvement.

"The cobblestone was gathered on the shores of Lake Ontario from Sea Breeze to Lakeside. After each heavy rain or windstorm which would drive the waves up on the shore so that they were washed clean, the beach was combed for stones of just a certain size and shape. Placed on barges the stones were rafted to landing places and thence hauled by wagons to the church. Groups of young people, both boys and girls, used to go to the lake to assist in the work of gathering stones, and the contract price of \$150 for delivering the same at the church was donated by the parties concerned, three Curtice brothers and Horace Holt..."

This help from the congregation and others enabled the cost for erecting the new building to be kept at five thousand dollars.

A Covenant meeting was held in the basement of the new church on March 22, 1856. The building was completed by the end of 1856. It was dedicated on January 1, 1857 with all day services and even a wedding to close the day's ceremonies.

This building, the present one, went through two periods of extensive renovation with other modifications and changes up to the present. The first period of renovation occurred in 1902

Webster Baptist Church

THE DIALOGUE

MAY 1980

VOL. XVII NO. 3

Sour Cream Peach Cake

1 pkg. orange flavor cake mix
1 can (21oz.) peach pie filling
 $\frac{1}{2}$ cup dairy sour cream
2 eggs

Heat oven to 350°. Mix all ingredients in ungreased 9 x 13 pan till moistened. Stir with fork vigorously for 1 minute. Spread evenly. Bake 40-45 minutes. Store loosely covered in refrigerator.

Lois Smith

This cake was served at the Maundy Thursday BYO dinner.

* * * *

Free eye & ear screening for 3 - 5 year olds

Make sure your children see and hear the world around them as they should - take them to one of the free eye and ear screenings to be held during the month of June throughout Rochester and Monroe County. This screening is for pre-school children three, four and five year olds.

Copies of the schedule are posted in church or may be obtained by calling 461-1660 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. This screening is co-sponsored by the Eye Conservation Committee, the Monroe County Association for the Hearing Impaired and the Monroe County Health Department.

Webster date & place: Monday, June 9, Immanuel Lutheran Church, 131 West Main St.

* * * * *

Dear Pastor,

Would you please publish in your church newspaper the following information regarding the next production of the Webster Theatre Guild:

Webster Theatre Guild will be presenting the comedy/mystery "The Murder Room" by Jack Sharkey. Performances will be at the Rochester Academy of Performing Arts (R.A.P.A.), 97 South Avenue, Webster, New York, May 16 at 8 P.M., May 17 at 8 P.M., and May 18 at 2 P.M. and 7 P.M. For information call 342-6094.

As you know Webster Theatre Guild is a non-profit organization whose function is to provide entertainment for the Webster community. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Alice L. Buchholz
Publicity Chairman
Webster Theatre Guild

* * * * *

Webster Baptist Church

THE DIALOGUE

MAY 1980

VOL. XVII NO.3

God's House continued:

when the interior was completely renovated. A new roof was put on, sanctuary redecorated, new windows of stained glass on which were inscribed donors names were put in, the basement of the church was remodeled to contain a kitchen and so it could be used for social and religious activities and a heating plant was installed during this time period. The service of rededication was on February 24, 1903.

In March 1957, the church members voted to erect a Christian Education Building at an approximate cost of \$67,000. This structure was located at the rear of the church and had three basic levels, with classrooms on the ground floor, a dining-hall and kitchen on the second floor and on the third floor at the north end were classrooms and the south end contained the church office and pastor's study.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1957, followed with a Corner-stonelaying ceremony on July 28 and a dedication on November 24, 1957. The newspapers of the time noted that the enthusiasm and spirit of the members of the congregation in donating their time and labor helped to open the building on this date. This ended the biggest change in structure prior to the second period of renovation.

Starting in 1963 plans were made to begin repairs on the church. After much time and consideration, it was decided that a complete renovation was necessary. A campaign fund was organized which raised \$85,000. In 1965 the project was approved at a cost of \$138,000. The work started in June, 1965.

This project brought the church to its present condition. The sanctuary was restored in the Greek Revival tradition, with a gallery, sunken organ, padded pews, new baptistry and lowered choir loft. In the basement changes appeared in the form of classrooms, a coat area, church offices and a pastor's study. An elevator was also provided to give people who required such a facility easy access to many areas of the church. The project was completed by December 1, 1965 and was celebrated by a weekend of activities with a formal dedication on the Sunday morning of that weekend.

Throughout the years there have been changes made while the basic structure of the building has remained constant. The dedication and willingness of the members of the congregation to work together have made the physical changes easier to complete. Similarly, the dedication and cooperation of the church members to the worship of God have made the church a steady source of spiritual strength despite modifications in worship that have occurred over the years.

150th Anniversary Committee

* * * * *

Susan Lauroesch and Michael Kestler were married on the evening of Saturday, March 29, 1980. The ceremony took place at home with a few friends and family attending. Rev. Dan Chesbro, former minister of Webster Baptist Church conducted the wedding ceremony. Sue and Mike have an apartment in Penfield. CONGRATULATIONS!

(5)

First Tuesday Evening Bible Study

Tuesday May 6, at 7:30 P.M., we will meet around the topic of "Canon: what is it and how did we get it?" We will be looking at the history of the Bible, how it was put together and what the function of canon is in relation to the scriptures, i.e. what is in and what is out? Please join us for the 1½ hour session.

* * * * *

CAREY'S CORNER

Recently someone asked me what I thought were the "basics of Christianity"- While the question is rather broad I have been asked to reproduce some of my response here:

Firstly - Christianity points the existence of God. There is not a question of whether God exists or not, it is assured that God's existence is the case.

Secondly:- Our understanding of God is approached and enriched by human reason and experience in the following inclusive way:

- a) through the scriptures
- b) through the traditions of the church
- c) through personal spiritual life
- d) through the life of the community of faith

Thirdly: - The message mediated through the above deals with a God active in history or judge and saviour and that that God is related to Jesus of Nazareth

Fourthly:- We can and do participate in God's history here and now and at some time in the future.

These four points help us to establish the reference in which we can begin to answer the questions of "basic Christianity".

* * * * *

THE ALLENS:

It was January, 1963, when our family first came to Webster Baptist Church. What happened that day characterized the years to come.

After the church service, Gordon and I were wondering what to do with ourselves while the children finished Sunday school. That dilemma was soon solved by two firm hands under our elbows and a friendly voice saying, "Hey, where do you think you 're going? Come back for coffee. That voice belonged to Jim Baker who took us firmly in tow and introduced us to the friendly crowd in the dining room. It didn't take us long to realize we had found our church home. Afterwards I used to kid Jim about having an ulterior motive as three weeks later he had me teaching Sunday School - a job that lasted for eight years.

Our family has many fond memories gathered over the years. The children remember Christmas plays, church picnics, Watson weekends, Youth groups, tree-trim parties and Christmas visits to Lois Harrison's. They were all baptized

(6)

(continued)

Webster Baptist Church

January 15, 1980

TO: The Webster Baptist Diaconate
FROM: Sesquicentennial Committee
SUBJECT: Progress Report

The committee met in the Church Office in December to discuss plans for the 1980 - 150 year celebration. Those present were: John and Marian Frelier, Doug Klick and Ann Richmond and Nancy Lee Goodwin.

The type of celebration to commemorate the year was discussed and after considering that we would like to have as many of the past ministers, past and present members of the church participate in the celebration; a fall weekend was selected. A fall week was selected because this would give us ample time to collect all the names and addresses and to mail invitations and to give those who wanted to come time to make arrangements. Since the early summer is the time for most other groups to gather; it was felt the last part of the summer or a weekend in September would be best. This would also allow time to include photographs of the weekend to be placed in a yearbook/directory.

The date chosen for Diaconate approval is September 19, 20, 21, 1980.

This weekend would be called a Homecoming Weekend and one of the highlights of the weekend will be a chicken barbeque/clambake to be held in the church parking lot. John Frelier has obtained permission to use this area from the village mayor. Other sites were discussed but it was felt that the church facilities would be handy in the event of inclement weather. Also having the celebration at the church would enhance activities and would also make it available to those in the village.

The weekend will also include tours of the church building, special program Friday evening for those arriving from out of town and a service on Sunday afternoon and possibly a tea/reception in the afternoon.

Barb and Charlie Bills have accepted the chairmanship of the Barbeque/clambake. Other assignments will be made as details are worked out.

It was also decided that we would follow up and obtain the kit for putting together a year book of events and include pictures of present members of the congregation and their families from the School Annual Publishing Company of Coshocton, Ohio. Barbara Smith and Ed Harris have been asked to be responsible for photography for this book. We will also invite church members to contribute to the collection of photos and memorabilia for this book.

Doug Klick has taken on the responsibility of reviewing the church history material that was in the church office.

The committee plans to feature an article each month in the DIALOGUE on the church history and one of its members beginning with those who

have been members the longest.

The January issue of the DIALOGUE contained an article on Mr. Leaty and one by Neva Hoffmeier.

A theme for the year was also selected: "150 YEARS - FELLOWSHIP IN ALL GENERATIONS"

A meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 22, to discuss the possibilities of having either cards or postcard printed in color and or black and white for use as notes and as Christmas cards. Such a project would offer a commemorative item as well as the possibility to raise funds to help defray expenses.

Since the success of such an undertaking as celebrating 150 years as a congregation is an involved one, the committee wishes to emphasize the importance of involving each member of the congregation in the activities. The committee plans to invite members to make suggestions and hopes that they will contribute time as well.

Respectfully submitted

Sesquicentennial Committee

John & Marian Frelier

Dog Klick

Ann Richmond

Nancylee Goodwin

Webster Baptist Church

next meeting Aug 27
7:30
May 27, 1980 church

HOMEcoming WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 20, and 21, 1980

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES TO DATE.....

GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR 150 YEAR CELEBRATION: Anne Richmond, 265-3836
Doug Klick, 671-0485
Marion Frelter, 822-2714
Nancylee Goodwin, 872-3395

284 invitation letters mailed with reply form on May 7, 1980
reply date, June 30.
follow-up -- color postcard of church to be mailed after June 30
as reminder. 3,000 to be printed, remainder may be sold at 10¢
each at weekend time and at arts craft sale and may be used by
pastor.

ACCOMMODATION CHAIRPERSONS - Jay and Jane Cook - 872-3301

WELCOMING AND HOSTING CHAIRPERSONS - Earl and Ruth Happ, 671-2350

PHOTOGRAPHY - Barb Smith, 872-2899, Earl Happ and Nancylee Goodwin

HISTORY AND PUBLICITY (General) - Doug Klick
Dialogue articles and Herald articles re: 50 year plus members

TOURS OF CHURCH, SLIDE AND MOVIE PRESENTATION - Stan McCormack, 265-2170
and Junior-Senior High members

ORGAN CONCERT - Anne Richmond and Sylvia Chambers

CHICKEN BARBEQUE GENERAL CHAIR PERSONS - Charlie and Barb Bills, 872-1158

Set-up Committee :

Clean-up Committee:

Musical entertainment: Sam Goodwin & Millcreek Irregulars

YEARBOOK (compiled and to printer in October for Nov-Dec. sale)
Anne Richmond and Nancylee Goodwin

GENERAL SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES:

Saturday, Sept. 20.

1 P.M. - tours, movies & slides

2:30 - Concert

following concert additional tours,
movies & slides

5:30 P.M. Barbeque begins
socializing and music

possibility of movies afterward

Sunday, Sept 21

10 A.M. - Worship - Rev. Carey

11:15 (recognition 50 yr.+ members)
- Reception & Open House
Eleanor Richmond

- Tour display

Webster Baptist Church

HOMEcoming WEEKEND (cont'd)

PROJECTS THE COMMITTEE HAS EITHER INITIATED OR HAS BEEN TOLD ARE IN THE WORKS.

Float for the 4th of July, 75 year Diamond Jubilee, Webster Village featuring our church and its 150 year celebration - Ruth Williamson

Completion tower clock - Tom Lauroesch & Adolph Baker

Work on the organ - Tom Lauroesch & Adolph Baker

Anne Richmond and concert organist and
Tuner for piano,,etc. Carl Pilletteri - 872-6452

Picture molding for hall outside office - Granville Chambers

COMMITTEE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO SEE ADULT CLASSROOM RE_DECORATED

Cashier for the Barbeque.

Webster Baptist Church

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September 1980

WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

(716) 265-9480

V Dear Friends,
e
n

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e

1980 marks 150 years of Christian Fellowship for our church.

You are cordially invited to share a celebration of this
W occasion at a Homecoming Weekend, September 20 and 21, 1980.
e There will be plenty of time for fellowship and the making
b and renewing of friendships.

s

t The schedule of activities includes: Saturday, September 20,
e at 2:30 P.M. a concert on the Chapin Aeolian organ by Anne Musser,
r professor of Music at Robert Wesleyan College. A \$1.00 donation
will be collected from adults for the organ maintenance fund.

N

e Before and following the concert, there will be a showing
w of slides and movies of church activities over the years in
y addition to displays of memorabilia and tours of the church
building.

o

r At 5 P.M. there will be a Chicken Barbeque in the church
k parking lot, weather permitting. Reservations are a must by
September 15. Adult tickets are \$3.75 and children under 12
are \$2.00 each. The Barbeque will consist of chicken, corn,
1 cole slaw, salt potatoes, relishes, coffee, tea, lemonade and
4 apple crisp. A local string band, The Lakedale Irregulars,
5 will provide entertainment during the Barbeque.

8

0 Sunday morning worship will be at 10 A.M. Members of
long standing will be honored at this time. A reception and
open house will follow the service at 11:15.

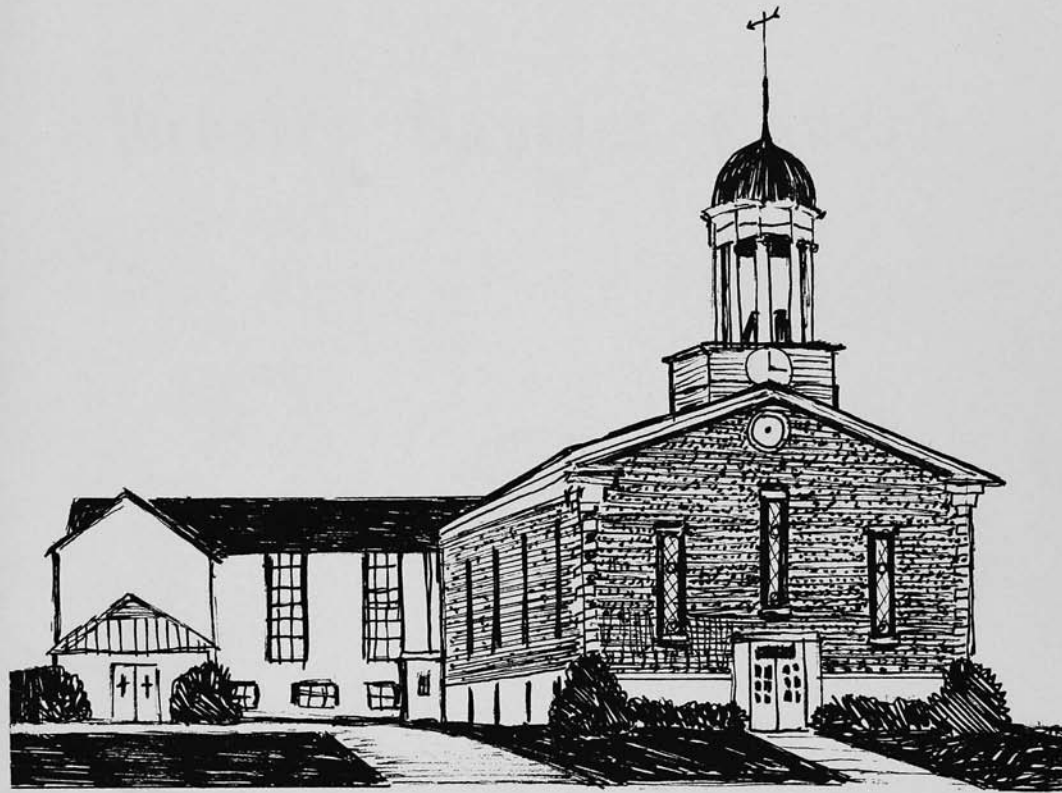
We hope that you will be able to join us for all or part
of the weekend activities. The enclosed form maybe returned
to the church for confirmation of Barbeque reservations.

Sincerely,

The 150 Year Committee
Marion Frelter
Nancylee Goodwin
Douglas Klick
Anne Richmond
Edward Carey

The Reverend Edward I. Carey, Pastor/Teacher

Webster Baptist Church



Sesquicentennial History
1980
Webster, New York

Webster Baptist Church

59 SOUTH AVENUE
WEBSTER, NEW YORK



1830-1980, FELLOWSHIP IN ALL GENERATIONS

Dedication



Mrs. Wesley (Grace) B. Kofahl

The first formal history of the Webster Baptist Church was compiled by Arthur Leaty and Reverend Walter Mackowsky in May 1930, in preparation for use in the 100th anniversary celebration of the church.

In 1940, on request from Reverend Bernard Schehl, relative to the 110th anniversary, Grace Kofahl compiled a history that was produced in a booklet format. She has since made revisions in 1954, 1960, and in 1967. Her assistance in this latest edition of 1980, the year of the church's 150th anniversary has been a source of inspiration.

Mrs. Kofahl has been a member of the church since April 7, 1912, a total of 68 years, making her the member with the longest active continuing membership.

We are very appreciative of the years of devotion to the church, part of which has been to keep our church history alive. It is to her that we dedicate this book for her faithfulness and love.

Webster Baptist Church



The Sesquicentennial Celebration enables us to celebrate the past, to know that past, and to have it become part of our present and future. As we look back on the 150 year history of the Webster Baptist Church, we can see many events and people. Together they, in a certain sense, make us who we are today. This history book provides us the opportunity to remember both the distant past and the immediate past through words and pictures.

As an introduction, it is instructive to remember the founding of this church. The beginnings of our church in 1829 and 1830, came at a time when the "Anti-Masonic" movement was sweeping western New York State. It was a time when many churches, particularly those of the free church tradition, were making stipulations that their members could not be members of any "secret societies", i.e. the Masons. This church was founded out of that turmoil with a policy "of not allowing political and

secular questions to be made tests of fellowship". In other words, the North Penfield Baptist Church, as we were then called, opened its fellowship to all people without regard to their 'political and secular' beliefs. This openness is in the finest of Baptist traditions and stood over against the prevailing intolerance of the times.

Over the years, the members of this church have always had a keen interest in 'political and secular' issues, but have never made a certain position on any issue a requirement for membership. In that sense, Webster Baptist has been something of an historically unique church in a tolerant tradition.

In reading this book, let us give thanks to God, for the faith of those of the past, so that in learning from our history, we can be people of the present moving with faith into the future.

Our special thanks goes to the Sesquicentennial Committee and everyone that worked with them, who made our celebration a reality.

*Edward I. Carey
Pastor/Teacher*

MINISTERS SERVING WEBSTER BAPTIST CHURCH

1829 to 1980

1979 -	Edward I. Carey
1978-1979 (interim)	Thomas Richards
1973-1978	Daniel A. Chesbro
1967-1973	Charles J. Griffith
1959-1967	John Adamczyk
1949-1959	Lee Howe
1935-1948	Bernard Schehl
1933-1935	Earl Cunningham
1932-1933	Frank L. Wasser
1929-1932	Walter O. Mackowsky
1928-1929	Savage
1927-1928	Kenneth Clark
1924-1927	Gerald Watkins
1922-1924	Harold Husted
1918-1921	Charles H. Colegrove
1916-1918	George B. Reigel
1913-1916	Clyde J. Askins
1909-1913	H. Reid Miller
1901-1908	George A. Beers
1898-1901	F. E. Warner
1892-1898	Jonah Weaton
1887-1892	D. D. Brown
1885-1886	W. J. Coulston
1883-1884	N. A. Hines
1878-1883	J. T. Seely
1877-1878	Charles Ayer
1876-1877 (interim)	S. Schoel
1873-1876	Ebenezer Edwards
1872-1873	J. W. Ford
1868-1871	E. F. Maine
1866-1868	Alfred Wells
1862-1866	S. D. Merrick
1861-1862	E. Savage
1859-1861	Ira Bennett
1858-1859	Walter Holt
1854-1858	Spencer F. Holt
1852-1854	S. H. Taft
1849-1852	Samuel Way
1848-1849	Orson Taylor
1846-1848	Ebenezer Scott
1844-1846	Elder Corwin
1843-1844	A. Whitman
1838-1843	Jonas Woodward
1837-1838	A. P. Mason
1836-1837	H. B. Kenyon
1835-1836	L. J. Reynolds
1833-1835	Elder P. Kelsey
1829-1832	Elder J. Corwin

The History

One spring day in the year 1829, there gathered in a room above a wagon shop, located on the Ridge in the vicinity then known as North Penfield a group of thirteen earnest Baptist folk. With the consent of the Ontario and Penfield Baptist Church, which was located near the lake in the town of Ontario, and of which all were members, they had assembled for the purpose of organizing a branch of that church in their own community. This they proceeded to do, electing as moderator, Elder Jason Corwin, and clerk, Asa C. Felt, and adopting articles of Faith and Practice, nineteen in number, which stated what they believed.

During the following months, under the leadership of Elder Corwin, a former pastor of the North Penfield Baptist Church who had been forced to leave because of dissension and difficulties arising from the "Anti - Masonic Movement," this little group grew until it reached fifty which was considered sufficient to warrant their becoming a separate church. At their request a council of neighboring Baptist Churches convened on November 10, 1830, and after due deliberation re-organized them as an independent church under the name of North Penfield Baptist Church.

This name was retained until May 1846, when it was changed to Webster Baptist Church, the north part of the town of Penfield having become a separate township called Webster, in the year 1840. (Papers of incorporation for the church dated 1880, give the title, Baptist Church of Webster). Within a year, the new church joined the Monroe Baptist Association and sent delegates to the Annual Meeting.

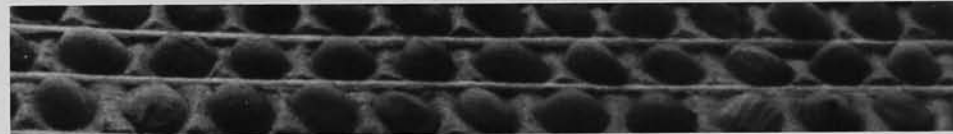
By the spring of 1832, a frame meeting house with a seating capacity of three hundred, costing \$2,000.00 had been erected on the site of the present building and the church was in a thriving condition. It was not long before a Sabbath School (1835) was organized and missionary work begun in the form of a substantial subscription for the American Foreign Bible Society in 1836.

The Covenant meeting held an important place in the church of that day and records of these meetings afford an insight into its conduct and activities. The meetings, usually well attended, were held monthly on Saturday proceeding communion Sunday and were a preparation for that ordinance. The faithful members attending for prayer and to relate their Christian experience and spiritual growth. For those who appeared indifferent or negligent of Church and Christian duties, a committee consisting of pastor and a deacon, or deacons alone, was appointed to call and ascertain their spiritual condition, reporting same to the church and advising what action, if any, should be taken in each case. A favorable report brought recommendations of leniency such as "exercise forbearance," or "continue labors," but an unfavorable report was likely to meet more drastic action and withdrawal of the hand of fellowship for such reasons as: use of profanity, defrauding creditors drunkenness, lying and slander, covetousness, Sabbathbreaking, neglect of the brethren or conduct unbecoming a Christian, was not uncommon. A person confessed guilt and mended his ways; was restored to fellowship if true repentance was indicated. Frequently business differences, family difficulties, and social misunderstandings were aired at the Covenant meetings and advise and judgement of the brethren sought in their settlement. The Covenant meetings were held regularly (even when the church was without a pastor) from 1830, through 1896, less regularly until 1904, when they were combined with the mid-week prayer meeting.

The office of deacon appears to have been one of definite responsibility not only for the spiritual life of the Church, but for financial and general welfare. Practically no mention of trustees is made in the early records. Neither was it considered proper for women to have any part in the conduct of the church business and the mention of a singing school is the only reference that gives hint of the social life.

The first salary provided for a pastor was \$300. a year, which was raised by an 'average' or assessment on the property of church members so that "one shall not be eased and another burdened". This method, together with subscriptions, was used for many years to raise church funds. If the 'average' was paid on time, a 3% discount was sometimes allowed, but if deferred until necessary for the collector or deacon to call in regard thereto, a 3% collection fee was frequently added. If it was still not forthcoming a promissory note might be demanded. Pastors' salaries were supplemented by donations of food, fuel or whatever could be used in his household. The records of 1836, give this enlightening paragraph regarding the yearly salary of the janitor: "Voted to give \$15.00 for sweeping the meeting house once a week, making fires when necessary for meetings and wash the house twice in one year and take charge of the meeting house gates and yard". Some later records include furnishing of the elements for communion as part of the janitor's services.

A bell, the first in the village, was purchased for the meeting house in 1851. It was used not only for church services, but also was tolled for funerals indicating the age of the deceased by the number of times tolled. For this there was a charge of \$2.00. Boys ringing it for a fourth of July celebration during the Civil War cracked it, and it was some years before it was replaced by the bell we now have.



In the spring of 1835, it was decided to dispose of the old meeting house and put in its place one of field and cobblestone construction. The Frame building was given over to "Brother" Spencer Holt with the understanding that it was to be maintained as an academy for at least five years, remaining under Baptist supervision. It was moved to a site on Corning Park and used as Webster Academy until destroyed by fire in 1872. Much of the work preparing the grounds and drawing the stone for the new building was done by members of the congregation and most of the fieldstone was donated by citizens of the community. The cobblestones were gathered on the shores of Lake Ontario from Sea Breeze to Lakeside. After each heavy rain or wind storm which would drive the waves up on the shore so that they were washed clean, the beach was combed for stones of just a certain size and shape. Placed on barges, the stones were rafted to landing places and thence hauled by wagons to the church. Groups of young people, both boys and girls used to go to the lake to assist in the work of gathering the stones and the contract price of \$150. for delivering the same at the church was donated by the parties concerned, three Curtice brothers and Horace Holt, toward the payment of the church debt. Covenant meeting was held in the basement of the new stone Church on March 22, 1856, and the building was completed at the close of that year, and dedicated on January 1, 1857, with a suitable all-day service. At this time, the church was growing rapidly and before the outbreak of the Civil War,

Webster Baptist Church

had a membership of 252.

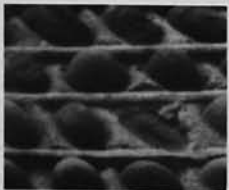
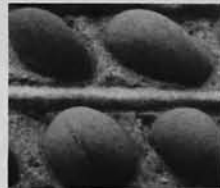
The passing years saw improvements made in the Church building from time to time. As the old woodburning stoves had given way to furnaces, they in turn were discarded for steam heat. A baptistry was constructed in the sanctuary, a pipe organ was installed which was used for nearly 60 years. The method of raising funds by an average on property was discontinued in favor of the sale or rental of pews. The pews were appraised by a committee in such a manner that the rents would cover the expenses of the church. Then on a specified day, they were sold to heads of families, to be occupied by that family only. Should one or more persons desire the same pew, it was sold to the highest bidder. This period also saw a trend toward more liberal views and cooperation with other churches in the village.

A parsonage was built on South Avenue in 1886, and it is of particular significance that the committee named to solicit funds to finance the work were all women. From the records, it would appear that this was the first time ladies of the church were named to participate actively in any matters of church business, although there was then a women's organization called "Ladies Mission Circle." Since that time, there has been an active society of women contributing much to the welfare of the church and particularly the missionary work.

The turn of the century found the Church building in a sad state of deterioration and inadequate for the needs of the congregation, and during the year, 1902, the interior was completely renovated. A new roof was put on, a heating plant installed, leaded glass memorial windows put in, sanctuary redecorated and the basement modernized so that it could be used for social activities as well as Sunday School and prayer meetings. All was done without incurring any debt and it was a gratified and happy people who attended the service of dedication in February 1903, for through hard work and sacrifice their fondest hopes had been realized.



Rev. and Mrs. Clyde J. Askins



Nineteen young men were called to colors from this church in 1917, and 18, ten of whom saw service overseas, and all of whom returned to their families and friends. The period of depression which followed the war was reflected in the life and activities of the church and there were times when courage almost failed. But, as a communication to the Monroe Association had stated some thirty five years before, when times were trying, "by grit, grace and gumption" there were those to stand by until the dawn of a better day.

The 100th birthday of the church was celebrated May 11-13, 1930, with appropriate services, both public and for the church family, and a second century of work began. One major improvement took place in 1938 when an Aeolian Pipe Organ, with eight organs combined, was installed, a gift from the W. W. Chapin family in memory of William Wisner Chapin and Elizabeth Lyon Chapin. To provide chambers for the 8 organ units, it was necessary to make extensive alterations at both the front and the rear of the sanctuary. Memorial gifts, other donations, and much hard work by the men of the church made it possible to complete the task without incurring debt. The dedication service was held Sunday November 20, 1938. The baptistry painting (an idealistic portrayal of the Jordan River) adding so much to the beauty and serenity of the sanctuary was the gift of Mrs. Lucretia (Dayton) Hartung and was presented to the church on Palm Sunday of the following year.

Beginning in 1937, and continuing for 11 consecutive years, evening vesper services sponsored by this church and conducted by the pastor, were held at Webster County Park during July and August. These services featured many prominent guest preachers as well as local pastors, and excellent musical talent was provided.



Over forty men and women from our church saw military service during World War II. Of these, First Lieutenant Alan E. Hermance did not return, having made the supreme sacrifice while engaged in air action over Germany. When at the close of the war, this church had successfully raised and over subscribed its quota to the World Mission Crusade of the Northern Baptist Convention, in testimony of our affection and esteem, our gift of \$5,500 was dedicated to the memory of this son of our church.

Webster Baptist Church

In the summer of 1942, the church dome was struck by lightning, shattering the belfry with damage to the roof and adjoining organ chambers so that extensive repairs were required, the cost of which fortunately was covered by insurance. Further renovation at this time, included renewal of weakened roof supports, copper lining for the baptistry, painting of the exterior of the building and homosite shields for the organ chambers.



For some time, it had been increasingly apparent that some rules of government or by-laws were needed in order that the church might function more effectively. In 1951, after an exhaustive study by the pastor and church boards, a constitution was drawn up and submitted to the membership for action. At a special meeting November 28, 1951, this constitution was adopted. Subsequently, in 1964, it was extensively revised and amended providing the more adequate rules and guide lines. The constitution was again re-drawn and revised in the years 1972-73 and again amended in 1976.

In 1951-52, the entire interior of the church building was redecorated in modern trend, the sanctuary and upper halls by professional painters, the other rooms by groups and individuals of the church with materials donated. Tile flooring installed in the foyer and upper halls, was also a most welcome improvement. The following year, the parsonage was modernized, converting two rooms into a large attractive living room, and modern cabinets, counters, new tile floor and gas range transformed the kitchen. The basement was provided with laundry facilities.

During the preceeding decade, the community which the church served, formerly predominately rural, had been changing gradually and was now rapidly becoming a community of suburban homes. While the church membership had increased only moderately during this period, the facilities of the church school were becoming quite inadequate. Recognizing its responsibility toward the youth of the parish, after many months of study and planning, and a fund drive resulting in pledges of \$22,000, the church voted in March 1957, to erect a Christian Education Building at an approximate cost of \$67,000, to be located at the rear of and adjoining the church edifice.

The approved plans for a split level 35' x 80' building of masonry construction provided for class rooms and an assembly room on the lower level, large recreation or dining hall and kitchen on the second floor with class rooms above the kitchen at one end of the building and pastor's study and church office above the dining hall at the opposite end.

Ground for the structure was broken with appropriate ceremonies on Easter Sunday, April 21, 1957, following the morning worship service, excavation began the following week, and though much interior finishing remained to be done, the building was dedicated November 24, of the same year, a little more than one hundred years after the dedication of the cobblestone building. The outside painting and all of the interior finishing and decorating in the new building was accomplished through the "do-it-yourself" efforts of members of the church and congregation. Individuals, families, groups and organizations enthusiastically assumed responsibility for specific projects such as installing ceilings, laying tile floors

building cupboards and shelves, painting and other items of finishing and furnishing the various rooms. The work proceeded as rapidly as funds for material became available from various sources bringing final fulfillment of the plans which had been undertaken and carried through in a spirit of dedicated cooperation.

In a brief ceremony at the morning worship service, May 29, 1960, memorial gifts of tower lights and a new pulpit Bible from the family and friends of Edith Merhoff Bowman, a faithful member of the church for 37 years, were presented to the church and dedicated. The Bible, a Revised Standard translation of the King James version handsomely bound in red leather, with clear, easy-reading type and gold edged pages replaced a very old Bible, gracing the pulpit with rich new beauty. The tower lights, arranged in pairs at the base of each of the eight columns supporting the dome, were installed to turn on automatically each evening for a period of three hours, displaying the beauty of the unique tower (newly repaired and painted) and since they may be seen throughout the area, serving as a beacon for the church.

By 1963, it had become imperative that some repairs be made to the cobblestone building, especially in the narthex area. The sanctuary was also in need of re-decoration and much basement space badly needed for classrooms was wasted because of poor arrangement. After many months of intensive study of all factors involved it was decided to undertake a complete renovation and modernization of the building. To this end, in the summer of 1964, a campaign for funds was authorized and initiated, which resulted in pledges amounting to \$85,000. Although this sum was insufficient to cover the cost of the project called the Restoration Program, congregational meeting held on May 26, 1965, approved the project at a cost of \$138,000, authorizing the church to borrow funds to supplement the pledged amount and to let the contract immediately. In about two weeks the work was underway with the re-enforcement and repair of foundation and walls.



Restoration Planning Committee - Mark Fenton, Advisor, Carl Cooman, Bob Atkins, Neva Hoffmeier, Jane Averill and Hamilton Fay.

Webster Baptist Church



Rev. John Adamczyk



"In restoring our physical facilities we are faced with renewing our resolve and dedication..."



Corresponding with the exterior architecture of the building, the sanctuary was restored in the Greek Revival tradition. The major items of work here included the installation of acoustically treated ceiling and new lighting system, removal of a rear partition between the sanctuary and an adjoining room to create a gallery (thus providing additional seating), lowering of the choir loft and chancel area, sinking of the organ console below floor level and a new baptistry with well appointed facilities. In modern trend, yet reflecting the traditional, new padded pews, matching chancel and choir area furnishings, wall to wall carpeting, and four burnished brass, multi-light chandeliers completed the sanctuary's renewal. The same decor was used throughout the narthex area and basement corridor leading to the Education Building. Changes accomplished in the basement provided a cloak-room, church offices and pastor's study adjacent to the narthex and three classrooms with modern facilities for age groups; crib nursery thru kindergarten. For the convenience of persons for whom it was impossible or difficult to use the stairs, an elevator with outside entrance and access to sanctuary, dining room and basement was installed on the south side of the building.

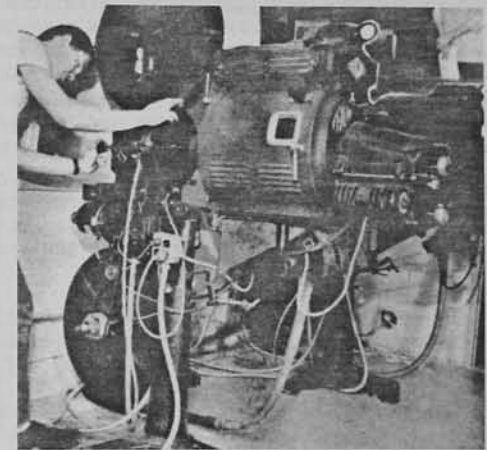
By December 1st the project was completed and a weekend of dedication and thanksgiving was observed with a banquet on Friday evening, service of baptism and communion on Saturday evening, and formal dedication at the Sunday morning service followed by open house in the afternoon and a service of music by the choir in the evening.

While engaged in physical renewal, the church was also intent on a renewal of Christian witness through new and creative forms of ministry. The year 1966, saw the development of ideas which resulted in the opening of a book store in a small

room adjoining the dining room where everyone in the community could purchase "paperbacks" from a large and diversified supply, the purchase and installation in the Education Building of 35 mm projection equipment, making possible an extensive film ministry. The film ministry actually began in February 1965, with equipment borrowed from outside sources. This ministry had its start with discussion groups consisting of members of the congregation, later extending to include the other members of the Webster Church community. This concept of the film ministry ended in the mid-seventies and the equipment was sold in the late seventies. The purpose of a pioneering ministry in industry, though somewhat vague at its inception, was to help men in industry and business relate their Christian faith to their work and to discover ways in which the church could minister to those involved in industrial life. Working full time in a large local industry and also serving the church a specified number of hours each week, the young minister who had served as youth minister the previous year and who was ordained in the church in October was called by vote to become Minister of Industry. This concept ended in 1968.



Browsing in the Bookstore



Ed Harris and the 35mm equipment for the Film Ministry

In March of 1964, the DIALOGUE, made its first appearance. This is the official newsletter of the church giving the news of various groups of the church and true to its name, it was a means of dialogue for members of the congregation to express their views on varied subjects.

At the annual meeting of January 1967, it was voted to dispose of the parsonage on Park Avenue and to give the minister a housing allowance in addition to his regular salary thus allowing him to choose the type of housing which he and his family preferred. Actual sale of property was approved by the church April 2, and completed immediately thereafter.

The vitality of Webster Baptist Church and its unique collection of talented people were combined in the "Creation Universe" painting of the Fellowship Hall in 1974. "Creation Universe" was inspired by the historical church art of Bonaventura Luccio, da Vinci, Michelangelo and Picasso. The visual affects of the Fellowship Hall, in juxtaposition with the classical Greek revival of the sanctuary, emphasize our heritage and our development through the years.

Webster Baptist Church

One project that has involved many members of the congregation in various stages of installation is the church clock. The project of installation was begun in December 1975, with approval of the Diaconate. This clock, which is more than 100 years old, was obtained from a Presbyterian Church in Liverpool, New York. It has been loaned to the church (indefinitely, until its use is no longer desired) by the National Association of Watch and Clock Collectors (NAWCC). This project has been guided by Tom Lauroesch since it began.

It was originally hoped that the project would be completed in time for our country's Bicentennial Celebration in 1976. The clock was not in very good shape, requiring a thorough cleaning, new gears, a new clockface and dials. The year came and the goal was not met due to the amount of work required.

Contributing to its stability and continuity since the turn of the century with its increased emphasis on the social life within the church, have been the Young Peoples Society, Ladies' organizations and Sunday School with organized classes. As early as 1890, there was a youth fellowship and since that time, with brief exceptions, such an organization has been active. Forerunner of a women's association, which functioned under the group plan, were two organizations, one a Women's Missionary Society and the other the Ladies' Aid. The Beers' Bible class for adults, named for its founder and teacher, the late Reverend George A. Beers, was organized in 1906, and was active for some forty years. The World Wide Guild, a missionary society for teenage girls, was organized in 1912, and continued active until 1963, and the Philathea Class, organized in 1920, functioned until the mid-seventies. Faithful teachers and forward-looking leaders have worked tirelessly through good times and bad to provide the best for the youth of our church and community.

In the 150 years of its existence, this church has had 43 pastors, the average pastorate being about three years, the longest that of Reverend Bernard C. Schehl, 13 years. The present membership is 300 and growing.

Our 150th year was celebrated with a Homecoming Weekend on September 20 and 21 including an organ recital, chicken barbeque and re-dedication service, to which all past, present members and friends were invited.

We as congregation are moving into the 21st century from a period which has brought many changes, but the church's purpose has remained steady...that of spreading God's word here and throughout the world.



Sandbox Nursery Group



Senior High Meets



Sermon Preparation meeting



Sermon Reaction Group



Thursday Morning Discussion Committee



Friday Evening Book Discussion

Webster Baptist Church



DO YOU
REMEMBER?



11



Anna Carey
Ruth Beard
Erica Clausen

Jeffrey McCormack



Barbara Clapp, Aaron DiLapi, T. C. Pellett



Erica Clausen



12

THE SNEETCHES



RENEWING FRIENDSHIPS



Helen Northrup, Pearl McVea, Betty Reitz, Justine Ver Crouse

Senior Members Luncheon



Alta Brush



Bob Harris



FRIENDLY CONVERSATION

Christmas



15



16



Craft Sale

Darlene Lansing, Rose Wright, Ruth Williamson, Gladys Thornhill, Evelyn Baird



Barb Bills
and
Bev Freida



Charles Burnett
Jack Stone



WBC Auction



OUR AUCTIONEERS: Mark Fenton, Bill Theis, Nancy Theis,
Jan Fillion



Granville Chambers, Sam C. Goodwin



Rachel Goodwin, Jeffrey McCormack

Webster Baptist Church



Nancy Theis and Sam Goodwin



Wes Beard, Mark Fenton, John Clapp, Bob Novick
Granville Chambers



John Frelier



Pauline Novick, Abe VerCrouse, Ed Carey



Ed Carey!



Tom Richards and John Gardner

Webster Baptist Church

MUSIC SUNDAY

Music Sunday has become a tradition in which individuals in the congregation as well as the entire choir share their talents in a musical worship service. Music has always played an important role in the common worship of Webster Baptist Church. As the church has changed in size, structure, and form of worship, the musical forms have also changed. While traditional composition are still performed for their lasting beauty and meaning, contemporary works and music from varied sources are now a part of the choir's contribution to the services of worship. The commitment to real participation in worship, rather than theatrical performance, is deeply felt by the choir members. There is, in the choir membership, a sense of fulfillment in working together, that the joy and creativity of music may be shared as a true communication between persons as they worship together.



Standing: Sam Goodwin, Abram Boone, Chris Melito, Granville Chambers, Don Filion, Stan McCormack, Diane Clausen, Anne Marriott, Sylvia Chambers
Sitting: Millie Cooman, Bev Freida, Diane Marchner, Jan McCormack, Barb Holtz, Nan C. Filion, Bea Fenton, Mary Knapp, Shirley Haase

Some of our choir directors of the past have been, Hugh Averill, Bob Warfield, Carol Robinson to mention a few. Past organists have been Alice Boone, Marge Landon, Helene Hilfiker, Virginia Freeman, Roddie Secrist, Craig Westendorf, Virginia Hebel and Helen Weiss.

Other musicians both professional and amateur, who have added to the worship are Abram Boone, Pat Hanley, Aaron Chambers, Tom Landon, Barb Holtz, the Goodwin Family Trio (Sam, Sam C. and Rachel), The Webster Baptist Folk Group and the Cobblestone Juniors, to name a few from recent years.



FELLOWSHIP



Webster Baptist Church

150th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE

Nancylee Goodwin
Douglas Klick
Anne Richmond

ACCOMMODATIONS
Jay and Jane Cook

HOSPITALITY
Earl and Ruth Happ

ORGAN CONCERT
Anne Richmond
Sylvia Chambers



Doug Klick
Research, Publicity, Mailing

TOURS AND PHOTOGRAPHIC PRESENTATION
Stan McCormack & Junior-Senior High

CHICKEN BARBEQUE
Charlie and Barb Bills
KITCHEN

BARBEQUERS

Gordon Allen
Dave Clausen
Howard Close
Elwin Ford

Jeanne Allen
Helen DeWolfe
Marge Klick
Marie Heinzman
Betty Reitz
Virginia Wood

DINING AREA

John Clapp

TICKETS

Ruth Williamson

FINANCE

Sabra Clapp

SOUND

Ed Harris

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

Sam Goodwin
&
Mill Creek Irregulars

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE
Webster United Methodist Church
Webster Veterans Club

SUNDAY RECEPTION

Eleanor Richmond
Florence Van Ingen
Ruth Close



In the Beginning....
Lois Smith
Anne Richmond

Helen Cone
Ruth Williamson



Ruth Ann Williamson
Donna Filion
Jane Cook



Don Filion

IT WAS A MOTLEY CREW IN THE BEGINNING. . .

a small band of pirates setting sail on a moonlight scavenger hunt that mushroomed into a wondrous adventure of the spirit. Not much cargo to go on board with; an idea, confidence in one man's vision, precious little time. But none of us had reckoned with Granville's determination. Somewhere in the space between his drawing board scenario, and the magical way it all came together on parade day . . . we found the measure of the man: a smiling "Simon Lagree", steadfast under pressure, unfaltering champion of his own concept. The more tired and perplexed the team, the more he "stretched" our industry. Once Gran had grown ten feet in our sight, we stopped counting.

Ruth Williamson said we should do it: enter a float in the 4th of July, 1980, parade. Our birthday celebration was a natural companion to the Village of Webster Diamond Jubilee. And so we first met in the church kitchen: June 15, after the Annual Meeting.

Granville Chambers said we can do it: build something worthy of show before a sea of faces, on Main Street, to represent Webster Baptist in dignity and....style. It would be a three dimensional replica of the church, with focus on the symbolism of Baptistry, our identity in the community of man. We had a Captain!

Ed Harris said: "I trust you realize this is a serious undertaking." And right away, he began to confuse us with the facts of technical detail. . . how imperative it would be to locate a conveyance system first, before designing size, shape, and balance of structure. Ho hum! Because of our abiding faith in Ed and Gran's expertise, we found it difficult to take them seriously. Rather blindly, a few of us agreed to make the journey. They asked for about two weeks to construct the basic frame, in Gran's Ontario workshop. . . soon to become our port of operation.

Monday evening, June 30: second meeting, Ontario.

A quick tour of an awesome array of power machinery and organized ingenuity, was perhaps the first clue to the real Granville. He meant business! With parade coming up on Friday, there were four nights and three days to convert those ill assorted flat boards into a congregational setting. The challenge: to effect the facade, a bell tower, the Baptistry, a background, pipe organ, with choir, and to "stage" the living vitality of our membership with people and costumes. The word masterpiece was never mentioned, but now, in after-thought, this writer believes our man at the helm was steering such a course from the start. Ready or not, we were underway. Fragile minds in a spin over the specialty assignments, some took to separate tables for pondering, while the sturdier, more confident ones went directly to paint bucket, hammer and saw. From the first brush stroke, until ready on schedule at 1:00 P.M. the 4th of July, the word was motion, without interruption and careful attention to detail of re-creation: the memorial stained glass windows to scale; the cobblestones; a banner; the Cross. As with most productions, behind the scenes flurry of activity is a fascinating story in itself. From inter-action of friendly people grumbling, laughing and working together, grow the roots of memory.

If Cameo, according to definition is: a) a gem carved with a figure raised in relief; b) an outstanding bit role -- then it was indeed, out of a communion of cameo roles, that the finished gem was carved.

. . . Nancy Theis' "most unforgettable ever" research and resource center for costuming, home of the nifty electric staple.
 . . . borrowing the courtesies and enthusiasm of Dick Batzing's Webster through the Years Museum; a nostalgic dip into the trunks of time, for old clothes... the pew.
 . . . a touch of authenticity, in Grace Kofahl's delicate crayon coloring of the window; in landscaping with Abe VerCrouse's petunia planters. (who can explain the coincidence of an exact color match---his boxes to our stucco?)
 . . . wonder if anyone recognized the brown velvet fabric of pre-restoration choir loft, draping the Baptistry?
 . . . baskets of fresh garden flowers, by Ann Radcliff, a love gift.
 . . . an impromptu "slingshot" for Andrew's pocket, by Dad, was fun--.
 . . . but the comedy of errors gathering in Carl Brucker's flat-bed trailer, and the float sections from Ontario to church parking lot for assembly, is best left unrecorded.
 . . . no rehearsal for his role, driver, Bruce Smith. He stepped right into character, Friday morn, bringing a mood of freshness to perk up a weary crew. It had been a matter of faith. John Frelie's garden tractor would pull the weight.
 . . . a quiet time for meditation, mid-morning in the sanctuary. We called for Sylvia's able direction, and in the taping of three hymns for Ed's sound system, seemed to capture the essence of what we were about. A choir with one voice, one heart.
 . . . the finishing
 a bell for the tower
 outlining, for striking new dimension
 attaching the burlap skirt
 fender covers
 newly refinished benches
 everything in place.....
 . . . the parade

ANECDOTES AND CONCLUSIONS:

Jogging the path of the parade, we were a captive audience, Jay, Jane, Sylvia, and Helen, with unabashed pride, trying to hang on to the "cameo: for as long as possible. It's going by so quickly! Bruce was in charge. . . out there in front with authority and poise. Couldn't help but notice two radiant faces in the crowd along Main Street: Helen Northrup, on her feet and clapping joyously; and Anne Richmond, waving from the Village Shoppe.

Parade over, at Firemen's Field, the moment of shipwreck upon us. Friend and helpmate, Carl Brucker, was ready to return the trailer to his farm. With whatever nervous energy left, hurriedly, we all pitched in to dis-assemble the monument of our week's effort. And it was gone. . . taking it's rightful place, an indelible mark on a page of history.

It was rewarding to hear villagers say: "Well done". We won the "most original" prize. Over all, had been the supportive handy hand of Ed Carey. . . but, ah!, there was something more. . . a secret foundation underneath, carrying us through and beyond obstacles. Only those who shared the feeling, could savor the deliciousness of the accomplishment.

Helen Cone

Webster Baptist Church



Design & Leadership-
Granville Chambers

THE BUILDING CREW- Ed Carey, Helen Cone
Jay & Jane Cook, Don, Donna, Janice Filion
Anne Richmond, Nancy Theis and those shown



Technical Advisor & Sound System
Ed Harris



Driver-
Bruce Smith



The CONGREGATION

1830 - Granville Chambers
Ruth Ann Williamson

1900 - Don Filion
Pauline Novick
Margaret Filion

1950 - Bob Novick
Ruth Close

Present-
Howard Close
Andrew Carey

Baptistry -
Reverend Edward Carey
Donna Filion



Organ Recital ~ September 21, 1980



Performing Guests from Roberts Wesleyan College, Rochester, New York

David Wachob, Stephen Shewan, Paul Shewan, Terry Schwartz, Anne Musser

The Chapin Memorial Pipe Organ was completely rebuilt and set up in the church by the Kohl Organ Company of Rochester, New York, in 1938.

Five large chambers from twelve to twenty feet in height are occupied by five distinct organ departments which are played from the console of four manuals and pedals. The front of the auditorium, from left to right, contains the Pedal, Swell Choir, and Great Organs. An Echo organ is installed high in the belfry room, its distant tones carried through a shaft in the angle of the ceiling at the rear of the auditorium. A set of Deagan chimes is also located in the echo chamber.

The organ consists of over 4,000 pipes whose speaking lengths vary from five-eighths of an inch to eighteen feet. An electric motor connected to a centrifugal-blower delivers the air to the pipes. Approximately 200 miles of wire form the electrical circuits from the consoles to the solenoids, that, lifting the valves, release air into the pipes. The entire equipment occupies around 10,000 cubic feet and weighs about 10 tons.

The organ was given to the church in memory of William Wisner Chapin and Elizabeth Lyon Chapin by their children in 1938. The Aeolian Pipe Organ was formerly heard by delighted audiences in the old Chapin residence on South Fitzhugh Street in Rochester.

150th Anniversary Homecoming Weekend September 20-21, 1980



Grace Kofahl, Richard Buell, Helen Northrup
Rebecca Beull Hoop



John Clapp, Helen DeWolfe
Mildred Legro



Jane Cook and Barb Bills



John Clapp and Doug Smith



Bart and Esther Van Ingen



Jan Carey



OUR COOKS: Howard Close, Elwin Ford, Gordon Allen
David Clausen

*Those
who
came...*



Betty Reitz, Bev Freida, Carrie Freida, Lois Harrison



Barb Bills,
Jeanne Allen,
Virginia Woods

Irene Elliot and Barb Bills





*Irene Jierkewicz, Mrs. Howe
Helen DeWolfe*



*Ruth Close, Carrie Freida,
Christine Lansing,
Marie Pellett*



*Irene Jierkewicz,
Helen Northrup,
Mildred Meddaugh*

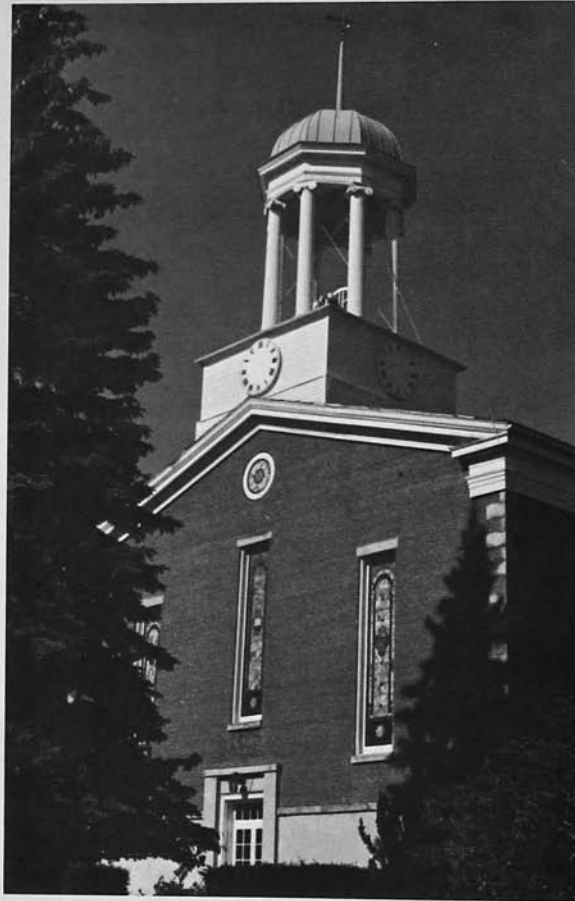


*ANNIVERSARY CAKE
baked by
Diane Clausen*



*Neva Hoffmeier, Don and Nan C. Filion Ruth Close,
Ed and Anna Carey, Amy Buell, Becky Buell Hoop*

Webster Baptist Church



STAFF

HISTORY.	Grace Kofahl
RESEARCH.	Douglas Klick
COVER ART WORK.	David Crothers
CALLIGRAPHY.	Pat Hanley
ART WORK.	Anne Richmond
LAYOUT.	Helen Cone
	Anne Richmond
	Nancy Theis
PHOTOGRAPHY. (1980 events)	Barbara Smith
	Nancylee Goodwin
TYPIST.	Nancylee Goodwin