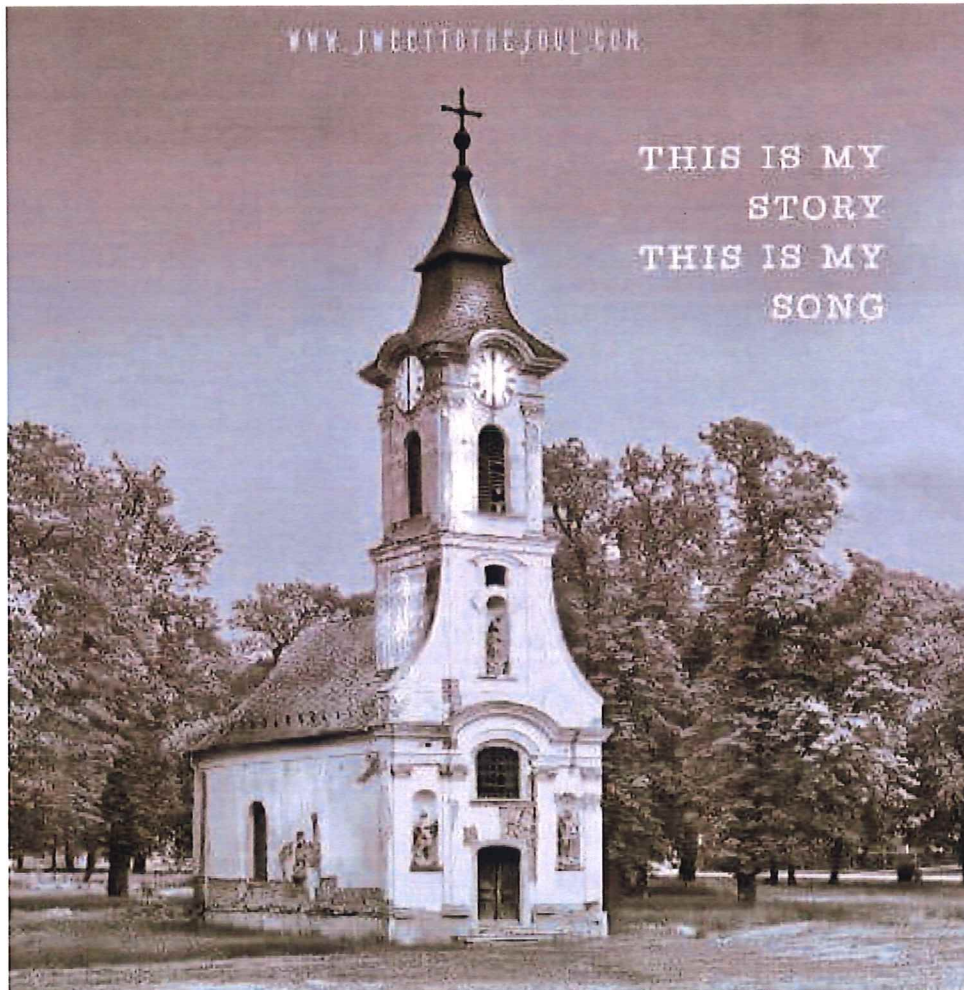


THE CHURCHES
of the
REDBANK VALLEY



COMPILED BY LUCILLE PROCIOUS

When the settlers first came to the area, they sought others to have companionship to help with their loneliness. Our area was Scotch Irish (Presbyterian & Reformed), Irish (Catholic), German (Brethren), or Methodist (English). Stories have been recorded about landowners clearing their newly acquired land, thinking they were alone, hearing cattle bawling and finding they had close neighbors they did not know they had. They started meeting together on Sundays in the cleared fields, calling them camp meetings, visiting, singing, and praying together for hours. When winter came, they erected slab buildings with mud roofs, log cabins and then as lumber became refined, frame buildings. Unfortunately, they were heated with wood and many of them were destroyed by fire.

As settlements progress, the churches became more refined. The church buildings became larger with pews for seating, stained glass windows became more elaborate and beautiful, ministers moved into the area and organized the worshipers into congregations, and attending church became a ritual. They were the center of all fellowship and community happenings. They were built close together because the method of getting there was by walking or by horse. A good horse can only go 4 miles in an hour so if they lived 4 miles from a church, it took them one hour to get there, In the Redbank Valley, five townships and three boroughs, I have found almost 70 churches. Many of them no longer exist and many that do are empty on Sunday mornings. Finding companionship is no longer a problem.

I hope you enjoy reading and remembering the churches in our small area. If you know of any others, please let me know. I have enjoyed researching this book and learned so much about religion in Redbank Valley.

As I ready this for publication, many of the former United Methodist churches are selling their buildings to the local congregations. I have tried to keep up, but I probably have missed a couple. Also, the Mt. Carmel Church has been torn completely down and the lot cleaned. So sad. I loved that old church.

~ Lucille

SQUIRREL HILL METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF PORTER TOWNSHIP

1902 hymnal

Institutions of Christianity

The Church

207 AURELIA 7s. 6s. D.

SAMUEL S. WESLEY

1. The church's one foun - da - tion Is Je - sus Christ her Lord;

She is his new cre - a - tion By wa - ter and the word:

From heaven he came and sought her To be his ho - ly bride;

With his own blood he bought her, And for her life he died. A - MEN.

2 Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

3 'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace for evermore;

Till, with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

4 Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy!
Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with thee.

SAMUEL J. STONE

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
WIDNOON UNITED METHODIST**



At the turn of the 20th century, there were three churches in Widnoon. On the road toward Mahoning was a Baptist church called the Slab church, The congregation dissolved, and the building was torn down.

The Grace Reformed church stood at the corner of Widnoon. Around 1941, It burned to the ground and the congregation chose to attend other congregations rather than rebuild. The concrete slab foundation was cleared and used for a roller-skating rink for the area youth.

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Widnoon was started in 1853 by Rev and Mrs. Reese who served as pastors. The church building was built in 1894 on land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Duncan as The Widnoon United Methodist Church. Rev. Charles Whippo was the pastor and did most of the construction work. In 1925, a tornado blew the roof off and blew the church a little sideways. The men gathered on Saturday Morning, put poles up against the church, and moved it back into place They fixed the roof and braced the building so that it would stay in place. A shingled roof was later added. Stained glass windows were installed in the front windows and the exterior was sided. In the 1950 classrooms, bathrooms, and an office addition were added. The basement has a full kitchen and social rooms. Later in the 50s pavement was added to the driveway, the basement entrance was built in, and block windows were installed in the basement. Improvements keep being added including a digital piano. In 2004 the church became part of the Kellersburg and Templeton charge.

In 2023 the church is still open for services. In 2023, the church was purchased from the United Methodist.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
TIDAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Near the blacksmith shop of LEWIS Shoup in 1871 a settlement was started named TIDAL, it grew when the Shawmut Road was built, and mines were started East of the town. As the population increased there was a need for a church in the portion lying between the Redbank and Mahoning creeks, In October 1843 new Middle Creek Presbyterian church was started, A Church edifice was erected on an acre plot purchased from James Duncan for \$13.00. It was built in 1808 and was 20x40 feet with a 12-foot ceiling. After years of use, it was torn down, and a new church was built in Tidal. It is a member of the Kiskimentas Presbytery. In 2023, it is a continually active church.



The side view of the church shows the beautiful stained-glass windows.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MADISON TOWNSHIP
DEANVILLE BAPTIST**

May.18, 1880, the Church of Brethren in Christ Deanville convened in the evening. A service was conducted by George Ball of Buffalo, New York. After the service, the fellowship was held with the Free-Will Baptist Church and Joshua Shoemaker. Ball ordained Rev. Joshua Shoemaker and J.H. Laybam as ministers of the church.

History of the church: A citizen by the name of JB Shoemaker, a real Christian, had a real vision that this community needed a Christian service. The only building seemingly available was an old log schoolhouse back in the hollow, back of town. In those days, doors and windows were few in buildings like this. He, Mr. Shoemaker, would come and drive sheep out of the building and then clean the building and conduct Sunday school. Later, he had a revival meeting in the barn floor of the barn on his farm. Following these services, both Sunday school and church services were held in newly erected school buildings in the little town of Deanville.

A service was preached by George H. Ball, Doctor of Divinity, of Buffalo, NY, and a large congregation, after which the church at this place, Deanville, was received into fellowship with the Free Will Baptist churches by extending the Reverent Joshua Shoemaker the right hand of fellowship. We were a Free Will Baptist Church until about 1912 and then were united with the Clarion Baptist Association. Then in 1926, we became a part of the Association of Regular Baptist Churches of Western Pennsylvania. We were happy to rededicate this place of worship and pray we shall constantly be humble and, to the will of the Lord, that this shall never cease to be a lighthouse to lost perishing souls. The Deanville Baptist Church.

~ E.R. Morehead, Church clerk



The church remained active until the 1980s when it was replaced with the SPRINGSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH. The old Deenville Baptist Church was torn down.



The New SPRINGSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH built along Route 28 South of New Bethlehem in Mahoning Township.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MADISON TOWNSHIP
CHICKASAW CHURCH OF GOD**



Chickasaw is the name of a mining town on the Shawmut about one half a mile from Widnoon. There were about 800 residents in the 1910 census, a hotel and a boarding house.

The church was of the Church of God denomination, an affiliate of the Distant Church of God and served by their pastors. It closed around 1950 because of lack of members.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MADISON TOWNSHIP
COVE CHURCH (KNOWN AS COVE OR HOGBACK)**

There was an old log church there 1812-1813. (Smith's 1883 History of Armstrong County). A small frame church was there in 1883.

There is a cemetery known as the Colwell/ Kammerdiener Cemetery. It is along Route 28 North about half a mile from the Mahoning Creek railroad bridge and the bottom of Hogback Hill on the right going north. The church was to the left of the cemetery. There was also a school at that site. The cemetery is maintained by the township.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
COLWELL CHURCH (MAHONING FURNACE)**

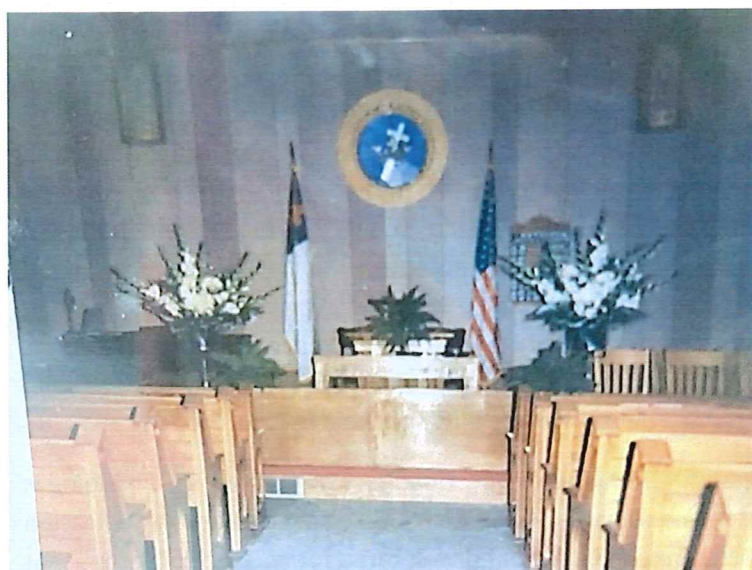
There was an old church at Mahoning Furnace (Colwell) according to Smith's 1883 History of Armstrong County. Colwell was a small mining village located off the road to the historical bridge. There are about four houses still there.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MADISON TOWNSHIP
ST. CHARLES METHODIST CHURCH**



Photos by Larry Fagley

The St. Charles Brick plant was started in 1872. They employed 50 men at the start and then 100. They built company houses for homes for the workers to live in. St. Charles Methodist Church followed on the Armstrong County side of the Redbank Creek. Les Shumaker, superintendent of the plant, was a regular attendee of the church's Sunday morning services. 18-25 adults plus their children regularly attended.



The Church Altar

The stained-glass window was a much-admired part of the front of the church and was part of the original church.

The basement had a large hall /room for events, a small kitchen, and several small Sunday School rooms. The inside of the church had been remodeled. The church was dismantled in the late 70's to early 80's.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
KELLERSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH
KELLERSBURG EVANGELICAL MISSIONARY CHURCH**



In the history of every small town, the churches played a large part, both in its beginning and in its continuing progress. Kellersburg is no exception. Located in the community, almost side by side are the Evangelical Missionary Church and the United Methodist Church. The older of the two is the Evangelical Missionary church, which was originally established as the Salem Lutheran Church, one of the oldest in Armstrong County. The town of Kellersburg having been first erected in 1838, five years before the town was laid out by Nicholas Keller. At the close of the Revolutionary War, several wealthy businessmen from Holland, William Willink and 11 associates, had a very considerable sum of money and they gave a grant to the citizens of Kellersburg to buy church land. A deed was conveyed by this company, the Holland Company, in March 1833 to Jacob Myers and Nicholas Rhodes, trustees of the Lutheran Congregation of Mahoning. It was made official and the nominal sum of \$2 was exchanged. The property consisted of seven acres and 30 perches and was given for the purpose of a burial ground and for the erection of a place of worship and schoolhouse, whatever the trustees or their successors in office might seem proper to do so, and for no other purpose. The church was meeting in the Jacob Myers house as early as 1832, but in 1838 the first house of worship was built, a plain log building. A Union Sunday school was established in the old log church and continued for over 40 years. In 1846, the church was accepted into the Pittsburgh Lutheran Synod. Then in 1848, the log church was vacated and a frame building 30x40 feet was erected. This building was roofed, weather boarded, partly sealed, and left in an unfinished state for several years. The seats were slabs with the flat side turned up and supported by stout logs on either end. Not very comfortable, but adequate for the purpose. A dedication service for this new facility was held in November 1853.

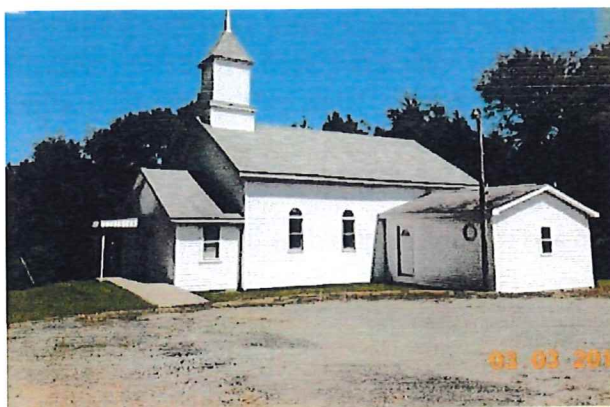
The congregation worshipped in this building until 1890 when a new building was erected. This building is in use today by the congregation. The cost of the church was \$2000 and \$650 was raised at the dedication in January 1891. Through the years, the church remained active and well cared for. In 1925, oil lamps that had been dedicated to the church were replaced by gaslights. In 1940, these gas lights were replaced by electric lights. In 1950, part of the basement was dug out and a coal furnace installed, replacing the old round stoves, and in 1962 a gas furnace replaced the coal burner. The rest of the basement was excavated in 1956 and four Sunday school rooms were built. A water well was drilled and restrooms were installed. The Lady's Social Services circle of the church purchased a property for \$200 and a hall was constructed

for the purpose of holding social gatherings. In 1974, it was torn down and a new 40x60 steel building was erected on the property. It is still used both by the church and the area people.

Kellersburg Lutheran Church's congregation asked to be removed from the synod and became an independent church. In 1962, it received a charter, officially changing its name To the Kellersburg Evangelical Missionary Church. In recent years, they have added a parking lot, a new piano and organ, ceiling fans, carpeting, and new windows for the sanctuary.

~ information provided by Ben Shindledecker.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
KELLERSBURG UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



From Kellersburg Road - church east side



From Kellersburg Road – church west side

As of 2023, this church is no longer Methodist.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MADISON TOWNSHIP
ST. MARY'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**



Robert Dixon conveyed land he had purchased from Willink and Company to Mrs. Ellen Turner April 13, 1857, 178 acres. Ellen and her husband conveyed 1 acre and 75 perches adjoining the road from Redbank to Duncanville (Widnoon) upon which to erect a church known as St Mary's Episcopal Church of the United States in April 1872 for \$1.

The village of Redbank was booming with the amount of minerals and gas being developed there. After the minerals were depleted, the village lost its population and the church closed. In 2023, It was reopened by the community and Rev. Gordon Barrows.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MADISON TOWNSHIP
THE NARROWS**

This church was organized April 10, 1837, by Rev. Thomas Wilson and the congregation worshiped in a church erected in 1843 and used until 1873 when it was consumed by fire. It was known as the Methodist Episcopal and was located at the site of the old graveyard directly opposite the old schoolhouse on Anderson Ferry Road (THE NARROWS). The congregation had previously worshiped in a frame building on the land of William Smullin South of the Mahoning Furnace. Some say this area was the sight of the original Distant Baptist.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MAHONING TOWNSHIP
DISTANT BAPTIST CHURCH (OAKLAND)**

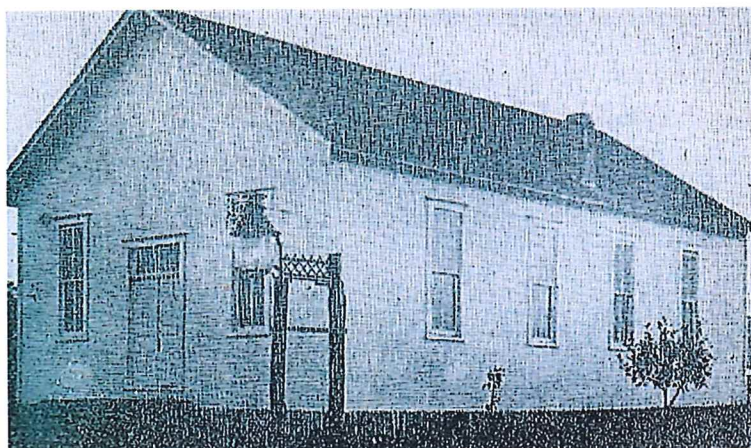
The original church edifice of the Baptist Congregation, frame 36x56 feet, two stories, the first 12 feet and the second 16 feet in the clear, which cost \$5000 to build was erected in 1874. The church was organized by Rev. Thomas Wilson on April 10, 1837. It was incorporated on September 13, 1876, as the RED BANK BAPTIST CHURCH OF OAKLAND. The number of members was 60. The site of the first church edifice, used until 1873 when it was destroyed by fire, was at the Narrows Cemetery. That church was erected in 1846.

~From Beers 1914 History of Armstrong County

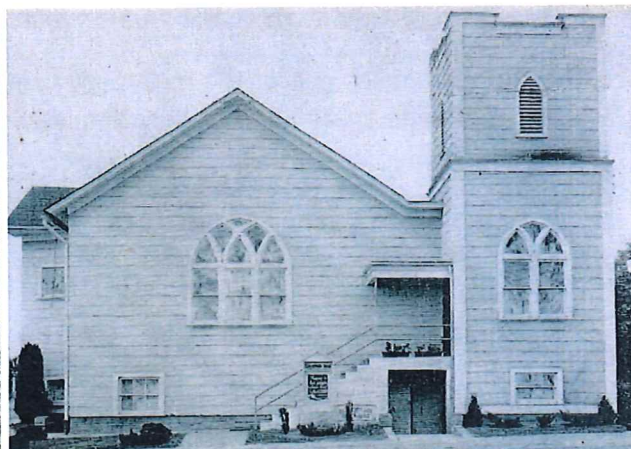
This building was replaced by a new church building and remains a continually active church.



**ARMSTONG COUNTY – MAHONING TOWNSHIP
OAKLAND (DISTANT) CHURCH OF GOD**



1890-1919



1918-1968



1968-Present

In 1895, Reverend McCoy laid the spiritual foundations in Distant for a Church of God. By 1904, the church was able to build its first meeting house. Before that, they held church in a storeroom, hotel room, or Advent Hall. The congregation faithfully gave, and the building was paid for. Sunday school classes were started, and a basement was built under the church. An extension was built in 1922 and an organ and new pews were purchased. Between the years of 1936 and 46, the church was remodeled to bring more people into the church family. Attendance was increased by 50 people.

In the early 1950s, there arose a need for more space, so the old Fellowship Center, now known as the lighthouse, was built for two purposes. It was a garage for the Sunday school bus, and second, it was a place for social meetings of the Sunday school classes, and church groups. Soon, the McGuire property across the street was purchased for the purpose of more parking space. By the late 1960s, the church was crowded to the point that a new building was considered, and so the McGuire property became the site

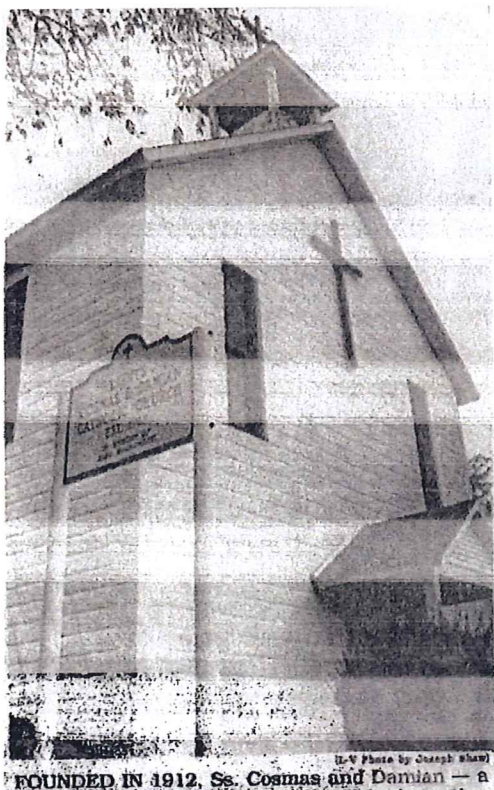
of the present church building. In 1969 the church entered a building campaign. The church was constructed by Thomas Construction Company in 1970. The first church service in the new building was on May 17th, 1970, on September 23rd. 1973 a mortgage burning service was held.

The church remains one of the most active and attended in the community. They have a large youth attendance and a Youth Minister. Rev. Jimmy Swogger has been their pastor for many years.



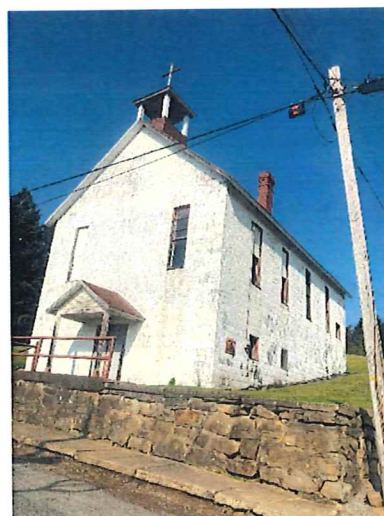
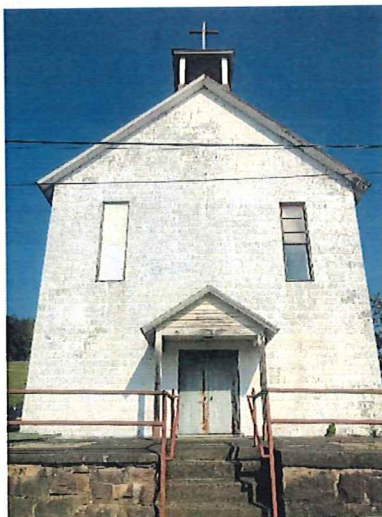
2023

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MAHONING TOWNSHIP
SEMINOLE Ss COSMAS AND DAMIEN CATHOLIC CHURCH**



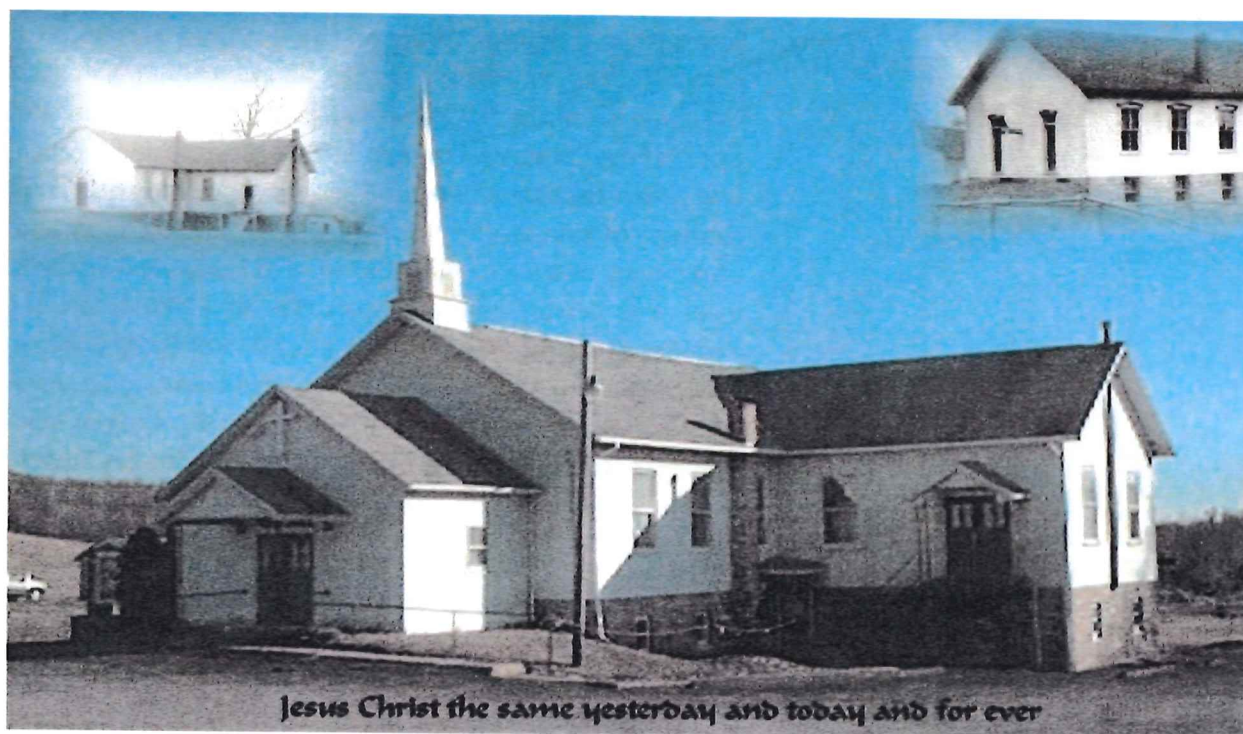
Founded in 1912, built of tile on coal company ground, and closed in 1996, originally a part of the Greensburg dioceses but a mission of the St. Charles parish of New Bethlehem and a part of the Catholic Diocese of Erie, Ss. Cosmas and Damien was closed because of the proximity to New Bethlehem, the shortage of priests, the need for a new furnace, roof, and other major repairs. As the population of Seminole dwindled, mass was celebrated once a month. In 1960, when St. Nicholas of Crates was added as a mission of St. Charles of New Bethlehem, the Seminole church began celebrating Mass on Wednesday mornings. In March 1976, Ss. Cosmas and Damien became a "Chapel of Ease" in the St. Charles church in New Bethlehem.

The town of Seminole was founded in 1909 after the Shawmut Coal Company of St. Mary's set up shop to mine the hills of Mahoning Township, soon building more than 70 homes, most filled with Italian Catholic families attracted by the mining jobs. The first masses were celebrated in the basement of the liquor store. In 1912, the mining company donated land for an appropriate house of worship. During the first World War, the church membership had approximately 250 families. After the depression, residents dwindled in the town as men acquired jobs in nearby towns and cities. Olive Veronesi rang the church bell every morning at 9 o'clock to signal the start of mass. Theresa Veronesi cleaned the church and prepared the church for mass. ~ Phyllis Veronesi Miller, *New Bethlehem LV Rose McDonald*



Photos by Amanda Cserr

ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MAHONING TOWNSHIP
OAKDALE CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN



The Oakdale Church of the brethren was started in 1862 as a part of the Cowanshannock congregation located north of Mahoning Creek in Mahoning Township. The first services were held in a building built for a dwelling, with large rooms that could be thrown together, and church services held in them. This building still exists as a farmhouse. The present church building was built on this same property between 1845 and 1857. The present building replaced the first one in 1888. and has enlarged several times.

In the summer of 1915, a baptistry was added to the rear of the church, the church building raised three feet, the basement was excavated, and four church school classrooms were finished for use. The kitchen was added in 1925. In 1933, the name of the congregation was changed from Red Bank Church to Oakdale Church of the Brethren. In the 1940s, a mural was painted in the church by James Alonzo Fullerton. Fullerton painted Biblical mural scenes in several churches.

In the spring of 1964, work began on a much-needed vestibule on the front of the church. A stairway was built to the basement, eliminating the necessary passing to the front of the auditorium to reach the basement. To enhance the appearance of the exterior of the building, a steeple or spire was erected from the main roof of the church. This steeple consists of a cupola 5 feet in height capped by a fiberglass spire 16 feet high, making



the entire steeple rise 21 feet above the ridge of the church roof. In the cupola area of the steeple, two speakers have been installed to connect with a record player and amplifier for broadcasting organ and chimes music throughout the steeple at appropriate times.

The church was closed and as of 2023 is being remodeled into a private home.

~ *Esther Carrier*

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MAHONING TOWNSHIP
PUTNEYVILLE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



The place of worship of the Methodist Episcopal Church was established in 1844. The congregation met in the Associate Reformed (United Presbyterian) or the schoolhouse until the present edifice, frame 40x60 feet, two stories was erected in in 1873 on a lot conveyed on December 27, 1870, by George S. Putney to the trustees containing sixty-four perches, also 5 feet from the south line for hitching purposes. This building was purchased from the United Methodist Church in 2023.

THE ASSOCIATE REFORMED (UNITED PRESYTERIAN) ceased having services around 1850. The lot on which the frame church was built was conveyed by J.T. and G.S. Putney on Dec. 8, 1853, to the trustees for \$1.00. It was purchased in 1870 at a sheriff's sale by William Hamilton, one of the chief contributors to the maintenance of the organization during its existence.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MAHONING TOWNSHIP
SMULLEN CHURCH AND CEMETARY**

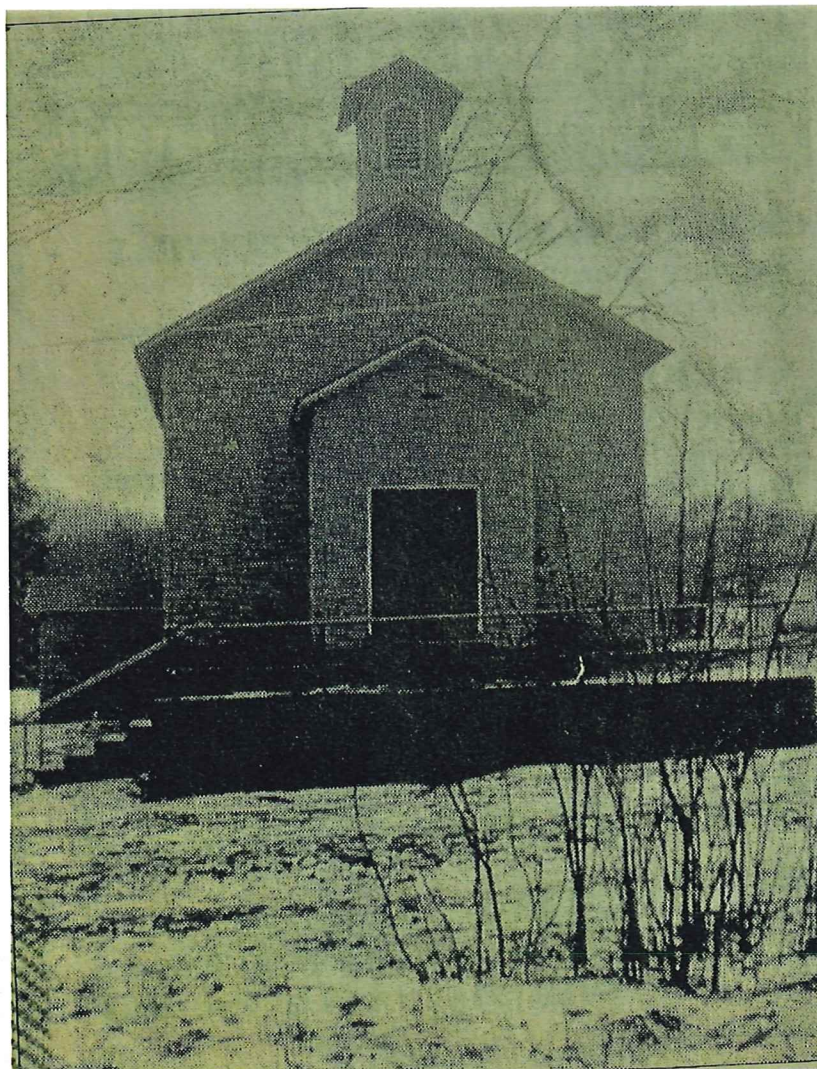
William Smullen was born in Northern Ireland on 7 September 1794. He came to America and settled in Mahoning Township Armstrong County. He purchased around 400 acres of ground between present-day SR1025 and Seminole. He married Catharine "Kittie" McNutt 1798-1875, and they had 8 children but only three boys grew to adulthood. On June 2, 1845, William and Catharine Smullen deeded 1 Acre of land for \$10,00 to David Putney, Lesley Smullen, Robert Cathcart, Isaac Lumberson, and William Smullen, Trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was a Methodist and used his home for services until a church could be erected at the site off SR 1025 where the Smullen cemetery is still seen. There are around 40 graves in the cemetery many Cathcarts, Fergusons, Doverspikes and other names of the area. William Smullen died in 1876 and is buried in the Smullen Cemetery.

Historians have surmised that the Smullen Church was a "Mud" or Slab" Church. When trees were cut, the bark was sliced off them in long strips. These slabs were mixed with mud and water and used for building walls and roofs. The hot sun dried the mud, and it became very hard. It worked great until torrential rain would lay on the roof, softening the mud, collapsing the roof, and caving in the walls. The early schools were built with these. The Smullen Church was no longer there, and the parishioners started to church in Distant for 8 years and then to Putneyville where they built a new church. in 1844. The salvageable wood was used to build the new Oakdale Church of the Brethren, a short piece away from the Smullen Church. Smullen School was still open until the 1940s. Helen Snyder is thought to have been the last teacher.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – MAHONING TOWNSHIP
CLIMAX BAPTIST CHURCH**

The cornerstone of the Climax Baptist church was laid in 1896 next to the Climax School. It housed worshippers for over 100 years. After the schoolhouse closed the school building was purchased by the church and used for Sunday School classes and social events. An artist was commissioned at the turn of the century to paint a Holy Land mural scene that stretched across the entire front wall of the sanctuary. Vacation Bible School and church picnics were well-attended summertime activities. Church was the big event of the week. Baptismal services were held in the nearby Redbank Creek. For many years, ministers were shared with Deanville Baptist and Distant Baptist and later with the White Chapel Church in the White settlement in Clarion County. Climax purchased the Eberhardt house next to the schoolhouse for a parsonage. In the 1980s attendance dwindled and the church closed. The church building was purchased and remodeled into a home. Many went to Distant to the Baptist and the Church of God.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MAHONING TOWNSHIP
MOUNT ZION EUB UNITED METHODIST**

In 1877, William Precious deeded a piece of ground on which to build the Mount Zion church to give the community a place to worship. They had, since the mid-1870s, been holding camp meetings on a piece of ground across the road. The original building is still standing in 2023. The basement was added in 1940 and in 1941 a 10-foot extension was added to the front providing more space in the sanctuary, a vestibule, and a new belfry. The interior has been redecorated with a new altar and block flooring. The old coal furnace was replaced with a gas furnace. The congregation became affiliated with the Evangelical Church. It was first affiliated with the Hawthorn charge but with the redistribution of boundaries in 1914-1915, it became a member of the Oak Ridge charge with sister charges of Fairmount City and Truittsburg. In 1946 the Evangelical Church and the United Brethren in Christ united and the churches became known as the Evangelical United Brethren Church or E.U.B.

The EUB united with the Methodist Church and Mt Zion became part of the United Methodist Church. Membership had dwindled and they closed for a time. They reopened as the Mt Zion Community Church for a while and then closed permanently. The building is part of the Cemetery Association.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY - MAHONING TOWNSHIP
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH (DISTANT)**

The Seventh Day Adventist Church had its beginnings in the Distant area competing with the beginnings of the Distant Church of God. They moved to the John Schreckengost home in Putneyville with 13 people attending. As the membership grew, they moved to the home of Mrs. Ora Schreckengost also of Putneyville and later to the Grange Hall in Seminole. They met there for many years. They purchased land along SR 66 in Distant and erected a new building with the carpenters and stonemasons from the Amish community of Smicksburg doing the construction. The new church was dedicated on January 17, 1976.

After several years, the church was closed, and the building sold. It is now a gunsmith shop.



**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
NEW BETHLEHEM FIRST CHURCH OF GOD**



The New Bethlehem First Church of God was moved from the old church in South Bethlehem in 1984. The Cornerstone was placed in November 1983 on a 16-acre plot, with the first service in the new building in May 1984 and the dedication Sunday took place on June 10, 1984. In 1989 the parking lot was paved. In October 1994, a mortgage burning ceremony was held, paying off a mortgage of \$406,000.00 in 10 years. A fellowship hall addition to the present building was built and a 100-year celebration was held in 2010. In Easter Season and Christmas time, a cantata is held in the church consisting of choir members from all the churches in the area. The church has a very active youth group,



Fellowship Hall addition

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
LEATHERWOOD PRESBYTERIAN (FIRST AND SECOND CHURCHES)**

Around 1840 settlers arrived in the northeastern section of what would later become Porter Township Clarion County. There were several families of the Presbyterian faith, mostly Scots Irish, and German. The Scots Irish founded strong congregations in Philadelphia and later in Pittsburg. As members of a Presbyterian denomination, the people decided to form a new church in PORTER township. It was accepted into the Clarion Presbytery on April 1, 1842.

On May 16, 1842, the church was officially organized with three ruling elders: Samuel Beck, Ross M. Corbett and Robert Henry. There were 16 other members: John Ardery, Nancy Beck, Fanny Corbett, Isaac Corbett, Kasiah Corbett, Davis Goheen, Sarah Goheen, Joseph Guthrie, Nancy Hepler, Isabel Hepler, William Kirkpatrick, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Nathaniel People, David S Rankin, and Margaret Rankin.

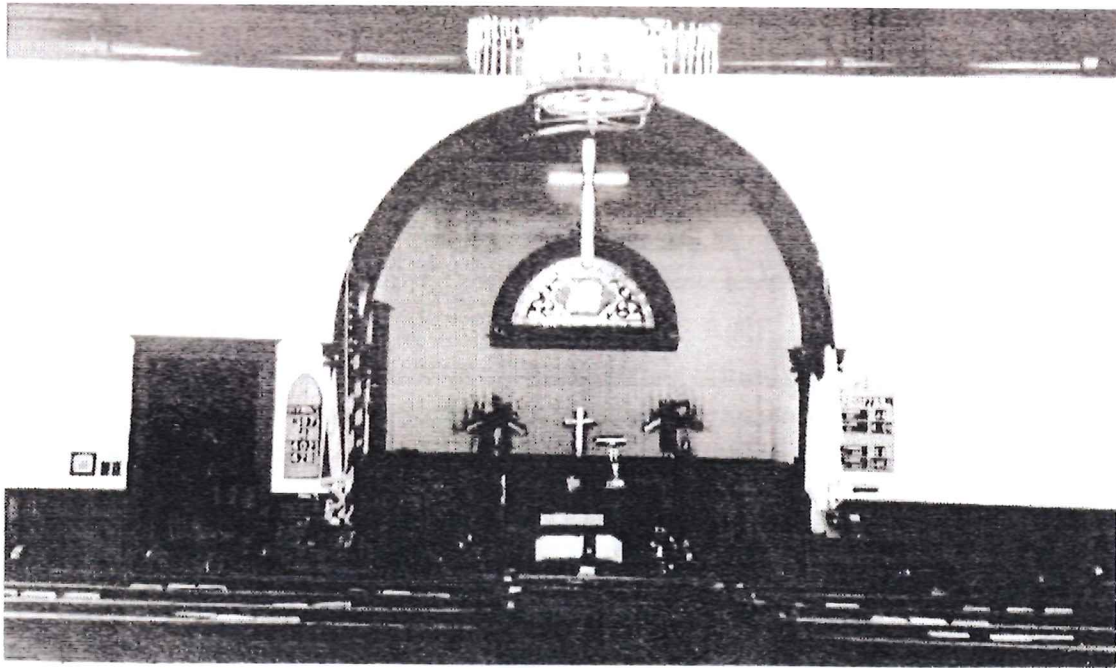
On July 9, 1842, three acres of ground were purchased from Daniel Beck and William Kirkpatrick for \$30. Mr. Beck and Mr. Kirkpatrick were given a credit of \$15. Each of their seats are purchased in the new church. William Henry and Colin McNutt were carpenters. Before the year ended, they added 34 new members. In July 1843 21 more joined and in the summer of 1844 another 21 were added. During the first three years, a total of 95 adults became members.

The church took its name from the community of Leatherwood, named after the Leatherwood Creek which was named for the tough-stemmed shrubs which grew along its banks.



The first church had to be torn down. Sometime before 1897. It was replaced by a large edifice in 1897. On January 8, 1906, a fire destroyed this second building which was only 9 years old. The undaunted congregation built a new church for the sum of \$4789, dedicated in 1909. This church is still open in 2023. After 1921 Leatherwood and Oak Grove began sharing pastors. The two churches united in many social activities, including the building of a manse. In 1968 they voted to merge and build a new church at Rockville the Oak Grove building was torn down and services were held at Leatherwood until the new Oakwood building was completed. It was dedicated on April 20, 1980, Leatherwood chose to continue in their building and became the Leatherwood nondenominational church.

In 2023, they celebrated the 180th year of being the center of the Leatherwood community. Each year, Tractor Sunday is held and draws a large crowd from everywhere. The children's youth group is regularly active with the highlight of going to Snow Camp every winter. Many activities are held to keep the community interested.



THE LEATHERWOOD CHURCH SANCTUARY, 1997



2017

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
LEATHERWOOD CHURCH (Third Church) and annex**



This is the third church of the Leatherwood Trilogy a replica of the second church destroyed by fire and on the same location in 1905. It had no electricity, natural gas or plumbing. It was heated by coal and oil provided light for the chandeliers and lamps. The Olean Road past the church was unpaved and an axl deep mudhole until it was paved in the mid 1930's by the macadam process. During this period, electricity was starting to be installed in rural areas by the REA [Rural Electrification Administration] and Me C.E. Andrews Jr. of New Bethlehem helped churches to wire for lights and accessories. During this period many ministers served the community. A manse was erected around 1950 on the Squirrel Hill Road providing a residence for ministers serving Leatherwood and Oak Grove. The ministers served both Leatherwood and Oak Grove. In 1967 Leatherwood and Oak Grove merged to the Oakwood United Presbyterian Church. After a period, the congregation split, and a new church Oakwood Presbyterian church was erected in Rockville and the remaining remained at the Leatherwood independent non- denominational Church.

The first service as a non-denominal church was on January 13, 1980.

The first minister in September 1842 was Rev. E.B. Barrett. The second Rev. John Core served from 1850-1954. He was elected commissioner to the general assembly in Philadelphia. It took him several days to ride his horse to Philadelphia. Joseph Mateer was called in 1854 and served 29 years until his death in 1883. He also served as a Civil War Chaplain.

Around 2020 construction started on a new annex for a recreation center, meeting rooms and a social center. The dedication for this building was on Tractor Sunday 2023.



**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
OAKWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (ROCKVILLE)**



There were four churches in the Oak Grove area of Porter Township: the Oak Grove Presbyterian, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran, St. Johns Methodist Episcopal, and St. Luke's Reformed. In the 1920s, a union church was formed from the four churches, called the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church of Squirrel Hill, dedicated on June 21, 1931, at an all-day meeting. After 1921, Oak Grove and Leatherwood Presbyterian began sharing ministers. Oak Grove and Leatherwood shared many social activities and programs, including the building of a manse.

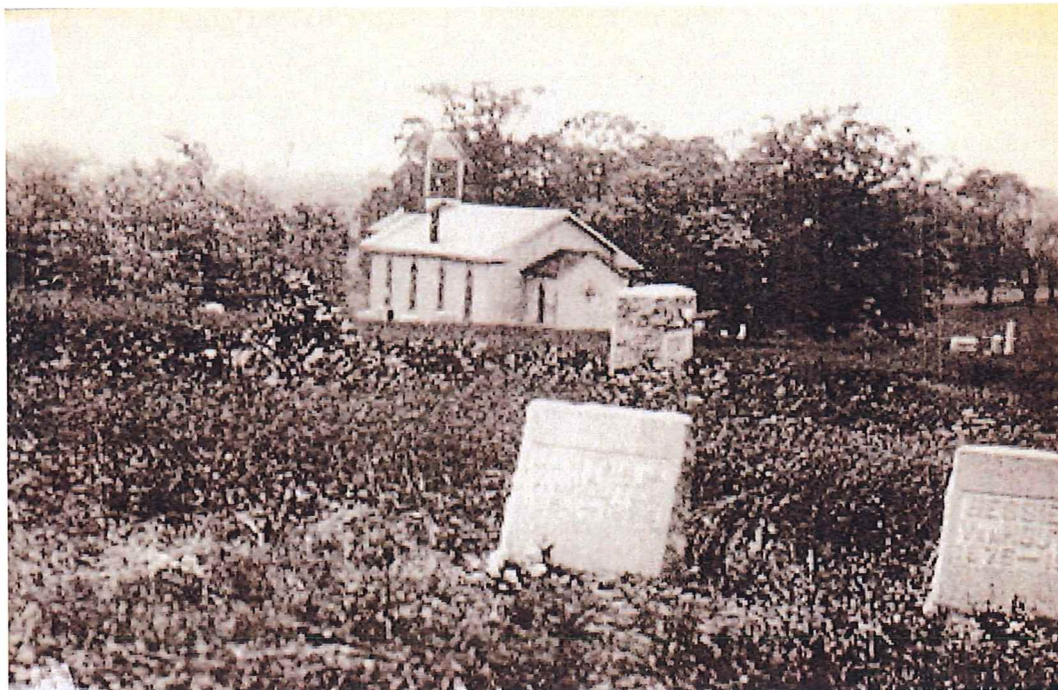
In 1968, the congregations voted to merge and build a new church in Rockville. The Oak Grove building was torn down, and services were held at Leatherwood until the new Oakwood building was completed. The first service was held in the new building on Christmas Eve 1979. It was dedicated on April 20, 1980.

Leatherwood chose to retain their building and became the LEATHERWOOD CHURCH. Oakwood continued for several years and then closed, selling their building to the NEW BETHLEHEM WESLEYIAN METHODIST SCHOOL.

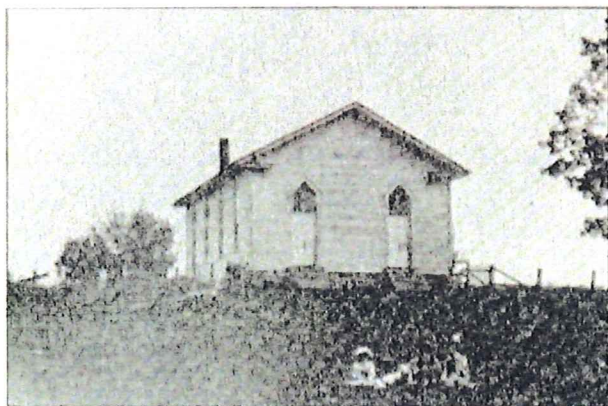
**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH (SQUIRREL HILL)**

In the year 1849, those desiring the Methodist form of worship organized a group known as the Methodist Episcopal church using the Lutheran Church building until 1873 when they built a house of worship 500 yards away. This made three churches in the grove known as Squirrel Hill. Ministers known to minister at this church were Rev. English, Rev. Galbreath, and his wife Rev. Breath, also a minister, and Rev. Howe. In 1929 a movement was started to unite the four congregations of the Reformed, Methodist, Lutheran, and Presbyterian churches. Theodore Krotzer who lived on a farm beside the Methodist church and across the road from the Reformed claimed as he was driving his horse and buggy past the churches one Sunday morning, the Methodists were singing the old hymn "Will there be any stars, any stars in my Crown" and the Reformed were singing another old hymn "No Not One."

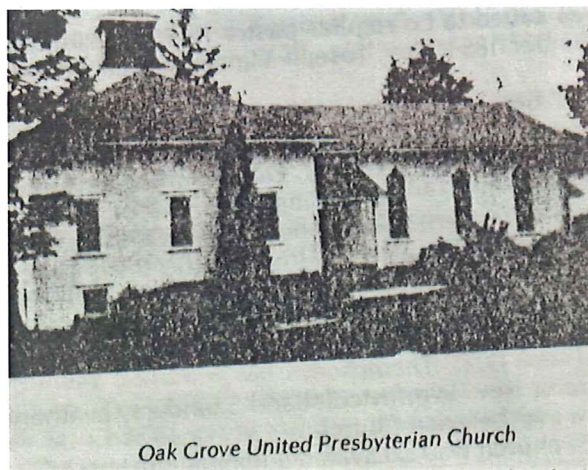
ST. LUKE'S REFORMED CHURCH



St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church of Smithland was organized on December 23, 1846, under the leadership of Rev William Uhl with twenty-five charter members and continued to be active for the next 80 years. The Lutheran Church was erected in the summer of 1847 and dedicated in March 1848. The church building was shared with the Reformed until 1870, the Methodists until 1873 and the Lutherans until 1929. In September 1929 a favorable vote was taken to unite the churches. They voted to prefer Presbyterian Church as the denomination and the church to be known as Oak Grove Presbyterian



Lutheran Church Squirrel Hill



Oak Grove United Presbyterian Church

OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

The old Lutheran church was selected as the building in which the new organization should worship. Rev. R. E. Kiern, who had been serving as Pastor of the old Presbyterian church at Oak Grove, became the Pastor of the new organization and the work he has done since then and is doing is bearing much good fruit in that community. However, it soon became evident that the Lutheran church was not large enough to accommodate the growing congregation and it was decided by the members that an annex be added to the church for educational purposes. The building committee was composed of Rev. R. E. Kiern, Chairman, E. E. Henry and Burton Stewart. An architect was employed, plans were submitted and accepted and work began.

The annex presents an imposing appearance. It is tastily finished and furnished, and the entire structure has been overhauled; so that now the congregation has one of the most beautiful and commodious country church edifices to be found anywhere. In the construction work, the men and women of the congregation rolled up their sleeves and joined in to help complete the structure. They gave many days of their time to the work until the building was completed at an estimated cost of a little more than

LARGE ATTENDANCE AT DEDICATION OF OAK GROVE CHURCH

Organized 1860

Dedicatory Service at Squirrel Hill Sunday — Local Pastors Speak.

CHURCH DEBT

FULLY RAISED

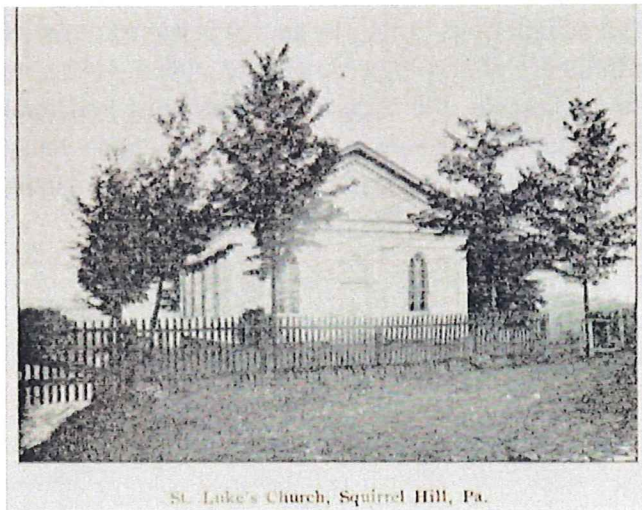
The weather man smiled benignly on the Squirrel Hill community Sunday last. The day was not only perfect in every respect, but the dedicatory exercises of the Christian educational annex of the Oak Grove Presbyterian church of Squirrel Hill were just as perfect as the day and that is saying a great deal.

It will be remembered that something over a year ago, the good people of that community, or at least a number of them, conceived the idea of consolidating the four churches there, namely, the Lutheran, the Methodist, the Reformed and the Presbyterian which was located at Oak Grove, a short distance away on the Rimersburg road. Rev. J. Vernon Bell of DuBois, Rev. F. Benton Shoemaker of Brookville and others came into the community and labored to effect a consolidation of these churches. The result was that the Lutheran and the Presbyterian churches voted unanimously to become one body; the Methodist and the Reformed did not vote unanimously, but a goodly number of both congregations united with the new organization which is known as the Oak Grove Presbyterian church of Squirrel Hill.

This church was organized with twenty-three members on June 11, 1860 on what is now Summit Road near the Robert McDonald farm. The founders were Nathaniel Randolph, James Lawson, Peter Painter, Robert Laughlin, and Sam Laughlin. Robert Williamson, Thomas Elder, Isaac Hull, and John D. Henry. The first organizers from the Presbytery of Clarion were Rev. William Moor, Rev. Joseph Mateer, and Elder Ross M Corbett.

This house of worship was erected two miles from the three at Squirrel Hill. It was the only one with a pastor in 1929 when the movement to unite the 4 churches gained momentum. A vote was taken, and the majority preferred the Presbyterian denomination leading to a church known as the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church of Squirrel Hill. The Oak Grove church was dismantled, and the lumber was used, along with the lumber from the former Lutheran Church, to reconstruct the new church, the Oak Grove United Presbyterian Church. The building was used until the building of the new Oakwood United Presbyterian Church at Rockville. The Oak Grove Cemetery remains at the site of this building and is maintained by family members of those buried there. On June 21 1931, the new church OAK GROVE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SQUIRREL HILL was dedicated with an all-day meeting. This church remained until 1933 when Oak Grove, Leatherwood, and Hawthorn shared pastors. Around 1944, Oak Grove and Leatherwood began sharing ministers, In 1969, Oak Grove and Leatherwood merged to form the OAKWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. This church building was torn down in 1971 when a site was chosen at Rockville to build the new OAKWOOD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The Associated Presbyterian Church (known as the Herman Secedar) was organized in 1854 by Rev. John McAuley. Rev. Robert Himes was the first minister. The church burned in 1908 or 1909. Some Early names from the Herman Cemetery are James Redd 1874, Jane Blair 1875 Elizabeth Miller Blair 1885, and John R Blair 1887. The cemetery is still used and kept in excellent condition.



Herman Seceder Cemetery

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
LEISURE RUN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

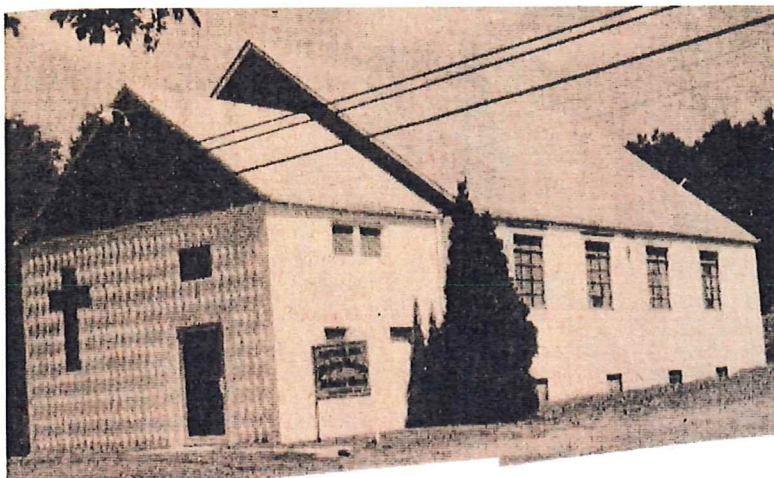


Known as the Half Acre Church (Methodist Episcopal Church), because a half-acre of land was given on which to build it, it was the center of community life with church socials, weddings, and other church-related meetings. Following many such events neighboring boys would try to move in on the church-going boys to take their girls home, making this a scene of some notorious fights. The church became known as the Hell's Half Acre. All is peaceful now proving the influence of an active community church. Following the 1968 merger with the Evangelical United Brethren churches, the Leisure Run Methodist Episcopal church was renamed Leisure Run United Methodist Church. It later became part of the Redbank Valley Methodist Association joining and sharing pastors with six other churches. In 2023, the church building was purchased from the United Methodist. It has been resold to a local business.

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
NEW BETHLEHEM WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH (COTTAGE HILL)**

In 1946 Rev. Paul Hetrick and Rev. J.C. Himes started having religious services in the old Cottage Hill Schoolhouse. In March 1949, Rev. Hetrick was appointed the pastor. In the spring of 1949 work was started on a church building and it was dedicated in July 1950. In 1968 a Christian Day school was started in the basement. In 1970 land was purchased along Rt. 66 and 28 South of New Bethlehem and a one-story school was built, teaching about 100 students from Kindergarten through High School.

The congregation purchased the Oakwood Church in Rockville, Porter Township and moved their school into it. They then purchased land in the Leisure Run area of Porter Township and built a new church.



The Cottage Hill Wesleyan Church



New Bethlehem Wesleyan Methodist Church

**CLARION COUNTY – NEW BETHLEHEM BOROUGH
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



Methodism began in New Bethlehem in 1838 when Philip Hoffman held services in his log cabin where Evermore is now located, Smith's school near New Bethlehem and after 1848 in the Academy in New Bethlehem. In 1853, a building committee of Joseph Himes Sr., Perry Webster and Henry Girts purchased a lot from George Space for \$75.00. On February 19, 1854, the first Methodist Church was dedicated. The present structure was built in 1896 at a cost of \$8600.00. That fall the parsonage was added at a cost of \$1500.00. They are part of the Methodist Ministry and share ministers with other Methodist churches.

In September 2023, this church became the First Fellowship Church of New Bethlehem.

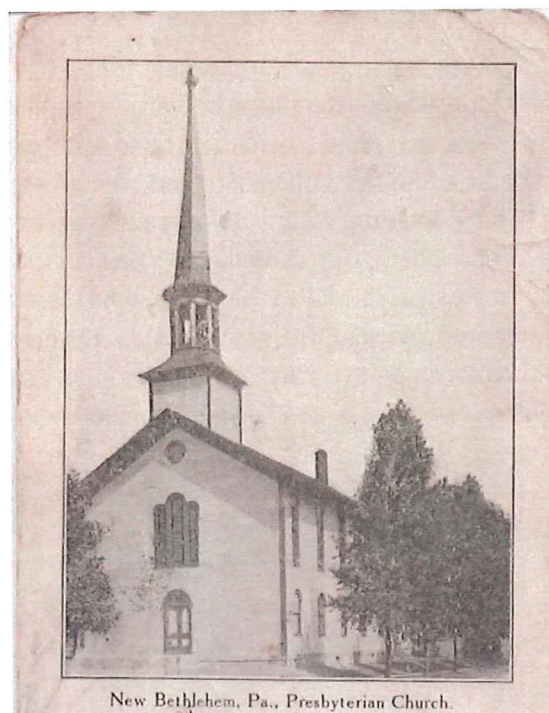
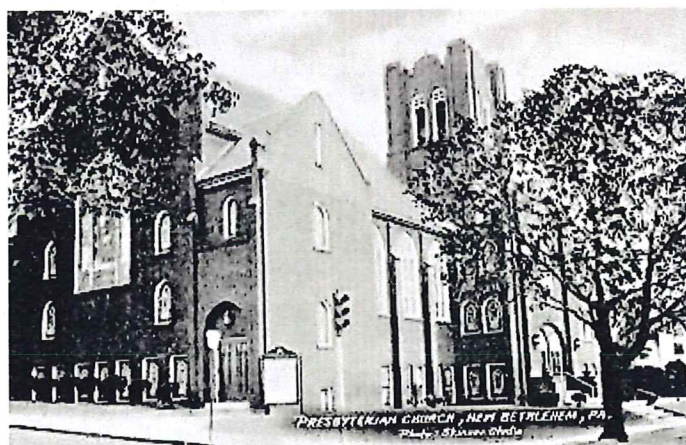


CLARION COUNTY – NEW BETHLEHEM BOROUGH NEW BETHLEHEM PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

There was a pressing need for houses of worship where early residents could practice their religious beliefs. The first record of any religious services in New Bethlehem was in 1818 when the Church of Red Bank came into existence and appeared under the role of Erie Presbytery. It may have been only a preaching location for the Reverend Robert McGarrah, pastor of the Licking and Rehoboth churches. A Sunday school was organized on July 13th, 1845, and met in the log House of Mr. Phillip Huffman.

The New Bethlehem Presbyterian Church was first organized on September 21, 1850, within what was then known as the Clarion Presbytery. The initial church congregation consisted of 10 charter members, eight of whom came by letter of transfer: Robert and Jane Morrison, John and Nancy Girts, Craig and Martha Thom, and Robert and Nancy McMillian. Two others, Stewart Campbell and Nathaniel McClure joined the church by profession of faith. Since 1850. The Presbyterian congregation has met for worship at many separate locations. The first meeting was in the Huffman residence, a log house from 1850 to 1858. In 1858, the congregation purchased the two-story Academy building on Wood Street near the present church building. services were held on the first floor until 1863 when the building was sold to the school board. They then met in the Methodist Church, the Baptist Church, and the old landmark frame church at Penn and Wood streets from 1877 to 1923, and at the Andrews Theater from 1923 to 1924 during the period when the present church was being erected.

The year 1922 brought the realization that the frame building, erected in 1877, was no longer adequate and arrangements were made to sell and remove the old building. A farewell service was held in the old church on April 4th, 1923, and the next day workers began tearing down the building. The cornerstone for the present house of worship was laid the following year on July 27th, 1924. The new church was dedicated, and services held there ever since. Thanks to membership support, the mortgage debt incurred in the



New Bethlehem, Pa., Presbyterian Church.

current building construction was burned on December 13th, 1944. In 2000 and 2001, a major renovation added an elevator and a new entryway to allow easier access. They replaced the roof and recarpeted and painted the sanctuary. In 2005, the parking lot which was the former site of the original New Bethlehem High School was paved and in 2006 kitchen renovations were completed and other maintenance and

repair work was done. The building serves as an emergency center for the community, which was well utilized during the 1996 flood that devastated much of downtown New Bethlehem. The building hosts many community functions and groups. The congregation has been blessed over the years to be able to praise, worship, and serve God and the Christian community within the town.

Three special ministers have served the congregation for many years. Reverend Joseph Mateer, 1865 to 1883, was described as an honest and faithful worker. His family was from Inverness, Scotland. He was a graduate of Belfast College, Ireland, and Western Seminary. During the Civil War, he served as a chaplain of the 155th Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was the only pastor to die during active service of the church. Reverend Doctor James Wallace Fraser, October 1926 to May 1959. He served the congregation for 33 years. He was a skilled historian who carefully researched and authored many books about New Bethlehem and the history of the area. Reverend John Lyle Proudfit, 1898 to 1908, was the first occupant of the manse on Penn St. His wife was a nurse and opened the manse for a hospital during the Spanish flu epidemic of 1914 to 1917. The first night she opened, she had 16 patients.



The beautiful stained-glass window was a gift from Mr. and Mrs. F.I. Bush

**CLARION COUNTY - NEW BETHLEHEM BOROUGH
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**



THE OLD CHURCH—ERECTED IN 1852.

The church was organized in 1851, meeting in the old school house until they erected a frame building in 1852 on land donated by Philip Corbett and under the direction of John Hamm. It was dedicated on February 20, 1852, and the offering was \$48.00. In 1889, two rooms were added and the baptistery was placed beneath the pulpit platform.

The second church was started in 1909 using brownstone which was quarried in Hummelstown, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania and brought by rail to New Bethlehem. The altar was built using a round architectural design and a stained glass dome was built into the center of the roof. Modern improvements were added over the years. In the 1980s, the pipe organ, which had been donated by the sons of Charles Andrews Sr., was completely renovated. After the flood of 1996, which flooded the basement and did a lot of damage, the basement was remodeled and an elevator was installed making the sanctuary completely handicapped accessible.

A pastor of tenure, Dr. Will Houghton, the husband of local girl Elizabeth Andrews, became known worldwide for his production of religious tracks, theologian ministry, and as head of the prestigious Moody Institute in Chicago. They are buried in the New Bethlehem cemetery. As of 2023, it is an active church.

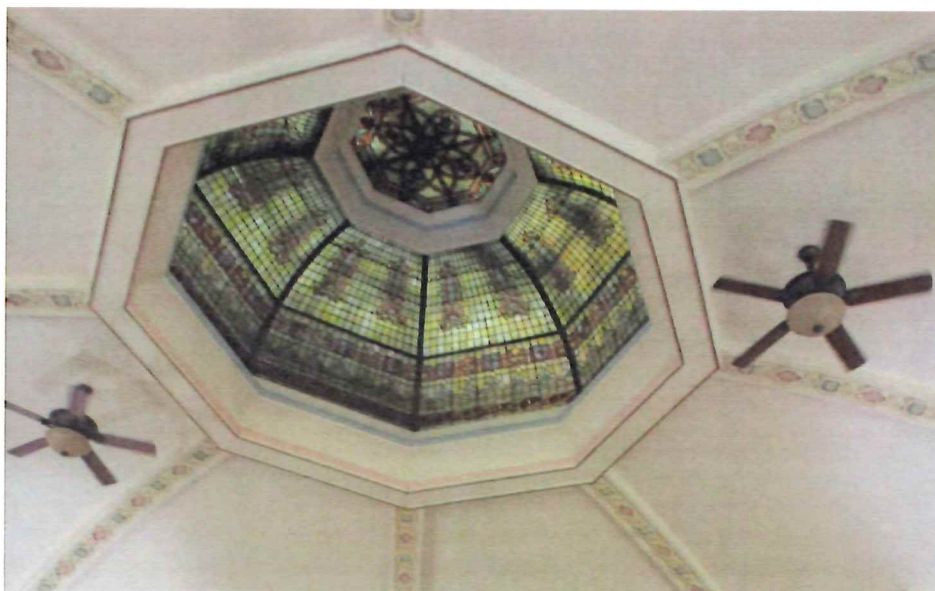


BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW BETHLEHEM, PA.
Photo: Clarence B. ...

Church Interior



The circular altar was designed by an architect from Akron, Ohio. He also designed the Presbyterian Church in Brookville and the Methodist Church in Brookville. All three were built from the same brownstone brought from Hummelstown, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, by train.



The ceiling of the church is centered with a beautiful stained-glass dome.

**CLARION COUNTY - NEW BETHLEHEM BOROUGH
GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH (KECK AVE)**



The Grace Baptist organizational meeting was held in July 1952 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Nulph with 13 adults present. On Sept 15, 1952, the committee met at the home of Rev Thomas Lowther, their new minister, and chose the name "Grace Baptist Church." On October 16, 1952, a meeting was held to elect officers and form a new charter. Charter members were Mrs. Martha Anthony, Sandra Anthony, Mr. and Mrs. William Britton, Mrs. Ruth Crissman and son Karl, Ruby Darr, Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Doverspike, Dick Doverspike, Conrad Fabre, Carl J. Fabre, Conrad Fabre Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Ben Guthrie, Harold Guthrie and Mrs. William Jackson, Esther Kunselman, Thomas Lowther, Mr. and Mrs. Rayburn Nulph and daughters Lucille and Nancy, Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Magness, Keith and Richard, Mr. and Mrs. Delbert Minich, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Shick, Mr. and Mrs. George Shilling, Mr. and Mrs. Clair Shreckengost, Barbara Shreckengost, Judy Tabler, Mrs. James Snyder, Mrs. A.J. Spillane, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Stahlman, James Tice, Mr. and Mrs. Dale White, Ruth Ann White, Mrs. Elizabeth White, and Mrs. Eva White.

Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Fabre donated two lots (120x120) on Keck Avenue for a prospective building site. On November 12, 1952, the church name was registered, and the new church started.

A parsonage was purchased in 1960. In 1972, an educational wing consisting of two additional Sunday School rooms, a church office, two bathrooms, a hallway, and a social hall-kitchen were built downstairs and dedicated on May 5, 1974. The parking lot was paved in 1976. A new parsonage was bought, and the first one sold. In 1986, new carpeting and pews were installed in the sanctuary. Several pastors served the congregation over the years.

In November 1991 Rev. Robert Ryver was installed as the new pastor. In August 1995, there was a groundbreaking for the building of a church addition. The dedication of this addition was March 17, 1996. Many additions, purchases, and improvements have been made over the years, all for the good of the church.

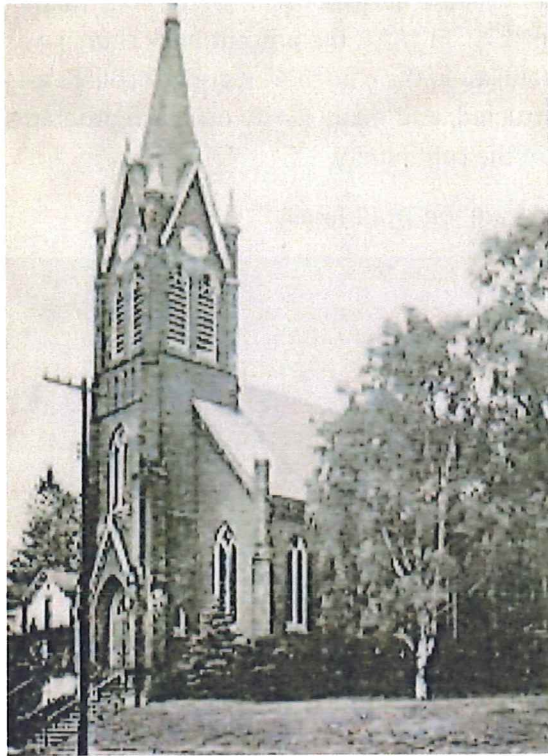


In 2020, the congregation voted to associate with the Southern Baptist Convention, the largest Protestant Denomination in the United States. There have been at least five young people who have entered the ministry from the Grace Baptist Church.

Info from Judy Tabler

Photo by Jodi Walter Photography

**CLARION COUNTY – NEW BETHLEHEM
ST. CHARLES CATHOLIC CHURCH**



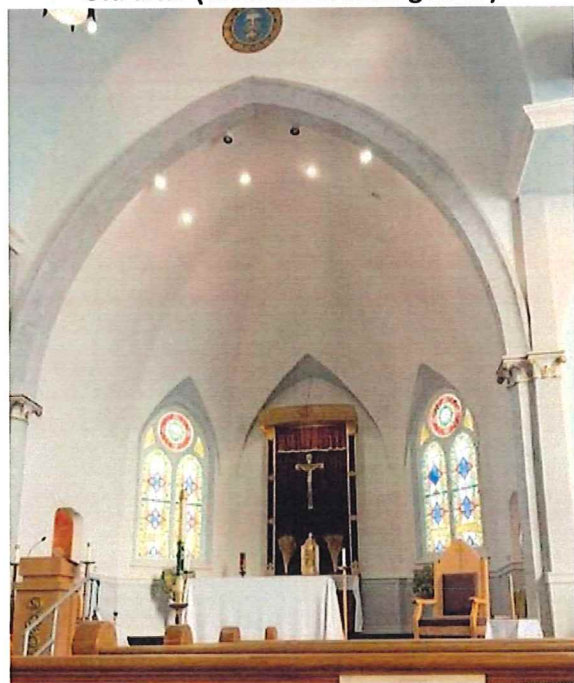
Old Church



Old altar (Veronesi wedding 1947)



Renovated Church



New altar (2019)

Photos by Phyllis Veronesi Miller

The construction of the railroad attracted many Irish Catholics to New Bethlehem to work in the mines and on the railroads. Until that time, mass was said infrequently by mission priests in private homes. Father Bernard McGinney was the first priest to reside here permanently and was responsible for the construction of the first Catholic Church on the present parking lot site in 1872. In 1894, the present brick church was built at a cost of \$3000.00. By 1900, there were 50 Catholic families in the church. The present church was renovated, a new rectory was built, a large social hall constructed, and many family outreach programs have been originated to make the parish an important part of the community.

St. Charles Cemetery was laid out in 1890 on land purchased from the Truitt family.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – SOUTH BETHLEHEM BOROUGH
CHURCH OF GOD**

In the spring of 1909, Rev. Herbert M Riggle, then pastor of the Church of God in Distant, began holding weekly services in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eunie Everhart on Grant Street in New Bethlehem. Tent meetings were held in the summer and the Municipal Building on Hamilton Street was used for a meeting place and Sunday School. A school building on the lot where the present church building stands was purchased and remodeled into a place of



of worship, which soon became too small to accommodate the congregation. In 1929, the church was organized to carry on business; by-laws were adopted, and a business organization was set up and plans were started which led to the building of the present church.

In October of 1930, ground was broken for the present building, and in May 1931, the new church was dedicated. The project began with faith in God but no money in the treasury, but with donated labor and consecrated giving by the members of the church, the work was finished with an estimated value of \$15000.00 but with a debt of only \$4000.00, which was financed with a loan from the First National Bank of New Bethlehem. The pastor in charge in those formative years was Rev. George E. Sample, also the pastor of the Church of God in Distant. The parsonage was built sometime after 1946.

Sixteen acres of ground were purchased for future relocation in Porter Township and paid for in cash. The groundbreaking for the new church was held on May 22, 1983, in Porter Township and the first service was held in the new building on June 10, 1984. The South Bethlehem location was sold and is now a home.

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
MENNONITE CHURCH AND SCHOOL (LEATHERWOOD)**

The former Leatherwood Baptist church, closed for many years, was purchased by the Mennonite church for their church and school. The Mennonites are members of the Anabaptists who were founded in Germany. They practice adult baptism, and they actively follow the teachings of Jesus, above materialism, racism, and naturalism. They are historically peacemakers. They believe in living simply and serving others as witness to God's love. Their sermons are from the Bible, both the Old and New Testaments. They have Sunday School classes for both adults and children. Their music is sung in 4-part acapella. They do pay taxes but do not believe in war. They donate to a Church Peace Tax that allows members to contribute to peace education and allows members to protest military spending.

They are very eager to help others as witnessed by the town of New Bethlehem during the flood of 1996. Members of the Mennonite community took over the firehall and fed the people who were flooded out of their homes, the first responders who maintained order in the town, and all who came to help clean as long as they were needed. They are very good neighbors.



**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
LEATHERWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**

The Leatherwood Baptist Church was a member of the Clarion Baptist Association organized January 8, 1846 by Rev. Rockafellow and Rev. Thomas Thomas with 10 members. It was dedicated August 8, 1854, by Rev. B.H. Thomas D.D., son of Rev. Thomas Thomas. A new Baptist church to replace the old one cost \$2,200 and was dedicated on October 21, 1900, at 10:00. The sermon was given by Rev. Dr. Slipper of Philadelphia.

Early burials in the cemetery include D.J. Shanafelt, b. May 29, 1838, no death date; Peter Rickard, December 10 1819-December 6, 1919; Jacob Phillips, May 9, 1836-May 1, 1926; G.D. Hamm, 1836-1915; William Shanafelt, 1875-1908; William Divins, 1836-1886; John Weigand, 1841-1941; Robert W. Henry, 1828-1904; among others. There is a Shanafelt Mausoleum.

The church and cemetery are now owned by the New Bethlehem Mennonite Church and School.

**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
WHITE CHAPEL COMMUNITY CHURCH**

In 1941, Herbert Bish organized a Sunday School that met in the Goheen School in the White Settlement area of Porter Township. With land donated by Jessie White Shirey and tile donated by the New Bethlehem Tile Company, a new chapel was dedicated, debt free, in September 1916. It was originally part of the Methodist Conference, and in 1933 the congregation became part of the American Sunday School Union. In 1959, the congregation purchased the church from the Methodist, and it became a non-denominational community church. With remodeling and renovations, it is still an active part of the community. Rev. Ben Shindledecker, Rudolph Panciera, and Rev. Gordon Barrows are some of the ministers who served there over the years. It is still active in 2023.



**CLARION COUNTY – PORTER TOWNSHIP
STARBURG COMMUNITY CHURCH (OLEAN ROAD)**

Starburg was a little mining town along the now Olean Road near the Musser Fruit Orchard. Mrs. Nannie Fox Ellenberger was a little girl when her parents lived there. In her 90s, she wrote down some of her memories. She was born in 1885 and lived there until she was 9 or 10.

“My Father’s name was Elmer Fox and my Mother’s name was Mary Painter Fox.”

“There was a school house and Mr. Ed McSparin was the teacher. We had Sunday School in the school house and a minister preached for us and that is where my parents joined and the converts were Baptised i[sic]n the creek. They cut the ice and my Mother caught no cold. And they had prayer meetings from house to house and they had prayer meeting at our house and that was the first of our family worship. At our house Mr. and Mrs. Thornly [?] their son Tom came from the old country. Tom played a fife and Aunt Emma Blair would play the organ.”

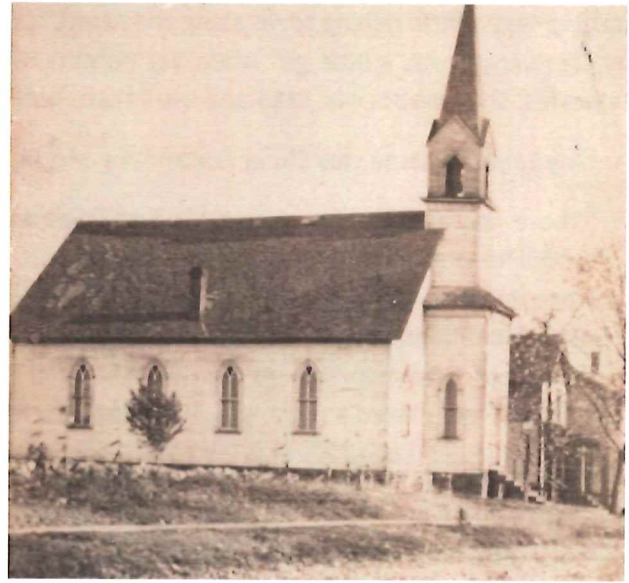
“The preachers name I do not remember but he had a horse and buggy and stopped at the houses of the church and they filled his buggy with groceries and potatoes, flour and apples, and I can see my Dad putting a 50 lb. sack of flour in the buggy for him. That is the way they helped to pay the minister for his salary.” ~ Excerpt from a letter written by Nannie Fox Ellenberger

Other sources list this minister’s name as Rev. McDowell and he also served a church in New Bethlehem. Residents of Starburg were buried at Leatherwood (many without markers) and a little Catholic cemetery outside of New Bethlehem near Cottage Hill and a small cemetery by the Mike Izzi farm (along the New Bethlehem-Rimersburg Road.) It was torn our several years ago.



Miners from Starburg

**CLARION COUNTY – HAWTHORN BOROUGH
HAWTHORN NAZARENE CHURCH**



In 1933, four families with 20 people formed the starting congregation of the Hawthorne Nazarene church. The property was acquired from the Methodist Church. By 1949, many improvements were made, and Sunday School rooms were added. The church exterior was improved along with the exterior grounds, and an adjoining parsonage was added. In October 1974 a two-acre piece of property across the street from the church was purchased upon which a fellowship and education center was built.



**CLARION COUNTY – HAWTHORN BOROUGH
HAWTHORN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**



The Hawthorn Presbyterian church was organized in 1876. It has shared ministers with the Summerville Church for many years. In 2023, it is still a very active church.



**CLARION COUNTY – HAWTHORN BOROUGH
HAWTHORN UNITED METHODIST**



The church began in Hawthorn then West Millvale in 1871. The first meetings were in the Middle Run schoolhouse. The present church was built in 1873 and was known as Hawthorn Calvary. In 1893, the congregation joined with the United Evangelical denomination and in 1968, it became Hawthorn Calvary United Methodist church. In 1986, it yoked with the Oak Ridge United Methodist Church and then with five other small churches to become the Redbank Valley United Methodist Ministry. Over the years, many improvements were made to the church building, including stained glass windows, a basement, a kitchen and an education wing.



In 1969, the ladies of the church published a cookbook which has become the mainstay of most of the cooks in the area. They purchased church furniture with the proceeds. They made apple butter, apple pies, and dumplings in the fall.

In October 2022, the church closed its doors due to dwindling membership.

**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
FAIRMOUNT CITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Founded in 1873, the Albright Evangelical Church of Fairmount City was originally located in Swede Hollow. It was moved in 1874 and renamed Fairmount City Evangelical Church. The present building has been in use since it was erected in 1890. Following the denominations merger with the Methodist Church in 1968, another name change was made to the Fairmount City United Methodist Church. It was part of the Redbank Valley United Methodist. In 2023, it became an independent church and was purchased from the United Methodist.

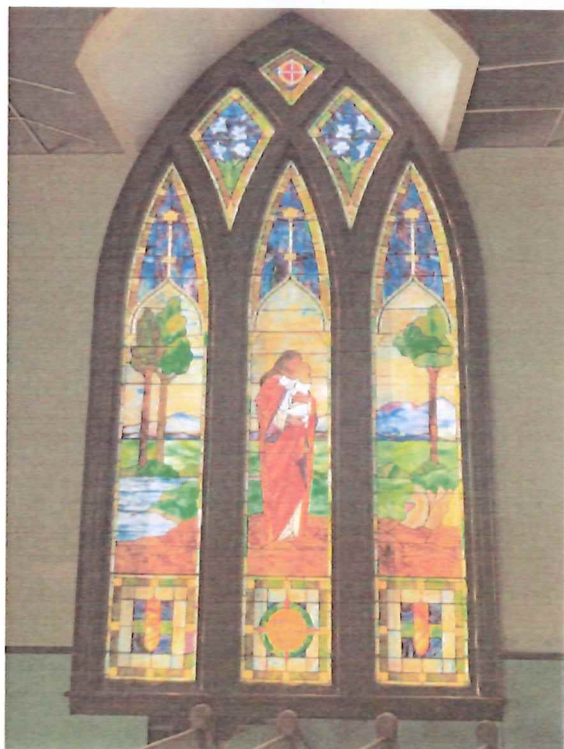


**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
ALCOLA TRINITY CHURCH**

The Trinity church lot was purchased on 1 April 1817 from Adam Mani (Mohney) to the trustees of the German and Presbyterian Congregation of Redbank. Cost \$24.00 for 5 acres of land. The first log church was built in 1820. The first church burned, and another log church was built in 1849 and used until it burned in 1891. That year the "White church" was built and so named because it was wood covered with white paint. It burned in 1913. It was located in the northeast corner of the cemetery across the road from the present church.



The existing brick church that eventually became known as the Trinity United Church of Christ was built after 1913. It closed its doors on June 21, 1997, due to lack of membership. Bread of Life Ministries later purchased the building. After several years, they purchased Mayport Church and then the Sherman Farm. Trinity Church was sold and became Trinity Hall, a wedding reception and other large reception venue.



The large stain glass window featured in the church was erected in memory of Johannes and Sophia Mohney.

Photo by Ryan Procius

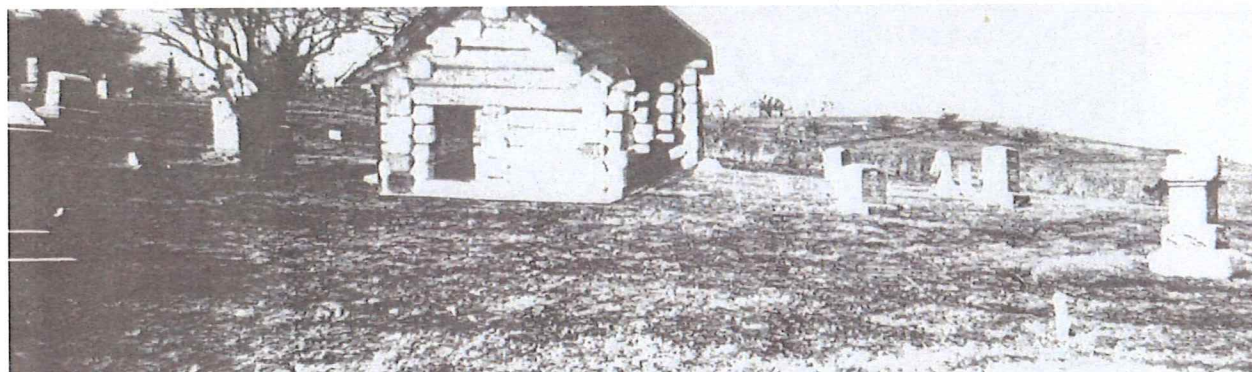
**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH (SHANNONDALE)**

The first church service in the area was held in the old schoolhouse on the Michael Dinger Farm in 1820. There was a burial ground connected with the schoolhouse that had several internments.

About 8 years later, the people decided to locate their church in Shannondale on a plot of ground purchased from Timothy Pickering and Nicholas Fish at a cost of \$8.00. The deed dated November 18, 1828, was conveyed to John Yeany and Jacob Himes in trust for the Presbyterian and Lutheran Congregations of Redbank Township Armstrong County. At that time, Armstrong County extended to the Clarion River. The name Presbyterian was often used instead of German Reformed Church.

On April 23, 1853, the reformed people had a reconveyance of property in which Conrad Keck and Christian Yeany were named trustees of the Lutheran and Reformed congregation called ZION. Regular services were held in the log building until 1846.

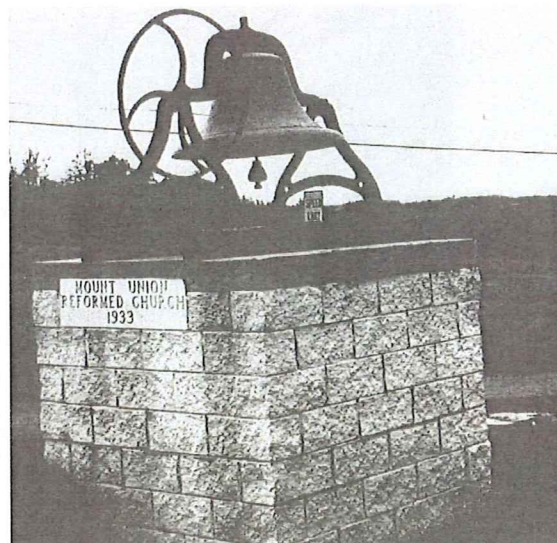
The Second Log Church 1828-1846 is in the Shannondale cemetery near the center road.



In 1844, the Lutheran and Reformed church combined. On April 8, 1846, an article of agreement was signed with Daniel B Harmon who agreed to build a good frame church for \$1300.00 and the church was dedicated on January 19, 1847. Services were held in the German language until 1870. For a time, services were held in both languages on alternate Sundays until the German language was dropped altogether.

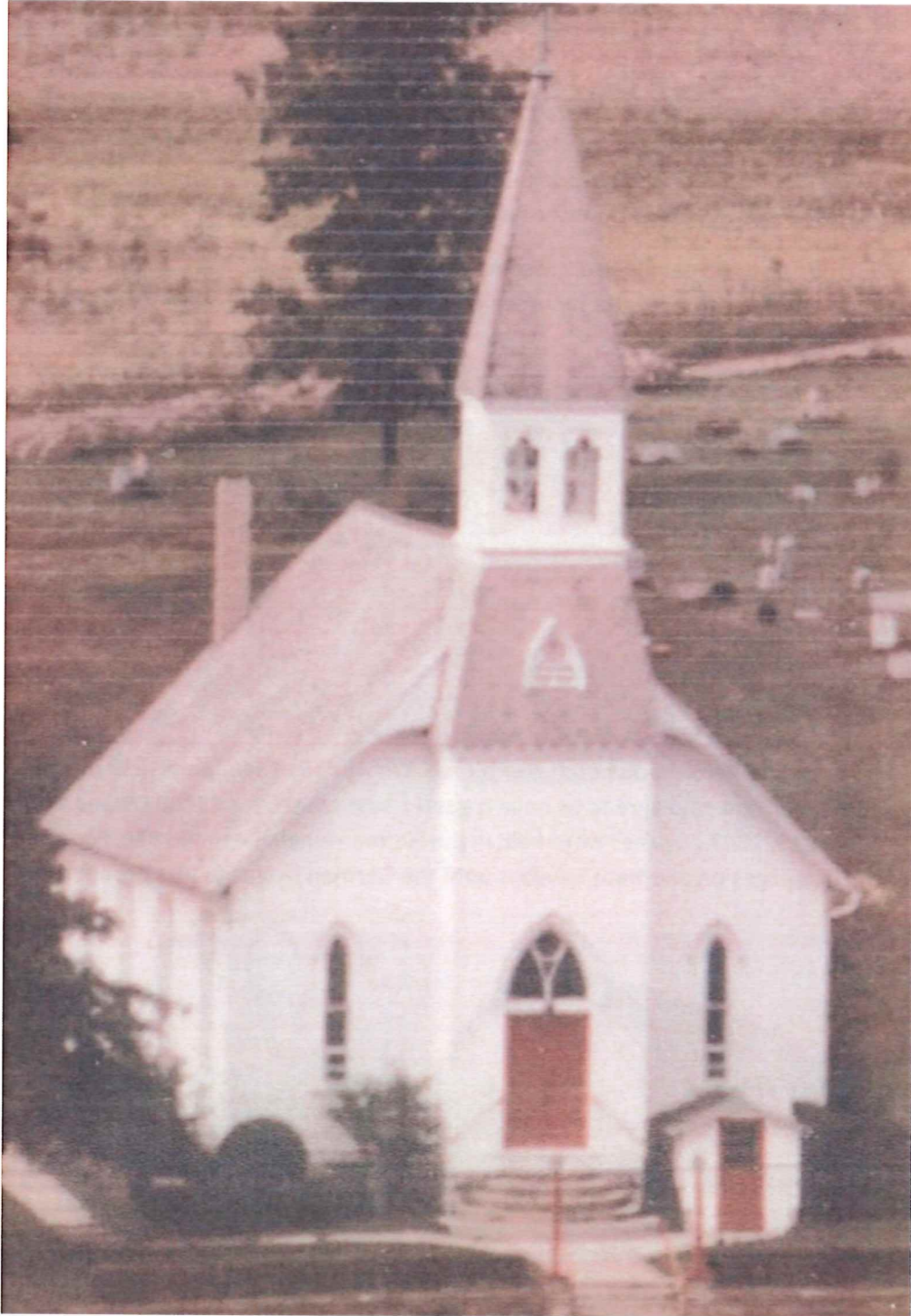


The Union Church



Reformed Church Bell

In the 1880s the union between the Reformed and the Lutherans was dissolved. The land was divided, and the Lutherans built a new church at a cost of \$4500. The Reformed congregation bought the old building, tore it down, and built a new church on the old church site.



**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
TRUITTSBURG EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH**

Before the church building was erected in 1895 and 1896, The people of the community gathered in a building called "The Hall" for Sunday School. At times they also held worship services, with thoughts of building a church. Some of the families were the Minichs, Crawfords, Hickmans and Kunzelmans.



On October 30, 1895, a parcel of land was purchased from William and Margaret Humes of Armstrong County containing 60 perches for \$52.50 to the trustees (R. Minich, J. Crawford, William Crawford, L. Hickman, J. Counselman) of the Bethel United Evangelical Church of Hawthorn Circuit Pittsburg Conference. The building committee was John Crawford, Henry Minich, and J. W. (Timmie) Crawford. The deed was recorded on August 26, 1896. Rev. W.K. Baumgardner was the first pastor. He was also a mortician at Hawthorn. The church was a rather crude frame structure, just a box-like structure heated with two coal stoves attached to two inside flues. In 1946, a basement was added, and the inside flues were removed.

The church members were well known for their vocal music presentations and their revival meetings praising God in a manner well known to those times.

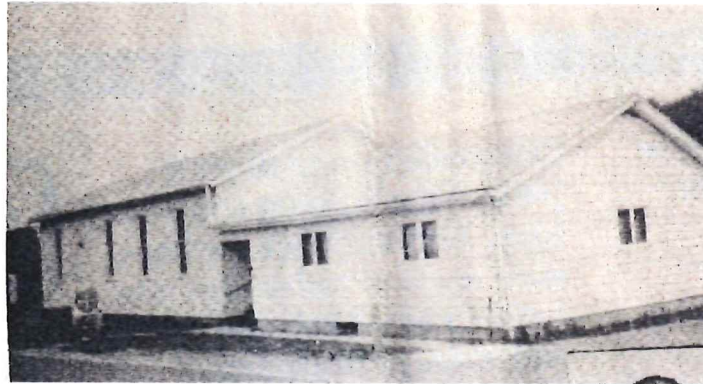


In 1952 the church was completely remodeled. It was rededicated September 21, 1952. In 1973, it was covered with vinyl siding. In 1992, a new furnace was installed, and a complete remodeling and rededication was held. The church has been closed for several years.

At first, the church was part of the Hawthorn charge. Later it was part of the Heathville Charge with Paradise, and Bethesda. In 1930, Truittsburg, Paradise Heathville, Fairmount City, Mt. Zion, and Oak Ridge were united to form the Oak Ridge Charge, Evangelical Church. In 1946, the Evangelical Church and the United Brethren Church united into the Evangelical United Brethren Church. In 1968 they merged with the Methodist Episcopal to become the United Methodist Church and included the Leisure Run Church. In 2023, the churches that are still active are now "Community" Churches.

Early information was taken from the notes of Darl Crawford

**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
FAIRMOUNT CITY CHURCH OF GOD (CORNERSTONE)**



After a tent revival in 1931, the New Bethlehem Church of God was organized with 16 charter members. The congregation met at the Maccabee Hall until a permanent church could be erected in 1934 where the Redbank Valley High School is located. When the church property was purchased by the school district in 1955, the church was relocated at the site in Fairmount City and was renamed accordingly.

In the flood of 1996, the church was destroyed by the raging waters of the Redbank Creek and was rebuilt in Alcola. It is now Cornerstone Church of God.



**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
MIDDLE RUN CHURCH OF GOD**



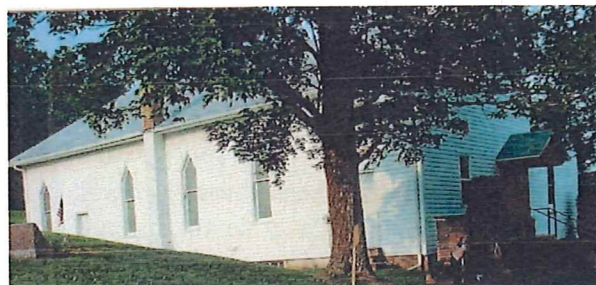
This church was founded by Rev Mahlon Traister, who studied the ministry under the Church of God, Anderson, Indiana, at Distant, PA. He served the church for several years. After his death, there were several pastors for short periods of time until it closed. It has been closed for several years.

**CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
PARADISE EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH**

In the little village of Paradise was a small Evangelical church. The earliest graves in the cemetery were in the late 1870s. It closed in the 1970s when the United Methodist Church took over the United Brethren congregations and the small churches closed for lack of parishioners, funds, and ministers. This church was torn down, but the cemetery is still active and kept in good condition.



ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
NEW SALEM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



~From *The Escher Church* by Clarence Shirey

The New Salem United Methodist Church began in the year 1851. The church is a split-off of what we call the old ESCHER church. The ESCHER Church was organized about 1851 and a church building was erected the following year with a membership of 50 people. This church building stood on the West side of the cemetery, with the front entrance facing West toward the schoolhouse. It has been told that the building of the church was not without tragedy, that a Nicholas Shirey from Sligo fell to his death while building the brick chimney. He died as recorded on his gravestone on June 18th, 1852, at age 74 years. He was a schoolteacher at New Salem but was also a bricklayer.



A difficult subject in many area churches on that day was the issue was whether to have sprinkling or immersion baptism. The church stopped having service sometime in the early 1900s and remained vacant until 1932 when it was torn down by V. Ray Hetrick, the founder of New Bethlehem burial service. The lumber was used to build the building which has the burial vault factory.

In 1896, there was a difference of opinion about some of the issues or beliefs. This was very controversial. Whatever the controversy it led to the organization of the Olivet United Evangelical Church, made up of former members and friends of the church, built in 1852. A plot of land was secured from Adam Miller for the purpose of building a new structure for worship. This, present church building was dedicated in 1897. This church stands on the east side of the cemetery. So, at that time, New Salem or Pierce as the US

Postal Service named it, had two churches, the Escher church and the Evangelical Church. In 1895, it was resolved that men and boys were not allowed to gather around the stove on the left side of the church and occupy seats on the left side of the aisle. This side was a women's side. Even in recent years, women were seated on the left and men on the right side of the church. It was also at this meeting that strict rules were made against using tobacco in the OLIVETTE Church. Bill submitted at the meeting a total of \$206.06.

The Salem congregation was rich in spirit, but not in wealth. The church owed \$158.90, the amount was paid by a free-will offering and borrowing \$50 from one of the members to pay off the indebtedness. In the year 1920, a severe storm damaged the bell tower. It was soon rebuilt, and in 1921 a Sunday school room and a supply room were added to the front of the building. In 1950 a beautiful mural was painted in the frontage church, adding much to the feeling of worship which is inspired. This mural was donated by the Youth Fellowship Organization.



In 1946, the Evangelical United Brethren Church came in to being by the Union of the United Brethren in Christ and the Evangelical Church. This merger was finalized in Johnstown, PA, on November 16th, 1946, The Church of the United Brethren in Christ was begun about 1800 in the state of Pennsylvania. The Evangelical Church was begun about 1800 in the state of Pennsylvania. Both these groups began meeting the same time of with the same type of people, immigrants from Germany. They both began in Pennsylvania about the same time in history. During the next 100 years, cordial suggestions of closer union frequently passed between the leaders. In 1924, delegates from both churches attending the annual meeting in Atlanta, GA, and at an informal dinner voted to unite the two churches. More than 20 years were spent working out the plans. which led to the merger in 1946. This merger continued until January 1st, 1970, when the Evangelical United Brethren Church united with the Methodist Church to form the United Methodist Church. In 2023, the churches were purchased from the United Methodist and became independent.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
OAK RIDGE EVANGELICAL ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA**

On September 24, 1889, Jacob F. and Lottie Markle deeded to the trustees of the Evangelical Association of North America lot 50, bordering First Street and Second Ave. and lot 6 in the town plot for \$1.00, formerly the lands of Jones and Brinker and the John Shumaker heirs. On April 18, 1896, B.F. and Annie M. Feit deeded this property along with lot 56 for 150.00 to the Oak Ridge United Evangelical Church E.U.B. in the merger with the Methodist Church. This church was torn down when the Evangelical United Brethren merged with the Methodists and this church was closed.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
OAK RIDGE MISSION OF THE UNITED EVANGELICAL CHURCH**

Lot 70 for \$700.00 6 Nov 1917 Parsonage. On Dec 10, 1904, a quarter of an acre of ground for \$1.00 was sold to the trustees of the Methodists Episcopal Church along the Oak Ridge and Putneyville Road. With the mergers over the years, this would be the United Methodist. It is still open and active in 2023 as the Oakridge Community Church.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
NORTH FREEDOM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

In the 1840s, Several people left the Mahantango colony In Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, for Jefferson County, PA. Many of them were related. There were Yoders, Haases, Brosiuses, Troutmans, Klingers, Sniders, Schlegels, Kunselmans, Heplers, and many others. They were all from the section of Upper Mahantango to Klingerstown and Valley View. They left in covered wagons. It took them more than three weeks to make the trip. Where our relatives lived was North Freedom. Named by themselves, it was a very nice country among the gas wells to the West, where the oil wells of North Freedom lies at the junction of three counties, Jefferson, Armstrong, and Clarion. Their post office was at Mayport, about a half a mile away.

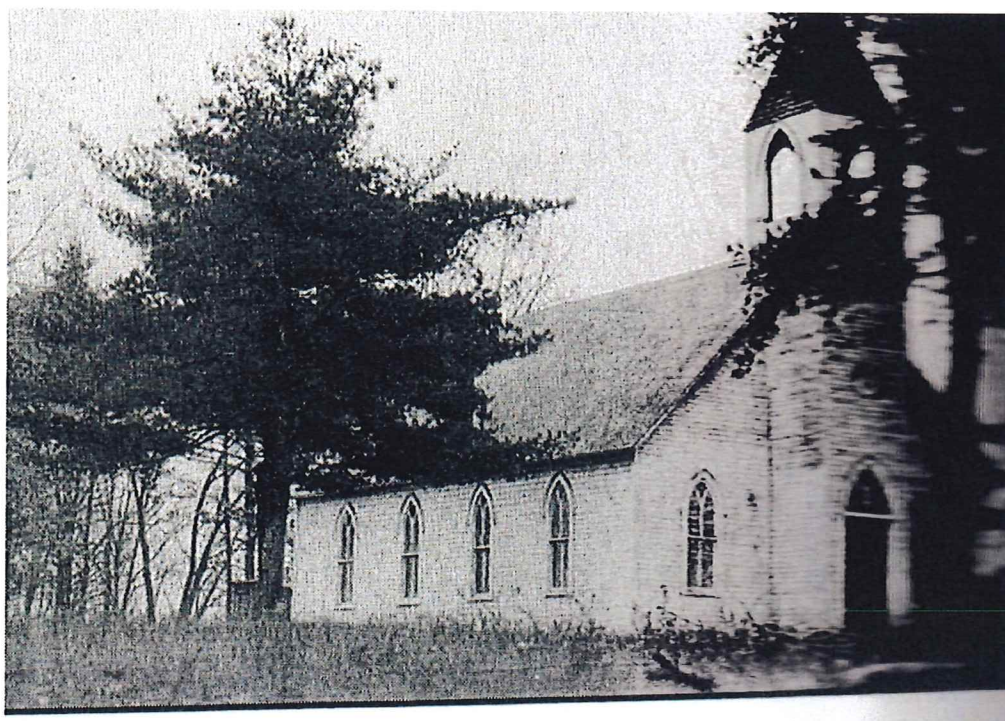
When these people came, there was nothing. It was still wild and many of them got homesick, so their first meeting place was on a large rock they found close by. This rock was as large as an ordinary barn, almost flat on top. A very short distance away was another one, half the size that would fit against the larger one. It looks as though they were heated and dropped from the sky on the one side of each one. It looks just like when something melts and starts to run down. Over the sides, on the top of the larger stone, they held their prayer meetings. Several large trees grew up in the crevices.

In later years, they erected a meeting house that became the North Freedom church. When their families came from Northumberland County to visit, and went to the North freedom cemeteries, they found the names of the tombstones the same as they were in Northumberland County. They remembered the same stories from their grandmother's girlhood days. After they were all settled out here, their grandfather, John Haas walked out there to visit before 1850.

~Information provided by Mrs. Carrie Troutman of Pitman, PA



CLARION COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
MAYPORT CHURCH



Purchased by the Bread of Life congregation who sold it for an apartment.

*The Church may be humble, or stately and grand,
The last to be built, or the first in the land,
The old church may crumble to dust as years go by,
But God keeps the record of each up on high.*

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
MUDLIC UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**



This church was under The New Salem charge and was called The Little Mudlic Class in the Minute books of the New Salem Charge, dated July 14, 1900, when North Freedom, Little Mudlic, and New Salem met for the purpose of organizing a camp meeting association.

The deed for the church is May 3, 1897, From Jacob and Elizabeth Kunselman to the trustees of the Bethel United Evangelical Church of Little Mudlic, 153.5 perches of land for \$50.00. This church became the EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH and with later mergers, the UNITED METHODIST CHURCH.

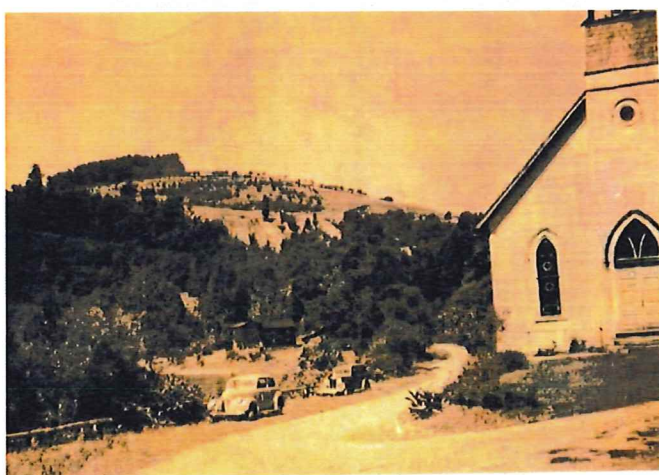
It closed in 1992 and was sold for a hunting camp. The adjoining cemetery is still used today.

ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF EDDYVILLE



The Lutherans withdrew from the union and went into Redbank Township, along the Mahoning Creek, where Anthony Doverspike and Samuel Smith, trustees of the General Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church of Eddyville, purchased on 27 Feb 1902 from David and Martha McCullough 150 perches of land for \$200.

The Congregation laid the cornerstone of the church on June 18, 1902, and dedicated the church on June 7, 1903, debt-free at a cost of \$3000. The church burned to the ground on



March 27, 1966. In July 1966, the congregation moved back into the long vacant German Reformed Church, and it is once again St. Mark's Lutheran Church. The cornerstone from the burned church was taken and added to the Reformed church's foundation. The bell from the burned church is in the church's

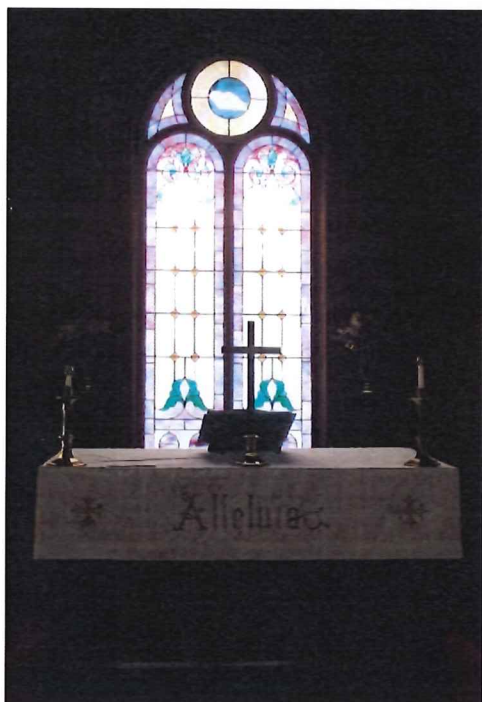
yard and the Bible is inside. The church has since closed. The Carillion plays every day at 5:00 PM and every Sunday at 10:45, calling the neighborhood to worship.

Info provided by Clarence Shirey - 2002 Armstrong County Genealogy Club Quarterly.

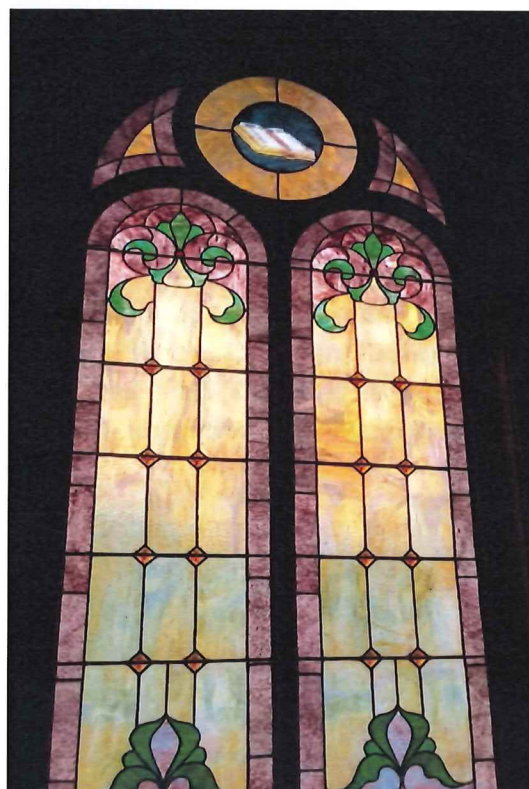
More information provided by "Reformed Churches of Western Pennsylvania"...

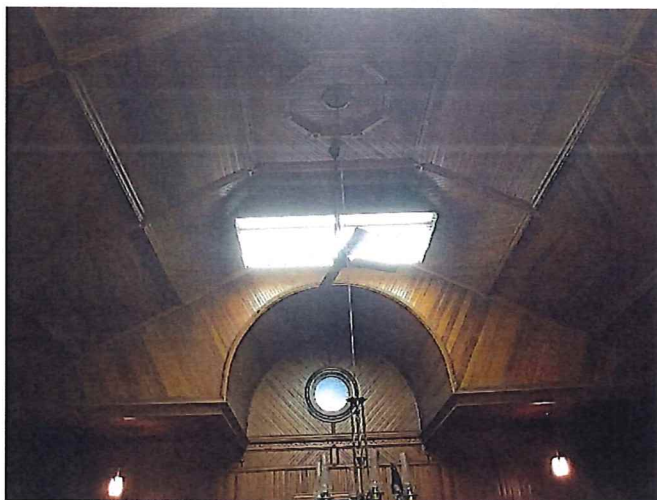
The history of the reformed church in Eddyville dates to 1838. For some 10-12 years services were held in the home of David Smith usually in the German language. The Foreman and Rumbaugh schoolhouses were then used for services. Rev. C.R. Dieffenbaugher held services in 1864-1865. During the pastorate of Rev, J.F. Snyder the St. Mark congregation was formally organized. In 1879 the church was built and dedicated. The annual yearly meeting was held on May 21, 1865, and a constitution was adopted on October 20, 1966. One peculiarity of this document is that only male members were permitted to vote. The deed to the ground for the church was given by Reuben Hoffman and bears the date Sept 1866. The consideration was \$10.00. The present church, which is the original building, was erected in either 1865 or 1867. More ground was added for the cemetery. The old cemetery is on the farm of David Smith. Family names were Nulph, Beck, Doverspike, Long, Holibaugh, Smith, Rugh, and Rumbaugh. And was deeded to the Trustees of the German Reformed Church. The church was used by the Reformed and the Lutherans for several years. The Lutherans built their own church by the creek in Eddyville. The Reformed closed for several years due to a lack of attendance. The Lutheran Church burned, and the Lutheran Congregation bought the Reformed building, moved into it, and reopened it as a Lutheran Church.

It remains closed but former members are keeping it in good repair.



The altar with its beautiful stained-glass window

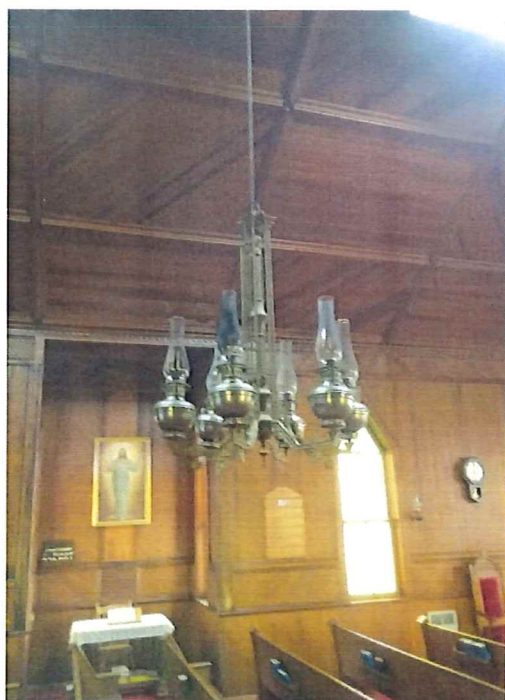




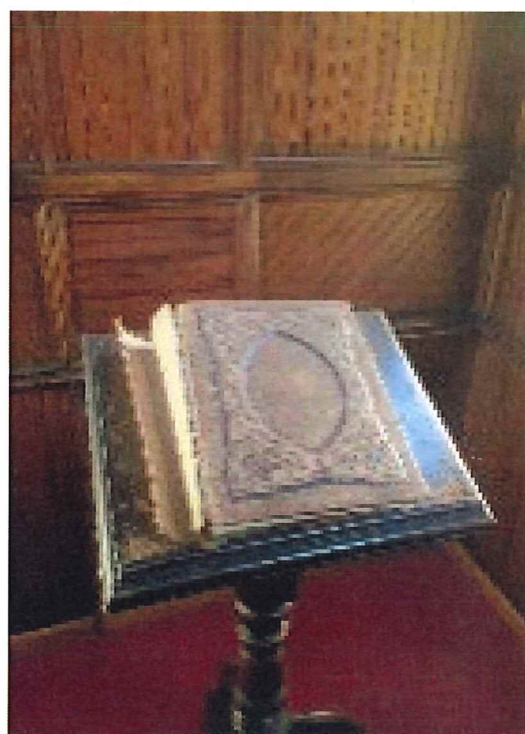
The ceiling from above the altar. The entire church is made with beautiful wood inlay.



Cornerstone from the burned church set into the Reformed church foundation



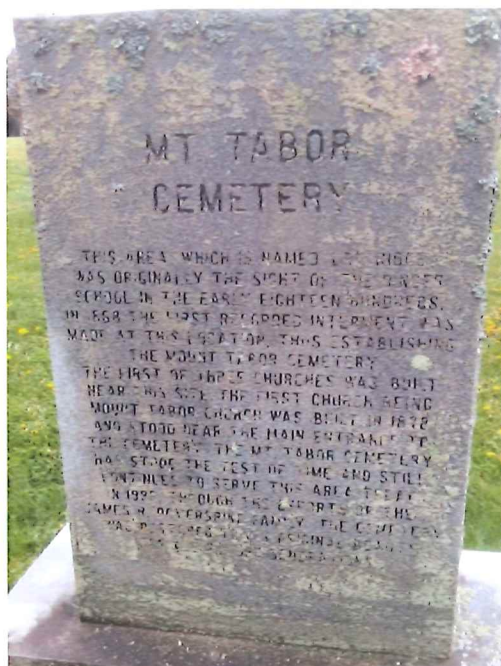
The original gas light that lit the sanctuary is still in working order.



The Bible rescued from the burning St. Mark's church. It sits in a place of honor in the present St. Mark's church (now closed)

Photos provided by Aaron Procius (2023)

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
MT. TABOR CEMETERY (DRY RIDGE)**



The area which was named Dry Ridge was originally the site of the Drayer School in the early 1800's. In 1868 the first recorded interment was made at this cemetery, THE MT. TABOR Cemetery.

The first of three churches was built near this site. The first church being MT. TABOR Church was built around 1878 and stood near the main entrance of the cemetery. The Mt. Tabor cemetery has stood the test of time and continues to serve the area today. In 1996, through the efforts of the James Doverspike family, the cemetery was restored to its original beauty.

The church was dedicated as the Mount Tabor Church in the Armstrong Circuit.

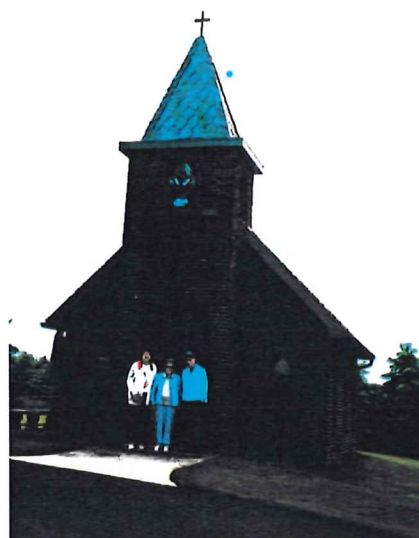
The next church was built on the property of Lewis and Caroline Shaffer, who deeded one third of an acre of land for \$20.00 on July 13, 1898 to the trustees of the Mt. Tabor

United Evangelical Church on the now Timbin and Mayport Road. On Oct 30, 1898, Rev. J.A. Shaffer dedicated the new church, 30x60 feet with a recess for the pulpit and choir. This church was destroyed by fire in September 1921 after being struck by lightning.

The third church was built in 1922 and dedicated on June 17, 1923. It became known as the Mt. Tabor Evangelical United Brethren Church. Because of few members, it was closed in 1965 and torn down by October 1966. The windows were used in the building of a neighboring barn.

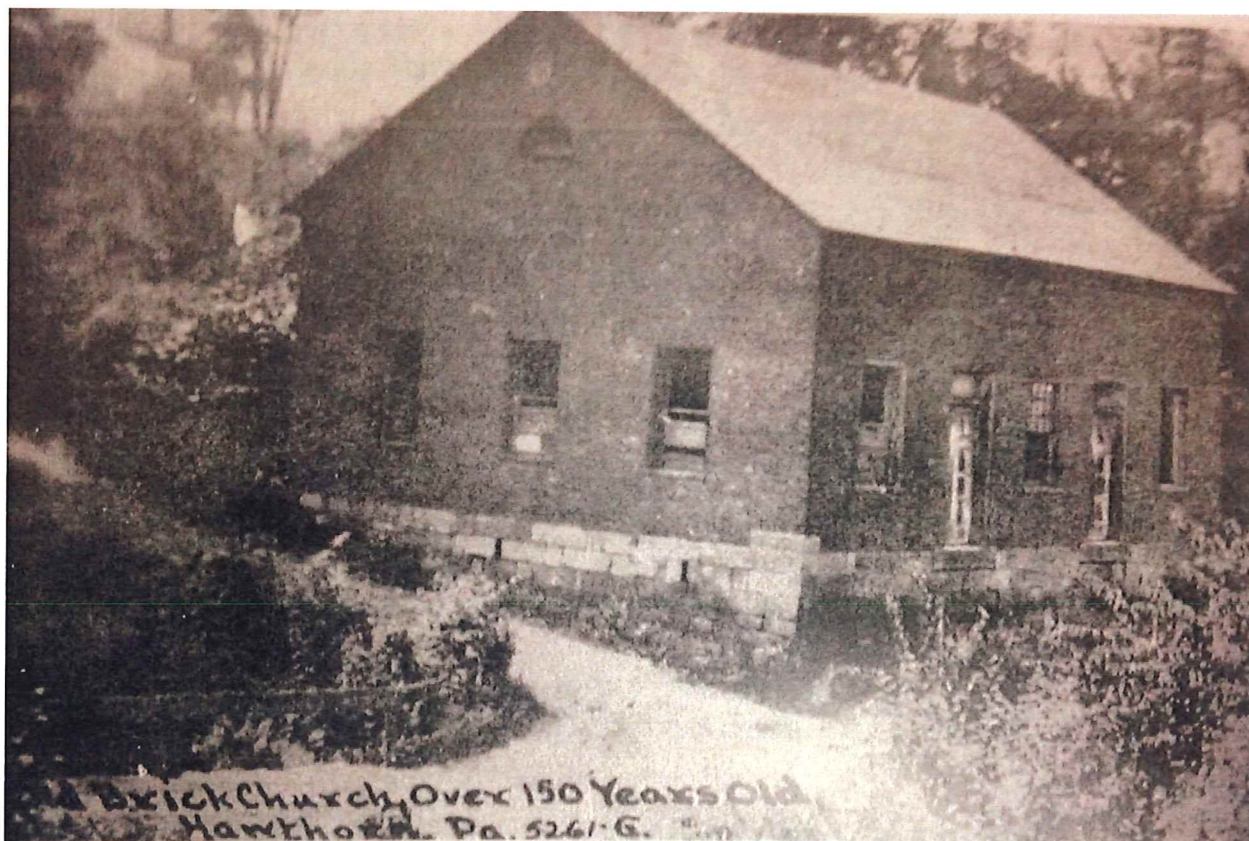


Photo contributed by Arlene Gruver



A replica of the second church, erected by the Doverspike family

ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
OLD EMMANUEL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (SUGAR VALLEY)



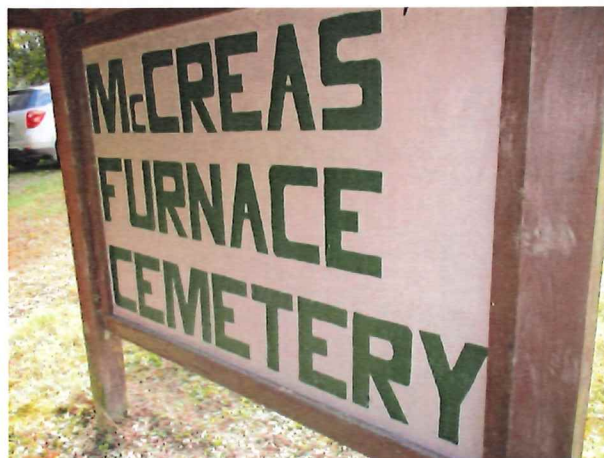
The Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran Church was built under the Leadership of Rev. J.G. Young on the property of Philip Haupt in 1851. Mr. Haupt in his last will and testament mentions that a proper deed be given to the church and cemetery. It has been referenced to as "The Brick Church".

The first burial in the cemetery was Catharine Shick Mohney, Oct 13, 1851, and the last was in 1915. The church had 63 members.

Location: From Route 28 cross the Hawthorn Bridge to Walker Flat. The cemetery is on your right, on a bank in front of you. There are a few stones left.

**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
McCRAE FURNACE CHURCH**

This church was built in the 1880s, it was torn down in 1930. Signs were present for the church and adjoining cemetery, but the church and its sign are no longer there.



**ARMSTRONG COUNTY – REDBANK TOWNSHIP
MT. CARMEL EVANGELICAL UNITED BRETHREN CHURCH (MCGREGOR CROSSROADS)**



Photo provided by Arlene Gruver

Services were held in the homes of residents and in the schoolhouse. The congregation was first known as the Congregation at the Crossroads of the United Evangelical Church. They purchased a small tract of 49 perches from Mrs. Susannah Himes, a widow, for \$5.00. The old schoolhouse was purchased, divided into two parts, and moved to the new location with a new addition built on to the structure and used until 1923.

On March 9, 1921, a building fund was started, and, in the spring of 1923, the old Evangelical church was demolished and a new church erected with a cornerstone "Mt. Carmel Evan. 1923." It was affiliated with Porter and New Salem and eventually known as the Mt. Carmel United Methodist Church. The church had stained glass windows, theater style seats, and a balcony.

Due to lack of membership the church has closed, but had remained standing until 2023, according to the stipulations of Mrs. Susannah Himes deed. When the congregation ceased, any sale of the property proceeds was to be divided amongst her heirs. The Copenhagen Cemetery is across the road and is still used and very well kept. The earliest burials with stones were in 1898. This church was torn down October 2023.



CHURCHES OF THE REDBANK VALLEY

ARMSTRONG COUNTY

Madison Township

- Widnoon United Methodist
- Tidal Presbyterian
- Deanville Baptist
- Chickasaw, Cove, Colwell
- St. Charles Methodist
- Kellersburg Lutheran
- Kellersburg United Methodist
- St. Mary's Episcopal
- The Narrows

Mahoning Township

- Springside Baptist
- Distant Baptist
- Oakland Church of God
- Ss. Cosmas and Damian
- Oakdale Church of the Brethren
- Putneyville United Methodist
- Smullen
- Climax Baptist
- Mt. Zion United Methodist
- Seventh Day Adventist

Redbank Township

- New Salem United Methodist
- Oak Ridge United Methodist
- Oak Ridge Evangelical United Brethren
- North Freedom United Methodist
- Mayport
- Mudlic United Methodist
- St Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Eddyville
- Mt. Tabor (Dry Ridge)
- Old Emmanuel Evangelical Lutheran (Sugar Valley)
- McCrae Furnace
- Mark's Reformed Eddyville
- Mt. Carmel Evangelical United Brethren

CLARION COUNTY

Porter Township

- First Church of God
- Leatherwood Presbyterian
- Leatherwood Church
- Leatherwood Baptist
- Oakwood Presbyterian
- Oak Grove Presbyterian
- Oak Grove Methodist
- St. James Lutheran
- Oak Grove Presbyterian [old]
- Leisure Run United Methodist
- Herman Seceder
- New Bethlehem Wesleyan Methodist
- New Bethlehem Mennonite
- White Chapel
- Starburg

New Bethlehem Borough

- New Bethlehem United Methodist
- New Bethlehem Presbyterian
- New Bethlehem First Baptist
- Grace Baptist
- St. Charles Catholic

South Bethlehem Borough

- Church of God

Hawthorn Borough

- Hawthorn Nazarene
- Hawthorn Presbyterian
- Hawthorn United Methodist

Redbank Township

- Fairmount City United Methodist
- Alcola Trinity
- Shannondale Zion Lutheran
- Truittsburg Evangelical United Brethren
- Fairmount City Church of God
- Cornerstone Church of God
- Middle Run Church of God
- Bishtown
- Paradise