

Welcome to

Wayne United Methodist Church



Greetings to you in the name of Jesus Christ!

I offer my congratulations to Wayne United Methodist Church on marking 115 years of ministry in Christ's name in the heart of the Main Line. It is fitting and proper that

congregations periodically look back and remember the saints who have gone before, and who have left for us a rich legacy of faith, hope and love.

Sometimes a local church can become so familiar an institution—especially after more than a century on the same street corner—that the larger community fails to realize how profound has been its impact. Within its Sunday school classrooms, young minds have been formed and instilled with Gospel values. Amid its worship, persons have been inspired to serve the greater good, and devote themselves to God and neighbor. And between its walls, new families have been born through marriage, new life in Christ acknowledged through baptism, grace experienced around the altar and table, and eternal hope reaffirmed at services of death and resurrection.

Barbara and I have personally experienced the warmth and welcome of Wayne United Methodist Church, upon my move to this community last summer, and I have sensed the Spirit's presence when on several occasions we have worshipped among the congregation. You have good pastoral and lay leadership in Wayne. The legacy of the founders and framers has not been forgotten.

May God continue to bless Wayne United Methodist Church, and to make it a blessing to the world, in the next 115 years!

Grace and Peace,

Marcus Matthews

Resident Bishop, Philadelphia Area
The United Methodist Church



*W*hy remember and celebrate our church's history? Because in remembering the past, we are reminded that we are not the first to tread this path of discipleship in Wayne; others have heard and heeded the call of Christ on this street corner

for more than a century, and have left behind a legacy that can still inspire and guide.

In remembering, we realize that so much of what we enjoy today has been bequeathed to us by previous generations, often at great cost and sacrifice.

And above all, in remembering the past, we can find renewed strength and faith, as we see how God has consistently been faithful in calling, guiding and providing throughout the decades. As the Scripture says, "Jesus Christ is the same, yesterday, today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8): the same in goodness and grace, the same in calling us to service, the same in declaring his rock-solid promises...

As we bring to mind past generations—whose struggles and triumphs, joys and sorrows are not so unlike our own—we have an opportunity to remember nothing less than who we really are: a people created and called by God, redeemed by Christ and sent in mission to a world hungry for God's grace.

So, let us remember! Let us celebrate! And let us move into the future confident that the Lord who guided our forbears in faith will continue to lead, bless, and use Wayne United Methodist Church as a beacon of light and hope for many years to come!

In Christ,

Pastor Joe DiPaolo

Wayne United Methodist Church

Through the Years
June 26, 1890 - June 26, 2005



The Methodists of Wayne

6 A Century & More of Service 8

It was a sunny day on June 28, 1891, when a growing group of Methodist families, Methodist officials, relatives, pastors of other nearby churches, and well-wishers filed into the newly constructed Gothic gray stone church at the corner of Runnymede and Audubon Avenues in Wayne. Audubon Avenue would later be renamed South Wayne Avenue.

The day was an auspicious one for several reasons. Fittingly, it was Methodist Day, the

anniversary of the birth of John Wesley, founder of Methodism. It was also the day when the little congregation would proudly dedicate its newly built edifice. It had been barely one year since eight energetic homeowners had met to organize the first Methodist congregation in their new town of Wayne.

This was the culmination of a series of swiftly moving events that had led to this gratifying day. The year before, on a Sunday afternoon in March

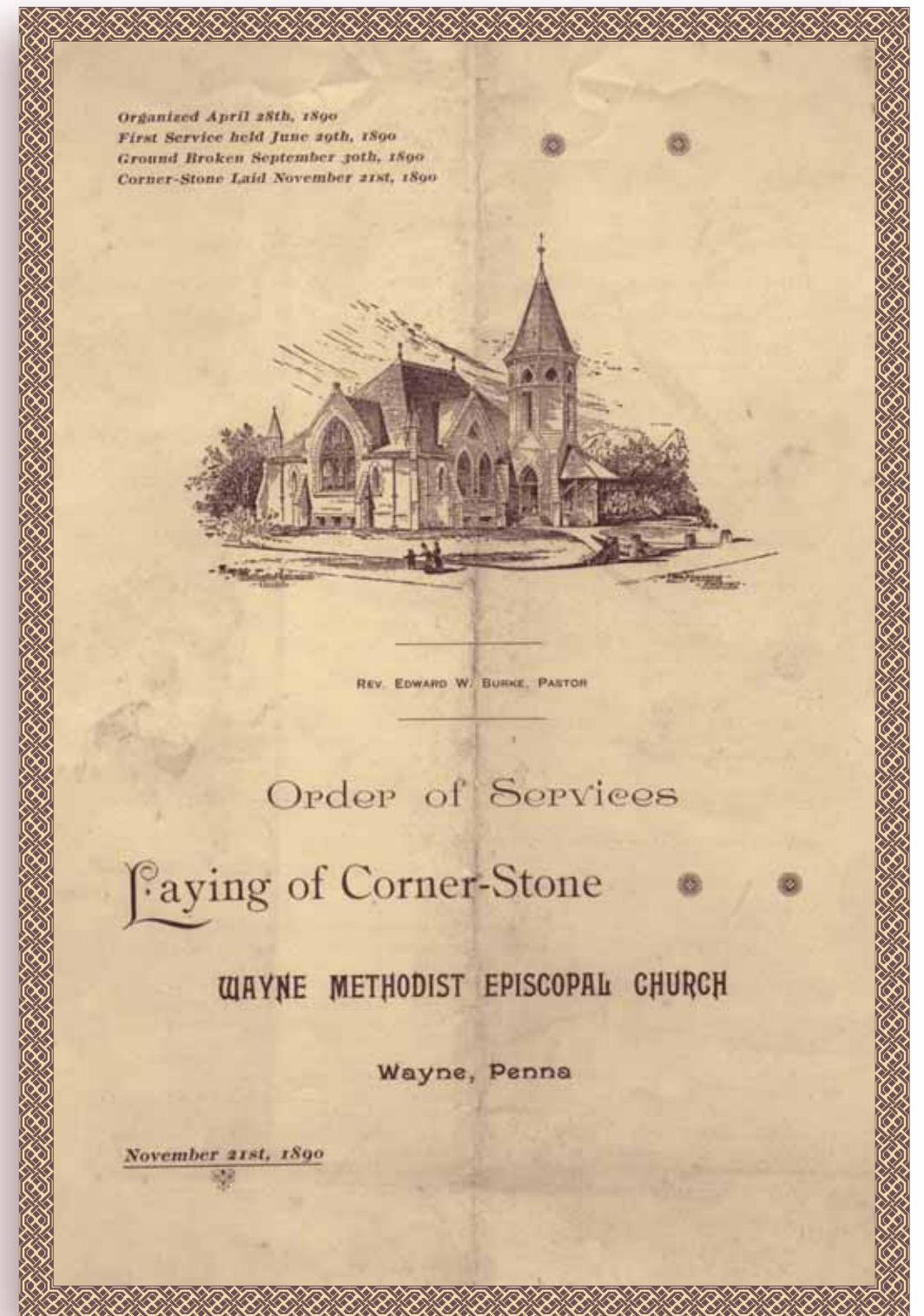
Methodist Origins

Methodism began, not as a church, but as an 18th-century renewal movement within the Church of England. The founder of the movement was John Wesley (1703–1791), an Anglican priest, Oxford-educated scholar, and dynamic evangelist. He and his brother Charles, a prolific hymn-writer, spread a message emphasizing the call to the warmed heart: to the personal experience of God's redeeming love in Christ, along with a heartfelt pursuit of holiness. Wesley organized his many converts into a network of "societies," supported by a bevy of lay-preachers. This framework became the basis of the later organization of Methodism as a distinct Christian denomination.

In America, the early Methodist movement organized its first societies in the 1760s in Maryland, New York and Philadelphia. In December 1784, after the arrival of preachers ordained by Wesley, American Methodists organized themselves into a regularly-functioning church. Francis Asbury, pioneer bishop of American Methodism, traveled 250,000 miles on horseback throughout the nation, and profoundly shaped the growth of the American Church.



John Wesley



1890: Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church organized



What's in a Name?

Methodist Churches have generally been known by the name of community in which they reside (Radnor, Wayne, Paoli), but even congregations whose town names have stayed the same, have had to change their stationary a few times, because of changes to the denominational title. From 1784 to 1939, we were part of the Methodist Episcopal Church – the word “Episcopal” referring to the fact that the church was governed by bishops (from the Greek word for bishop, *episcopos*). In 1939, after the northern and southern branches of the church reunited (they had split over slavery before the Civil War), “Episcopal” was dropped, and we became, simply, Wayne Methodist Church. Then in 1968, another merger took place, uniting the Methodist Church with the Evangelical United Brethren Church, a denomination that had been closely connected with the Methodists over the years, but worked primarily among German-speaking people. At that point, the name changed again, to the United Methodist Church.

Since 1891, through out all these changes, the congregation of Wayne United Methodist Church has continued to gather for worship at the same street corner in Wayne.



George Childs donated the land for the congregation.

1890, several Methodist families who recently bought homes in Wayne, had met to look over a one-acre plot of land at the corner of Runnymede and Audubon avenues. This site had been offered to them as a donation for a church location by the town's developers, George W. Childs and Anthony J. Drexel. Previously, the group had decided against accepting three other sites that had been offered.

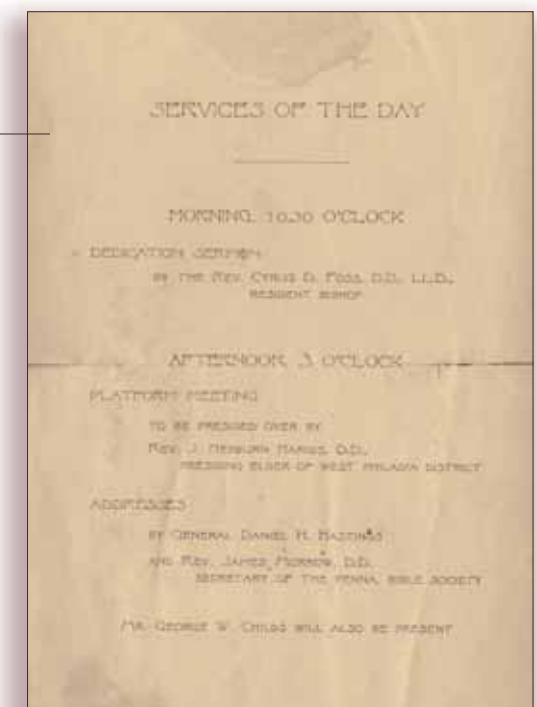
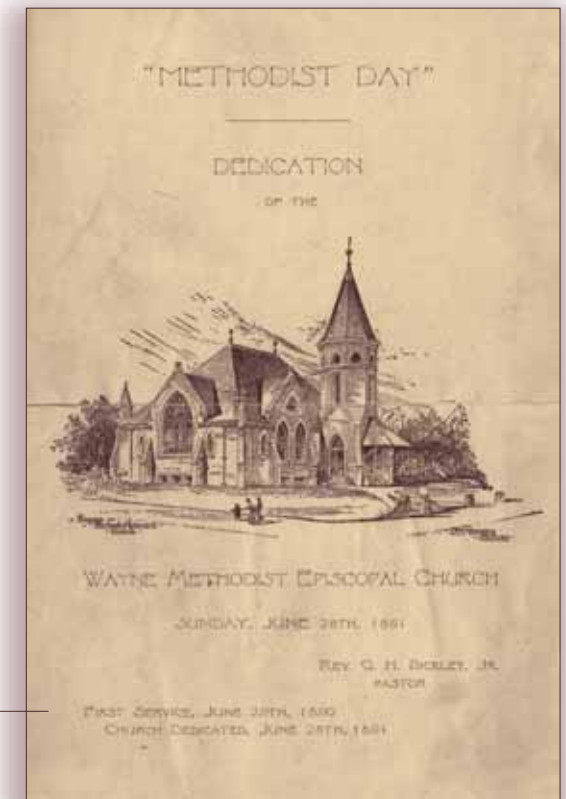
Childs, the editor of the *Philadelphia Public Ledger* newspaper, and Drexel, a Philadelphia banker and scion of the wealthy Drexel family, had purchased in 1880 the 293-acre estate called Louella, from J. Henry Askin. Askin had purchased the property as farmland and had built a number of houses along Bloomingdale Avenue while his brother George supervised the farms that remained on the property. Askin also built Lyceum Hall at the corner of Lancaster Pike and North Wayne Avenue as a center of cultural activities. This structure later became known as the Opera House and more recently has evolved into the Colonial Building that is now filled with shops and offices.

The land lay in Radnor Township on both the north and south sides of the Pennsylvania Railroad which had been extended through the area in 1834. At this time the executives of the railroad were promoting land holdings that lay along the “main line” of their railway as a promising area for suburban residential development, thereby ensuring for the railroad a steady stream

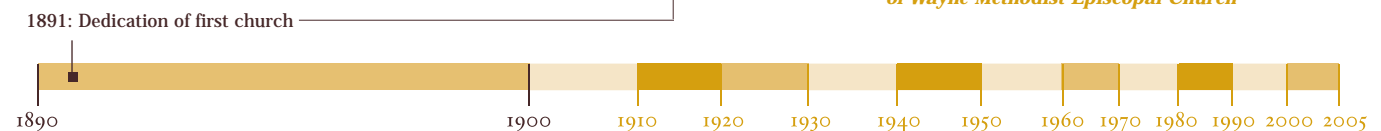
of passengers for what had originally been a freight line from Philadelphia.

Henry Askin also built for himself the impressive Louella mansion (now the Louella Apartments). But economic recession as well as his own deteriorating eyesight forced him to sell to Childs and Drexel.

Now these new entrepreneurs were busy building more new homes as part of a planned community called Wayne Estates, one of the first planned suburban developments in the country. First the developers built on the north side of the tracks and later on the south side. This community, they advertised, would provide convenient commuting to Philadelphia where most of the prospective homeowners worked. For their planned community, the entrepreneurs constructed an underground storm water system and boardwalks between the new houses. They also built an electric light power plant to provide electricity around the clock to their suburban homes, a convenience that many people in Philadelphia still lacked. The Childs-Drexel plans for the town of Louella (later renamed in honor of General Anthony Wayne, a hero of the Revolutionary War) also included shops, summer homes, and a large hotel, the Bellevue, that was located near the railroad to accommodate the increasing number of city dwellers who sought relief in the countryside from the hot summer days in the city.



Original 1891 Program for Dedication of Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church



Wayne Methodist Church

6 Takes Shape 8

The Methodists on that Sunday afternoon in 1890 realized that if they wanted to take advantage of this offer of land for a church they would have to act promptly. Otherwise, the developers might withdraw their offer. "All the brethren at this time keenly felt the responsibility resting upon them in selecting the proper location for the church, future needs and growth entering into the question," the minutes of the trustees noted. Although the site was on the south side of the railroad while most of the families had purchased

homes on the north side, they liked the fact that the site lay close to the center of the growing town. Also it was just across the street from the Radnor School where the new congregation would later gather every Sunday until their new church was built. So on this day they enthusiastically approved the location that had been offered. Next the congregation set about organizing itself, electing a nine-member board of trustees chaired by James P. P. Brown. Others elected to the first board of trustees were William Post, A. M. Bosse, Frank W. Carr, Arthur M. Ware, Homer J. Hoey, David Brown and Ralston C. Ware. The board drew up a charter for the Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church and officially accepted the donation from the developers of the lot at the Runnymede location. Drexel and Childs required only that the future church edifice be "in keeping with the architecture and surroundings of Wayne" and that they be consulted "as to the location of the horse sheds upon the property." A short while later, George Childs added the lot next to the church site on Runnymede Avenue to his original donation. This new property gave the developing church a site for a future parsonage.

After receiving the approval of the Presiding Elder, Dr. J. H. Hargis, to organize the new church, Brown "extended an invitation to all desiring to do so present their letters of church membership." The original 13 members



Frank W. Carr was one of the founding members of the congregation in 1890. This image is from a newspaper profile printed in 1895. Carr, who worked in the insurance business, was one of the original trustees, a member of the first building committee, and also served as church treasurer.



The Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church shown in the 1890s, shortly after completion.

of Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church were Ralston C. Ware, Isabel M. Ware, Charles D. Smedley, William Post, Sadie P. Post, Arthur M. Ware, Mary A. Brown, David Brown, Ruth A. Brown, Elizabeth P. Brown, James P. P. Brown, Emma M. Brown and Robert P. Brown.

service, 3:15 Sabbath School for the children, followed by a twilight service at 4:30 p.m. The Presiding Elder had appointed Edwin M. Pickop as pastor for the summer of 1890. Pickop was the son of a Methodist minister who had emigrated from England, and his brother was also a Methodist minister serving in Philadelphia. A graduate of Harvard in 1884, Pickop had taught in high schools and at Syracuse University before he decided to attend Hartford Theological Seminary in Hartford, Connecticut. He preached his first sermon to the congregation in June and organized a Sabbath School that enrolled 29 youngsters.



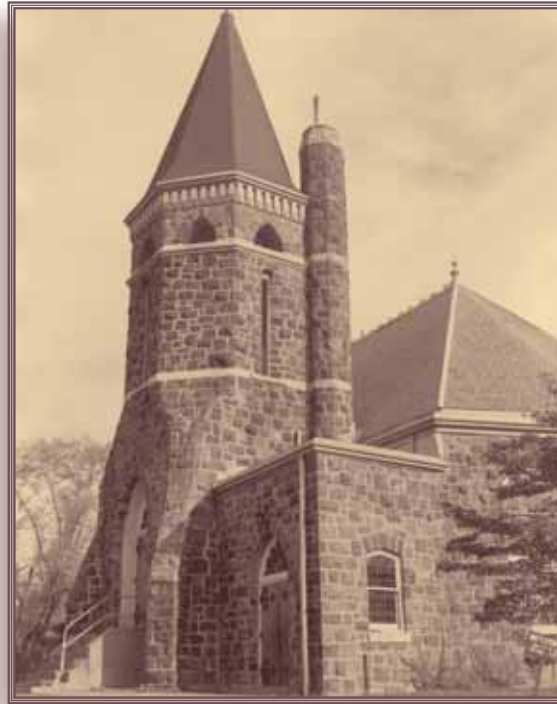
Until the new church could be built, the congregation received permission to use a classroom in the Radnor Township School, across the street from the church site. Here they held Sunday services—10:45 a.m. worship

1891: Appointment of first permanent pastor, George W. Bickley



With a minister thus selected, services underway, and a church site approved, the energetic trustees now moved quickly to choose an architect. They selected C. A. Davis, a local Wayne resident, and his colleague T. P. Lonsdale of Philadelphia who drew up the plans for the church building for a reduced fee.

With architectural plans in hand, a construction contractor chosen, and construction bids ready to go out, the trustees faced the formidable question of how to pay for this new church estimated to cost \$26,300. Part of the answer was a \$10,000 construction loan the trustees negotiated with the Philadelphia Savings Fund Society. In addition, by April 1891, 225 individuals had



pledged \$8,000 to the building fund. Church members were also now contributing regularly each Sunday through their envelopes.

Ground was broken and construction began on September 30, 1890, and continued throughout the winter. With the basement excavated and the foundation constructed, a cornerstone laying ceremony was held November 21 with Bishop Cyrus D. Foss of Philadelphia presiding. Accompanying Foss was the senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Thomas Bowman, who gave the first address, congratulating the new congregation for its achievement and commenting on the important “redeeming and regenerating influence” that a local church can have on a community. The two Methodist Episcopal leaders were welcomed by the church’s second pastor, Edward W. Burke, who had replaced Edwin Pickop when the temporary pastor returned to his seminary



Bishop Cyrus D. Foss, who dedicated the original building.



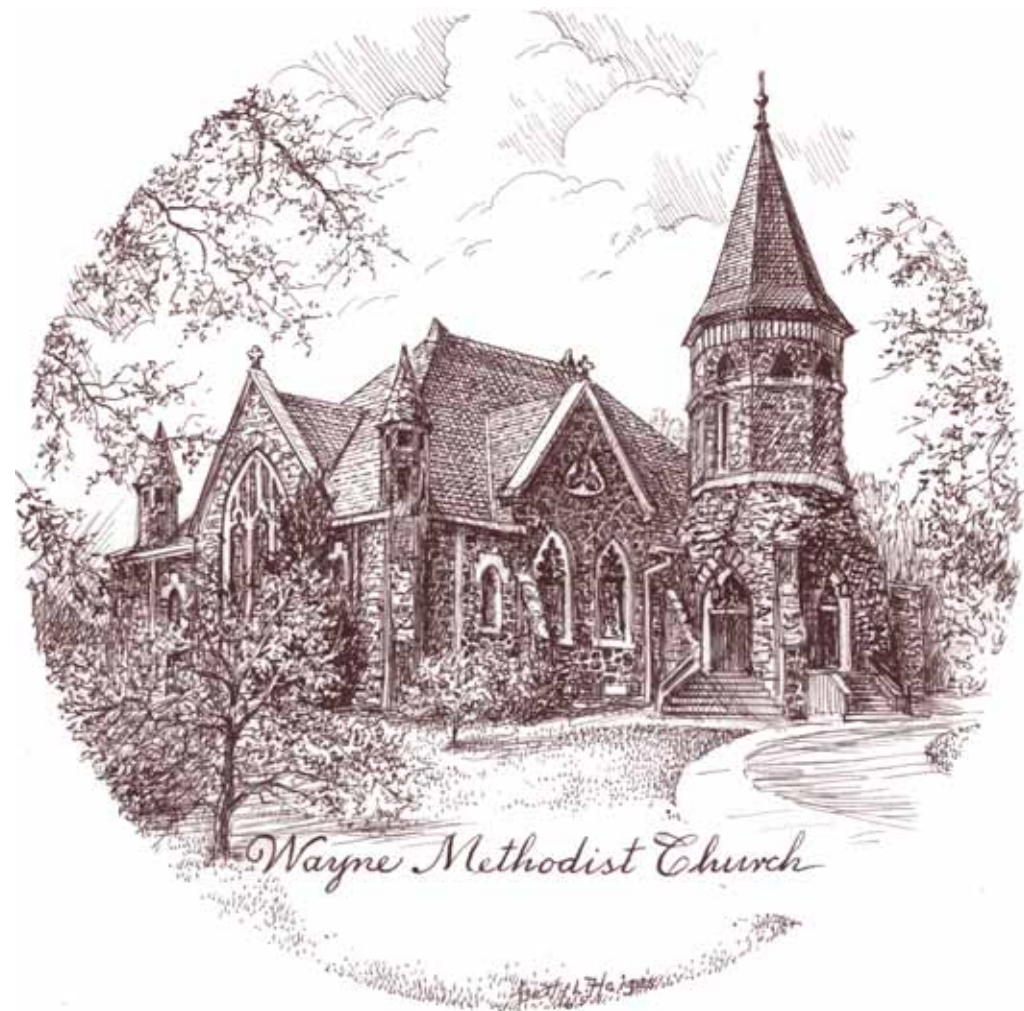
studies. Burke, from Wilmington, Delaware, also the son of a Methodist minister, was a graduate of Wesleyan University.

As part of the ceremony, a metal box was inserted in the cornerstone. It contained a small Bible, a copy of the *Wayne Times* newspaper, a silver dollar for good luck—and surprisingly a wad of well-used chewing gum! The story of the gum is that Gertrude Ware, the small daughter of Trustee Arthur Ware, had added this unscheduled contribution to the box while it was being kept overnight at the Ware’s residence.

Pastor Burke, too, stayed only for a short time, just six months. The congregation’s third pastor and first permanent one was appointed in March 1891. He was George W. Bickley and he too came from a family with strong Methodist roots. Both his father and grandfather had been licensed local preachers and an older brother and six cousins had become ordained Methodist ministers, one of them later becoming a bishop in California. Bickley came to Wayne after completing his studies at Drew Theological Seminary in New Jersey. After two years of what he called “pleasant and

1892: Dedication of first pipe organ





profitable service” at Wayne, Bickley decided to get married. Since the Wayne church could not provide a parsonage, he requested to be reassigned to a church that did. Bickley went on to serve as pastor of five other Philadelphia area churches and two terms as district superintendent. He was elected a bishop in 1920 and served Methodist churches in Singapore until illness forced him to return to the U. S. where he died in 1924.

In 1891 the new Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church, with seating for 300, joined three other

churches that had recently been built in the growing community: Central Baptist Church, then at the corner of Conestoga Road and Runnymede Avenue; Wayne Presbyterian Church on Lancaster Pike; and St. Mary’s Episcopal Church at the corner of Lancaster Pike and Louella Avenue.

The *Wayne News* described the new Methodist edifice as “of Gothic architecture with pointed window and door arches, mullioned and tracery window frames, which are filled with ornamental tinted glass in lead band frames. The walls are

built of light gray stone from Christopher Fallon’s quarry, cement pointed and trimmed with Indiana limestone. The building and tower have angle buttresses and broad entrance steps, adding strength and dignity to the appearance. The tower is square at the base, changed to octagon above the entrance door, and finished with a neat and graceful open belfry with slated spire top. The entire roof is high-pitched, covered with the best of Pennsylvania black slate, with ridge coverings and crestings of ornamental galvanized iron. Stone entrance gateposts are provided, with abutting walls finished with jagged stone coping and broad footways, and drives curve up to the entrance doorsteps. The building has been set back from the street sufficiently to give broad, sweeping lawns, which have been sodded and trimmed with flower beds.”

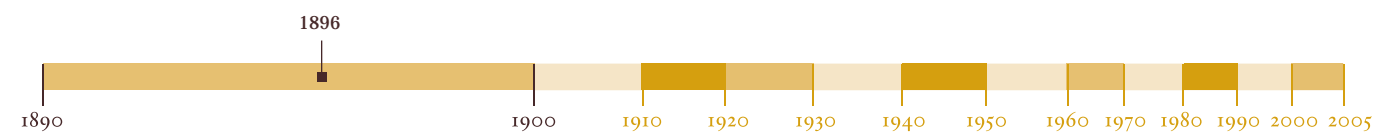
Although the news account didn’t mention it, the church was heated by underground steam lines which ran from the Wayne Steam Heat Company’s plant several blocks away on Woodland Avenue near the railroad. The cost of heating the new church building for its first full year was \$137.

On the long-awaited June dedication day, the parishioners gathered for not one but three services. Bishop Foss gave the sermon at the regular morning worship service, the first to be held in the new church, and \$3,610 was collected for the building fund. Rev. James Morrow of the Pennsylvania



The Singing Chaplain

In 1896, Rev. Charles C. McCabe came to Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church to preach, and attracted a large crowd, as he always did. A nationally known figure, McCabe had served as a chaplain in the Civil War, and became the man most responsible for popularizing the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, which he taught to comrades to keep up morale while imprisoned at the South’s infamous Libby Prison. After his release, McCabe performed the song for President Lincoln, and was credited by its composer, Julia Ward Howe, with making it a standard. He also became famous on the lecture circuit for his speech, “The Bright Side of Life in Libby Prison.” McCabe later became national secretary of the Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, speaking and singing around the country to raise money for new church development and construction. It was for that purpose that he delivered his famous speech in Wayne Church on Thursday, April 23, 1896, to help the congregation pay down the debt on the five-year old building. Old trustee minutes recorded that, after expenses, the church cleared some \$75. Though no account of the event survives, we can only imagine that Chaplain McCabe (as he preferred to be called) must have ended his evening with a rousing chorus of *Battle Hymn*. In 1904, McCabe was elected a bishop and assigned to the Philadelphia area, serving as our episcopal leader until his sudden death two years later.



Bible Society, who had written a special dedication hymn for the occasion, spoke at an afternoon service. Dr. W. A. Spencer of the Church Extension Society, who traveled the country encouraging the formation of Methodist congregations, also spoke. Dr. A. J. Kynett, Secretary of the Board of the Church Extension Society, spoke at an evening service—and more money was contributed to the building fund. By the end of that memorable day, \$6,005 had been raised to cover the cost of the new church, leaving only the \$10,000 basic mortgage as the

remaining debt, an encouraging start for the young congregation.

Pastor Bickley praised other donations as well: an open fireplace given by the young men of R. C. Ware's class; furnishings of the organ loft by the young ladies of Mrs. R. C. Ware's class; altar embellishments by the "little girls of Mrs. William Post's class"; pipe and fittings for the steam heating by William C. Allison of Philadelphia; and a communion silver service by the Ladies Aid Society.



An early photo of the Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church, with unpaved roads. Note the bridge in the center left, showing the location of a stream now underground—and the source of perennial water problems for both the church and the middle school basements.

The Ladies Aid Society, later to become the Women's Society for Christian Service and still later, the United Methodist Women, was formed in 1890, soon after the congregation was organized. It supported the new church with social events that would raise money for needed furnishings. At first the women met in individual homes as they planned an ambitious series of events. Early efforts included a bazaar, teas, an annual Strawberry Festival, and an Oyster Supper. One prize offered at the Strawberry Festival was a ride around Wayne in one of the new automobiles owned by a member of the congregation. They staged a concert at the Opera

House and created other innovative events such as a Sock Social, Mother Goose Market, a Feast of All Nations, and a Cobweb Party. From the funds they raised, the women first bought a carpet for the pulpit of the new church and a cloth to cover the piano. The first rummage sale, later to become a traditional activity of the women's group, was not held until 1921. That first sale cleared \$99.95.



The interior of the old Wayne sanctuary is shown in this 1952 photograph, showing members Betty and Paul Zahn kneeling at the altar on their wedding day. Pastor Bob Beckley is officiating.



A Parsonage

6 Is Added 8

In 1909, the church made use of the lot next door that had been donated by George Childs to build a parsonage. In addition to the construction of the parsonage, the trustees also authorized adding a kitchen within the church itself. The women of the Ladies Aid Society agreed to make the monthly interest payments on the new parsonage. The Presiding Elder would now be able to assign a married man as pastor. In its first 20 years, the church had 10 different ministers, most of them bachelors who lived in rented rooms in town for an average rent of \$8 a week. The Ladies Aid Society undertook the task of furnishing the parsonage—with *new* furniture, they decided, not the “usual broken-down sofas

and sagging beds from congregational attics” that often went into a furnished parsonage. After much discussion, the women decided to purchase the needed pieces from Strawbridge and Clothier’s Department Store rather than from Wanamaker’s and managed to furnish all eight rooms for \$750.54. Kitchen utensils were provided as the result of a kitchenware shower. At about the same time, the trustees authorized the construction of a carriage shed behind the church.

From the beginning, music played an important part in the services—appropriate for Methodists since John Wesley’s brother, Charles, wrote many of the hymns they sang each Sunday. In 1892, the church replaced the original organ with a

new pipe organ for \$2,500, dedicating it before a packed church with an organ recital by Dr. David D. Wood, a blind performer. An entry in the official Board of Trustee minutes for 1898 added that at a particular time when “the choir needed a lift, a soprano was hired at \$2 per Sabbath and a bass who would sing for \$1 plus carfare to Paoli.”

In 1908 the congregation succeeded in paying off the mortgage that had provided the construction funds for the church. “On the morning of January 5th, 1908,” as recorded in the minutes of the Board of Trustees, “the pastor, Mr. Thompson, assisted by President Brown of the Board of Trustees, together with Miss Maude Hayden of the Intermediate Department of the Sunday School, burned the following papers related to the cancelled mortgage indebtedness of the church property. The papers burned by little Miss Hayden were the bond and warrant representing the original debt of \$10,000 and subsequently a bond for \$7,500 together with the bond given by individual members of the Official Board....While the flame of the burning papers was dying out, the congregation joined heartily in the singing of the Long Meter Doxology.”

By 1912, the church had reached a membership of 135 and had organized various groups within the church to pursue its aims. Pastor Henry E. Wahley in that year’s pastoral address to the

congregation praised the expanding Sunday School, the Ladies Aid Society “which is often a very present help in time of need,” the Young People’s Association, the Ushers Association, the Loyal Home Guards, the Queen Esther Circle, the Mother’s Jewels, the Women’s Home Missionary Society, and the great “official body of men who cheerfully bear heavy burdens for your church and theirs.”

The following year, in 1913, Ralston C. Ware and his brother Arthur M. Ware, funded a stained glass window for the church as a memorial to their late father, Isaac D. Ware. The window was installed the following year in a room just off the sanctuary. Later, it became one of the few features from the original church that was incorporated in the future church where it was installed in the lobby that connects the church to the education building.



The first parsonage



1909: Construction of Runnymede Avenue parsonage





An Outing in 1919

Here's what an informal, picnic outing for church members was like in 1919. The men were impeccably dressed in dark business suits that contrasted with their white starched shirts and conservative ties while the women wore comfortable dresses with broad-brimmed hats to protect them from the sun.

Each Labor Day Arthur M. Ware, one of the founders of Wayne Methodist Episcopal Church and a stalwart member of the congregation,

invited the church's Bible class members as well as local church pastors and other friends to enjoy a day on his extensive farm near Flemington, N.J.

In 1919, the year this photograph was taken, a caravan of automobiles made the 58-mile trip to Flemington, stopping first at Hatboro to pick up Rev. G. Bickley Burns, the district superintendent, then at Lambertville to pick up the local Methodist minister. The cars in those days were not always reliable. To prepare for

any eventuality, the fully loaded autos all followed the same route, staying together because as one report said "there were several breakdowns." If a car was stranded, the report added, its riders were "picked up by the cars still running."

But the inconveniences of the auto journey melted away as soon as the Methodists reached the Ware farm. Spirited conversations, games, lots of singing, and a hearty meal awaited. The hot meal, served country-style by the Wares,

always included chicken, corn, and "gallons of apple sauce." Dessert was fruit and cookies. After dinner the guests were treated to a tour of the barns, the field crops, the orchard, and the horses and cows. Farmhands demonstrated some of the farm machinery.

Finally, it was back on the road for the automotive caravan back home, with the fervent hope that each vehicle would reach its destination without sustaining a flat tire or engine breakdown.



Two of the stalwart women of the church during the early 1900s. Mrs. Charles Wetzel (above right), who joined the church in 1893, and Alice Canizares (left), who joined in 1897 and was a member more than 50 years until her death in 1948.



Host Arthur M. Ware, one of the original members of the church.



Rev. G. Bickley Burns, the District Superintendent who hitched a ride to the picnic. He was brother to Bishop Charles W. Burns, and also related to early Wayne Pastor George H. Bickley, who also became a bishop.



Ralston C. Ware, a founder of the church, dressed up for the 1919 picnic.

The Thirties

6 A Difficult Time 8

By the church's 25th anniversary in 1915, membership had grown to 215. However, during the Depression years of the 1930s and the years of World War II, membership in the church declined. During the period from 1932 to 1943, the salary of the pastor decreased gradually from \$3,500 to \$2,400 with equal reductions for the sexton and the organist. There were frequent references in the Board minutes to its inability to

meet the pastor's salary, the difficulty of making mortgage payments, and of the need for bank loans to meet the bills. With the purse strings pulled so tight, the congregation even considered joining with the nearby Central Baptist Church whose congregation was also having a tough time financially.

By the 50th anniversary in 1940, however, the congregation was beginning to make up for the

lost members and to grow again. It now numbered about 400 members with Sunday School attendance averaging 45 children and adults. In the years that followed World War II, many servicemen returned and both the Wayne area and the congregation grew. Employment possibilities at companies such as Wyeth Laboratories, Sun Oil, Burroughs, General Electric Aerospace and Bell Telephone attracted families to the area as

good jobs and the postwar baby boom filled bedroom communities like Wayne. The intersection of the Pennsylvania Turnpike with Route 202 and the Schuylkill Expressway created a major transportation hub and gave birth to the expansive King of Prussia Mall. Responding to these changes, a church committee in 1952 began studying plans for an education building to house the expanding Sunday School.

Called to Ordained Ministry

Over the years, at least seven persons have heard the call to ordained ministry from the congregation of Wayne United Methodist Church. **Louis Mitchell** moved with his parents to Radnor in 1916 at the age of nine, and the family soon became active in the congregation. In 1935 he took an appointment as a supply preacher at Chestnut Hill Church, until he formally joined the Philadelphia Conference in 1937. Mitchell served a total of nine congregations in our area and served on a variety of boards of agencies, including nearly three decades as a trustee of the Ocean Grove (NJ)

Camp Meeting Association. After retiring in 1969, Mitchell made his home in Ocean Grove, New Jersey, where he remained until his death in 1975.

One day in the early 1960s, Bill Marsland (the son of the pastor) invited his fellow Radnor Middle School band member **Bob Mongold** to attend Sunday school; he soon was hooked. The rest of the family eventually followed and became active members, especially Bob's father Ed, who led the capital fund drive for the new church sanctuary. Bob was ordained a deacon in 1968 and elder in 1971, and has served a number of leading pulpits,

including Springfield's Covenant UMC for 16 years.

Sam Knupp moved to Wayne with his parents, Sarah and Ben Knupp, in 1963, and became active in the congregation. Feeling the tug to ordained ministry he graduated Princeton Seminary in 1976, was ordained a deacon in 1978 and an elder in 1980. He served for a number of years as a hospital chaplain.

Charlene Gaspar and her husband Reuben joined Wayne Church in 1988. After hearing the call to ministry, Charlene enrolled at Eastern Seminary, took a student appointment to Gladwyne Church in 1991, and was ordained in 1993. Charlene and Reuben have remained connected to Wayne Church, with Reuben continuing to sing regularly in the Chancel Choir.

David Adam grew up in Philadelphia and in 1968 was ordained a deacon, then a step to becoming an elder. He served congregations in Collingdale and in Frankford, Philadelphia until 1975, when he left pastoral ministry, and

entered the field of nursing home administration. In 1996, David joined the Wayne congregation, the same year the United Methodist Church approved the creation of a permanent order of deacon, which allows persons in specialized, non-pastoral ministries to enjoy full clergy status. As David always regarded his work among the elderly to be a ministry, he pursued this track, was commissioned in 2000, and ordained permanent deacon in 2003. He has worked many years at Philadelphia's Simpson House—not only as an administrator, but leading worship services and preaching.

In 1993 **Tom and Kimm Ebersole** joined the congregation, and soon became leaders, working with the Mission Committee and the United Methodist Women. Tom began part-time studies at Eastern Seminary, and in 2002 was appointed pastor of the Valley Forge UMC, where he still serves.

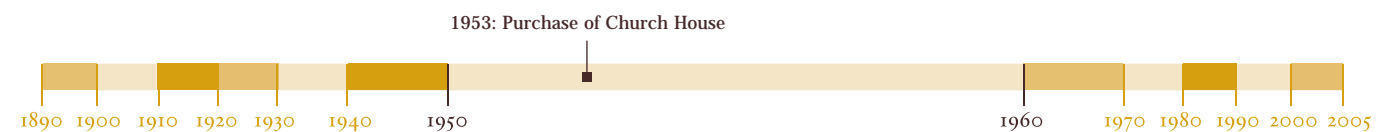
Ben Caldwell, our current lay delegate to annual conference, is pursuing studies at Lutheran Seminary in Philadelphia, and is a candidate for ordination as a permanent deacon. Ben works among prisoners, and sees his work as a ministry to the incarcerated and their families.



Louis Mitchell Bob Mongold Sam Knupp Charlene Gaspar David Adam Tom Ebersole



Ben Caldwell



Termites Trigger

6

Campaign for Education Building 8

In September 1955, an event occurred that members later called a watershed moment in the church's history. As children and teachers gathered for Rally Day at the beginning of Sunday School for the year, a 1,000-pound radiator tore loose from its wall supports in the church basement and came crashing to the floor. The accident slightly injured one of the teachers and caused the immediate evacuation of students and teachers. The next day Radnor Township officials inspected the church, evaluated the situation, and decided the basement was unsafe. Many of the wooden supports, they found, were riddled with termites.

"We discovered the laminated beams we thought were holding the floor had been completely eaten away," said the pastor, Rev. Harvey W. Marsland, who had been appointed as minister only a few months before. "We also discovered there was practically nothing supporting the roof over the pulpit. There could have been a real tragedy."

So once again the Sunday School moved across the street to what was then Radnor Junior High School, just as the congregation had originally made use of the school building 75 years earlier when the stone church was being built. Wayne Presbyterian Church loaned the Methodists an electric organ which they installed in the balcony of the school auditorium where the choir performed.

When even more termite damage was discovered in the church two years later, the congregation

saw the handwriting on the wall. The trustees and the pastor recognized that major changes were necessary—the immediate need for more space for the Sunday School and, as soon as practicable, a new and larger church.

Two years previously the church had purchased the house on the lot to the east on South Wayne Avenue for \$16,000. This residence, called the "Church House," was used for meeting rooms on the first floor and the pastor's office on the second floor. Even so space was so tight the church secretary who had recently been hired had to keep her supplies in a bathtub.

Meanwhile, the congregation continued to hold services in the sanctuary of the church—as well as classes in the basement which had now been stabilized after the discovery of the termite damage. An ambitious long-range plan was developed to build both an education building for the expanding church programs and a new "dream church" as soon as possible. An aggressive outreach program was initiated to attract new members. One element of this planning effort was based on a demographic survey that the local Bell Telephone Company had done to help predict the number of telephones that would be needed in future years. Based on the Bell Survey, church leaders believed the congregation at Wayne Methodist too would grow.

The fundraising campaign was based on these planning projections of the community's future growth. Offering envelopes were redesigned to provide for contributions for not only current church expenses and missions, but for the new building fund as well. Members stepped forward and volunteered to provide pews and traditional items such as the wooden cross over the altar, the pulpit, altar rail, and lectern. The church hired a fundraising company from Evanston, Illinois, setting the goal of \$100,000. A chart was prominently displayed to show the progress of the building fund and congregational dinners were held where Pastor Marsland and the building committee told everyone how the financial campaign was going.

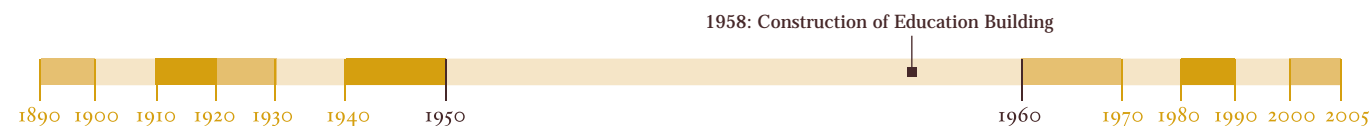
In 1958, the new brick education building was constructed at a cost of \$275,000 directly behind the original Gothic stone church and next to the Church House. This construction underlined the fact that the church property lay at the lowest drainage point in the neighborhood. The building committee reported to the trustees that "on May 12, when excavation reached its full depth at the southwest corner of the kitchen wing, running water entered the excavation and attained a level of about three feet above the intended basement floor level." With the help of pumps to overcome the water inflow, however, the education building was completed and on September 13, 1959, the first classes were held in the new building with 249 children and adults attending.



Presentation of the key to the Education Building. Left to Right: Rev. J. V. Watchorn, Harvey W. Marsland, Charles Wetzel, chairman building committee, Rev. Charles Phillips, and Rev. Dr. Henry Bullock.



The Education Building



Ministers of Wayne United Methodist Church

Henry Wheeler

Dr. Henry Wheeler (1835–1925), who retired from Wayne Church in 1904, was a well-known church leader and author. A native of England, he had emigrated to America in 1855, was a Union Chaplain in the Civil War, and served as a pastor, and a presiding elder in two conferences. He also published a number of books including, *The Apostles' Creed: Its History and Exposition*, and *History and Exposition of the Twenty-five Articles of Religion of the Methodist Episcopal Church*. Wheeler's son Post went into the foreign service, and for a time was acting US Ambassador to his father's native land.



Rev. Edwin M. Pickop
June 1890

Rev. Edward W. Burke
Sept. 1890

Rev. George H. Bickley, Jr.
March 1891

Rev. George H. Lorah
March 1893

Rev. Lewis A. Parsels
March 1896

Rev. Charles W. Dempsey
March 1898

Rev. Samuel McWilliams
March 1899

Rev. Henry Wheeler
March 1903

Rev. Samuel M. Thompson
March 1904

Rev. Henry E. Wahley
March 1909

Rev. Edward W. Rushton
March 1917

Rev. William H. Lindenmuth
March 1928

Rev. Frederick A. Tyson
March 1935

Rev. Richard B. Wells
March 1937

Rev. Aubrey B. Goudie
March 1942

Rev. Frank D. Lawrence
June 1945

Rev. Robert H. Beckley
May 1948

Rev. G. Willis Marquette
May 1952

Rev. Harvey W. Marsland
April 1955

Rev. Frank E. Davis
Feb. 1968

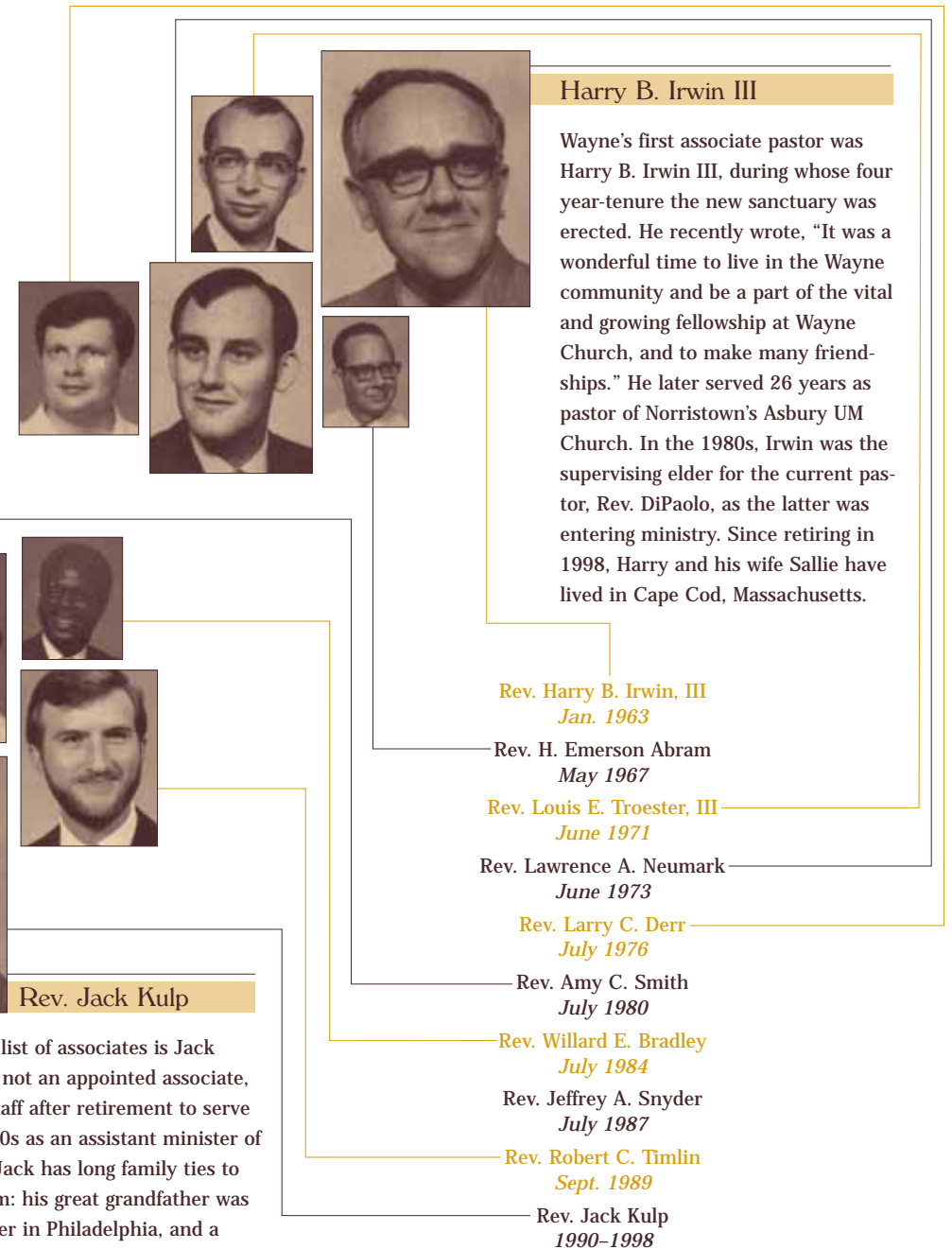
Rev. David G. High
July 1978

Rev. Edwin R. Green, Jr.
July 1987

Rev. Joseph F. DiPaolo
July 2003

Frank E. Davis

Rev. Frank E. Davis (1915–1994) came to Wayne not long after the new building was completed, and served ten years, leading the congregation during the period of its largest and most active membership. Davis served on many conference and community boards, including as a trustee of the Methodist Hospital, Cornwall Manor and Evangelical Manor. But he was remembered above all as a kind and loving pastor whom “a host of people... call[ed]...not only ‘my friend’ but also, ‘the friend of God.’”



Harry B. Irwin III

Wayne's first associate pastor was Harry B. Irwin III, during whose four year-tenure the new sanctuary was erected. He recently wrote, “It was a wonderful time to live in the Wayne community and be a part of the vital and growing fellowship at Wayne Church, and to make many friendships.” He later served 26 years as pastor of Norristown's Asbury UM Church. In the 1980s, Irwin was the supervising elder for the current pastor, Rev. DiPaolo, as the latter was entering ministry. Since retiring in 1998, Harry and his wife Sallie have lived in Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Rev. Harry B. Irwin, III
Jan. 1963

Rev. H. Emerson Abram
May 1967

Rev. Louis E. Troester, III
June 1971

Rev. Lawrence A. Neumark
June 1973

Rev. Larry C. Derr
July 1976

Rev. Amy C. Smith
July 1980

Rev. Willard E. Bradley
July 1984

Rev. Jeffrey A. Snyder
July 1987

Rev. Robert C. Timlin
Sept. 1989

Rev. Jack Kulp
1990–1998

Rev. Jack Kulp

Unique on the list of associates is Jack Kulp, who was not an appointed associate, but came on staff after retirement to serve during the 1990s as an assistant minister of pastoral care. Jack has long family ties to area Methodism: his great grandfather was a presiding elder in Philadelphia, and a founder of the Ocean City Tabernacle. Jack's own ministry has included service as a Navy Chaplain in World War II, local church pastor, district superintendent and conference leader. Though he is no longer on staff, Jack and Aurelia continue to be a part of the congregation in 2005.

Associate Ministers of Wayne United Methodist Church

1963: First associate minister appointed



Next Goal,

6 A New Church Sanctuary 8

The building committee now turned its attention to the new sanctuary. By 1960 the committee had hired an architect, A. Hensel Fink of Philadelphia, whose plan envisioned a modified Georgian-style structure with a 90-foot-long nave, including a balcony, topped with a 33-foot-high ceiling. It would have rounded high windows along both sides fitted with slatted window blinds. Its 56 pews would lead to a chancel holding a free-standing altar that rested on a floor of Vermont marble. A modern 12-foot wooden cross would hang over the altar. A canopy called a tester, designed to amplify the speaker's voice, would be suspended above the pulpit. A three-lancet stained glass window would

be installed behind the chancel on the church's back wall. When completed, this "Christ Window," designed by the Willet Studios of Chestnut Hill, would illustrate the life of Jesus from his birth to his ascension. The sanctuary would be linked to the Education Building with a connecting structure, creating a courtyard between the two structures which would later become the Memorial Garden.

A pipe organ was designed and built especially for the church by the well-known M. P. Moller organ company, of Hagerstown, Maryland. It consists of 30 ranks, 32 stops, and 1,719 pipes, all carefully hidden behind the louvers on either side of the chancel.

The trustees approved the building design. The last service was held in the original stone church on April 17, 1966 and then both the old church and the Church House were demolished to make room for the new construction. The cornerstone of the new church was laid on December 4, 1966. Once again Radnor Township came to the rescue as Sunday services were shifted to the auditorium of what was then Radnor High School, the building that later became Radnor Middle School. One member of the congregation recalled that the seats in the auditorium automatically flipped to an upright position when not being used so every time the congregation stood to sing a hymn, a staccato tattoo of seats flipping would be heard across the room.

Construction of the new church and the structure

that connected the new sanctuary to the education building took nine months. The stained glass window depicting Jesus welcoming children to the Kingdom of God, a window that had been presented by the Ware family as part of the first church, was saved and installed in the lobby of what had now become the education wing.

The handsome new church, which cost \$700,000, was consecrated on September 24, 1967, with Bishop Fred P. Corson speaking to the congregation. Pastor Marsland, who had inspired and energized the creation of both the new education building and the new sanctuary, presided. Chairman of the Board Leroy G. Steinbeck presented the building to the bishop "to the glory of God and the service of men."

The following Wednesday, a community service was held for Wayne area friends of the church. The next Sunday featured an organ recital with Dr. Marilyn Mason, Professor of Music at the University of Michigan, as the guest organist. Finally, on the succeeding Sunday, Pastor Marsland recognized all those who had contributed memorials such as pews and furnishings to the new church.

By this time the congregation had grown to 1,075. What's more, the new church opened at an opportune time for it was but a year later, in 1968, that the Methodist Church united with the Evangelical United Brethren to become the United Methodist Church.

Local Preachers

For many years, members of a local Methodist church who felt a call to preach, but not necessarily to full-time pastoral ministry, could receive a local preacher's license and exercise their gifts within their church family. Until 1976, local preachers could also be ordained as Local Deacons or Local Elders, and thereby be able to administer the sacraments as well, and generally assist the appointed minister in worship.



Dr. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr.

One of the founders of Wayne Church, James P. P. Brown, had previously been licensed as a local preacher, and lent critical leadership to the congregation. In some old records from 1890, he is actually listed as "preacher in charge;" Brown moved to Glenside and transferred his membership in the 1910s. Stewart Young of Devon, licensed in 1911, transferred to Wayne in 1915; in a few years he was joined by member Charles Hagy, who received his LP license in 1919.

Though many local preachers stayed in that role, in other cases, men who were pursuing a call to ordained ministry could first become a local preacher, until subsequently ordained. This was the case for Louis Mitchell, who received his LP license in 1929, before joining the Philadelphia Conference. It was also the path to ministry for Dr. Charles Yrigoyen, Jr. (above), whose family lived in Radnor and were active in the congregation, while his father, Rev. Charles Yrigoyen, Sr., was serving as District Superintendent in the late 1950s. Chuck was licensed as local preacher here, then went on to be ordained in 1960. He later earned his doctorate, and in 1982, became General Secretary of the Commission on Archives and History, a post he still holds as United Methodism's chief historian. The author of a number of books on United Methodist history, Chuck was our guest speaker at the 115th anniversary luncheon, on June 26, 2005.

In recent years, the title of Local Preacher has disappeared, and been replaced with the name Christ Servant Minister. A person trained and certified as a Christ Servant Minister can be in any of a number of specialized servant-roles in the local church, including that of lay preacher.



Cornerstone for the new sanctuary at Wayne Methodist Church, Philadelphia Conference, was laid the first Sunday in December, 1966. The structure cost \$650,000. Participants, left to right, are: Leroy G. Steinbeck, president, board of trustees; the Rev. Harvey W. Marsland, pastor; the Rev. Harry B. Irwin, III, associate pastor; Paul J. Banks, Sr.; and Joseph Miles, co-chairman of the building committee. A. Hensel Fink designed the sanctuary.

1966: Original church and Church House both demolished



The Christ

6

Window 8

Enter the sanctuary of Wayne United Methodist Church and your eyes are drawn to the altar and behind it the large three-section stained glass window with colors ranging from the predominant blue to red, yellow, and green. The mosaic of beautifully colored mouth-blown glass, cut to appropriate shapes and joined by lead channels of varying widths, is highlighted by differing shades



Bethlehem, then scenes of Jesus as a boy in the temple in Jerusalem surrounded by teachers, and with Joseph in the carpenter shop. Next He is shown being baptized in the River Jordan by John the Baptist. Next, two miracles: Christ's converting water into wine at the marriage in Cana and the healing of a blind man. Christ is shown preaching the Sermon on the Mount surrounded by symbols of prophecy from the Old

of light shining through the glass. Details like faces and drapery are painted in metallic oxide fired to become a permanent part of the glass, following the same method used in medieval European cathedrals and churches.

The impressive window that illustrates Christ's life from birth to ascension was designed and executed by the world-renowned Willet Stained Glass Studio of Philadelphia, created as part of the new sanctuary building that was consecrated on Sunday, September 24, 1967. By that time the Willet Studios had created stained glass windows in 278 other churches in the United States, Canada, and Europe. The left section or lancet shows the baby Jesus with Mary and Joseph gathered under the star of

Testament foretelling Christ as the suffering servant.

The Center lancet shows Christ blessing the children. His intimate ministry, speaking to one or two people rather than a multitude, is conveyed in small rectangles showing Him with Nicodemus on a rooftop and with Mary and Martha at their home.

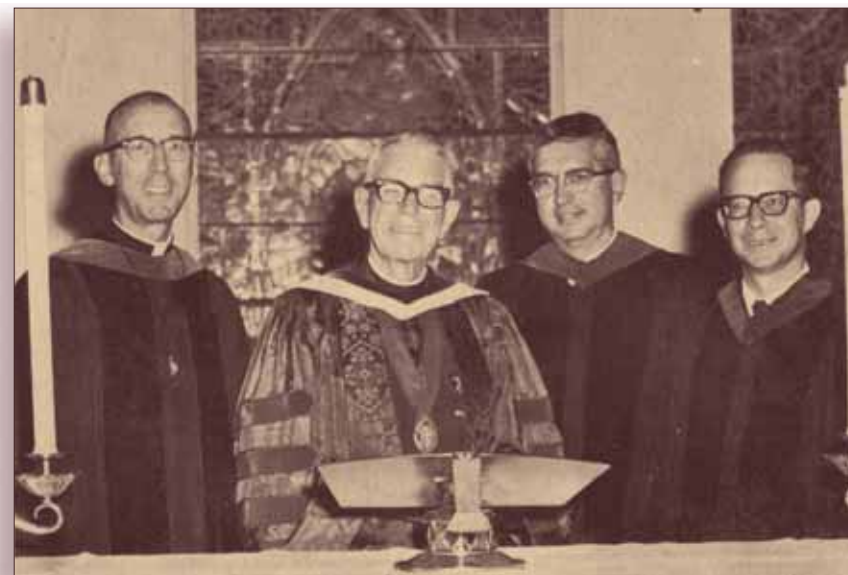
The Last Supper is depicted in the center of the window. Above it is the Garden of Gethsemane and His appearance before Pilate. At the top is the crucifixion as His mother, Mary, and the disciple, John, watch in agony. The four corners of this lancet display symbols for the four evangelists, Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as derived from the book of Revelation.

The right lancet shows Christ rising from the

empty tomb, thus representing victory of life over sin and death. Next He appears to Mary Magdalene in the garden and to two of his disciples at Emmaus as He sends his disciples out into the then-known world to preach the Gospel and baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. He appears to Thomas, the doubting disciple, and commands Peter to care for His sheep. In the last medallion at the top, Christ ascends into heaven, witnessed by his followers. The four corners of the lancet show the world today. Opposite the chi rho, ancient monogram for Jesus Christ, one hand reaches out to another to symbolize every Christian's responsibility to provide social service and to encourage brotherhood.

A brochure describing the stained glass window in detail is available in the church office.

The steeple being hoisted into place, 1967.



Participants in the service of consecration of the Wayne Methodist Church Sunday, September 24, 1967, were (from left) the Rev. C. Paul Felton, district superintendent, Northwest District, who delivered the invocation; Bishop Fred Pierce Corson, D.D., LL.D., resident Bishop, Philadelphia area, who presided and preached; the Rev. Harvey W. Marsland, minister, and the Rev. H. Emerson Abram, associate minister.

1967: Consecration of new church



The Fred Ford

6 Class 8

Fred Ford (*Below, left*), a longtime member of the church who died in 2002 at the age of 90, bequeathed a continuing legacy to his fellow church members—a deep love of learning.

For 35 years, this former high school teacher and college personnel director taught an adult Sunday School class at Wayne Methodist Church, a class that came to be known as the “Fred Ford Class,” a class that continued even after he and his wife Christina moved to a retirement home in Lancaster.

During those years he led discussions of some 200 books on history, philosophy, psychology, and religion, discussions that stretched minds and challenged those who gathered around him.

Ford, who grew up in the Pittsburgh area,

graduated from the Carnegie Institute of Technology, then earned a master’s degree and doctor of philosophy from the University of Pittsburgh. He was director of personnel and associate professor of education at the University of Mississippi before coming to the University of Pennsylvania in 1952 as associate director of personnel. He was appointed director of personnel at Penn in 1954. After retiring from his administrative position in 1973, he lectured in management at the Wharton evening school until 1984.

“His scholarly attitude and young and curious mind inspired us all to see a little further and work a little more,” said one appreciative member of his Sunday School class.



The Fred Ford Class in session.

Congregational

6 Activities 8

In 1963, the first associate minister, Harry B. Irwin III, was appointed. To provide another parsonage, the church rented a home on Hillside Circle in Villanova. The senior minister moved into the Villanova home while the associate minister and his family occupied the Runnymede parsonage. When the staff was reorganized in 1992, the Runnymede parsonage was rented to a staff member and later to a non-staff family. For the senior pastor, the church bought a new parsonage on Briar Road in Tredyffrin Township. In 2002, this home was sold and the pastor was provided instead with housing allowance which he could use to purchase a home of his own.

Through the years, the various activities of the church and its congregation have been organized and carried out through the Board of Trustees and the Administrative Council and its work areas— Education, Missions, Worship, Finance, Stewardship, Women’s Ministry, and Men’s Ministry. Wayne United Methodist Church has consistently met its obligation

to the conference by fully funding its apportionment to support Methodist global missions.

The Ladies Aid Society of the earlier years later became the Women’s Society of Christian Service. When the Methodist Church and Evangelical United Brethren Church merged, the group became the United Methodist Women. In earlier years, teams of women visited the homes of new members of the church on “welcome missions” and the women’s circles generally met in the homes of members. It was also the women of the church who organized the rummage sales that have become well-known in the Wayne area. The rummage workers gather used clothes, household articles, jewelry, and toys contributed by members of the congregation or friends of the church. Four times a year they categorize and price these items, and spread them out on tables that fill Fellowship Hall to overflowing. The following day, buyers are welcomed. They include families from the community, people who send clothes and

Campolo Connection

One of America’s leading Christian preachers and authors, Tony Campolo has lived in the Wayne area for decades, as a professor at Eastern University. In 1975, his wife Peggy became an associate member of the Wayne United Methodist Church, bringing her two children, Bart and Lisa, to worship regularly for a number of years. Usually engaged in preaching elsewhere, Tony was not often with them, but he did preach here, and while his kids were a part of the youth group, occasionally came to lead the teens in a teaching session. Bart has followed his father into ministry, and was our guest preacher for the June 26, 2005 anniversary service.



1977: Purchase of Briar Road parsonage





The WoRM Sunday School Program

In the late 1990s, Christian Education Director Janet French completely reorganized the Sunday school program for elementary-age students. The new format, based on the Workshop Rotation Model (WoRM) for Sunday school, has the children spending a month learning one key Bible story many different ways. Workshop leaders teach the same lesson for five weeks, adjusting the task and discussion each week for the grade level in attendance. Each class has two “shepherds,” adult volunteers who stay with the same group of kids through all the workshops and assist the teachers. Each week, classes rotate to a different workshop that emphasizes a different style of learning; the workshops include drama, missions, art, computer, video, games, and cooking.

The WoRM format has been a great success, growing the Sunday school, and making the recruitment of teachers and shepherds far easier than in traditional models. And the children are really learning their Bible stories!

other items to relatives abroad and dealers who buy and resell. The rummage sales generate proceeds of about \$4,000 each year, money the women donate to worldwide Methodist work in missions.

The men of the congregation have been active as well. For years a group known as The Fishermen went out in pairs to pay a call on first-time visitors who had attended a worship service at Wayne Methodist, encouraging the newcomers to join. During 1955, Fishermen visits alone resulted in 113 new members.

The Methodist Men sponsored Boy Scout Troop 371 as well as a Cub Scout pack. Several members of the church served the troop as its Scoutmaster and as troop committeemen. After being dormant for some years, Cub Scout Pack 371 was revived and rechartered in 2005. The Men’s Club also met regularly for breakfast meetings with speakers, and held a

combined communion service and breakfast for men and boys each year. An annual Azalea Sale became a recognized community activity beginning in the 1940s and continuing until the 1990s. Each spring the church parking lot would fill with azaleas, shrubs, and flowers for the popular spring weekend sale, an event that grew out of the horticultural expertise of Ross Davis, a longtime church member. An average of \$3000 was realized from the sale, proceeds that the Men’s Club used to subsidize bus trips to sporting events and to improve the church’s buildings and grounds.

Social activities were not overlooked. In the 1970s adults formed couples groups such as the Forty-niners and the Merrimates to plan social activities at member’s homes and to attend community events.

The sanctuary has been acclaimed for its excellent acoustical qualities. This resonance has enhanced the

music of the church which has always played an important role. Both adult and children’s choirs add their voices to the Sunday worship services and a bell choir performs regularly. Occasional choir and instrumental concerts make use of the musical talents of the congregation, drawing appreciative audiences from the surrounding area. Among the talented musical directors who have served the church are Jesse Zerr, Bill Hunter, Keith Chapman, David Tiller, Michael Kevane, Robert Gallagher, and Timothy Sidebothom. On October 18, 1987, the church was able to retire its mortgage when it became the beneficiary of a \$375,000 bequest from the estate of Eleanor M. Thayer, a Wayne resident. Although not a member of the church herself, she was a friend of Theodore Brooks, an independent carpenter and builder and a longtime member of Wayne Methodist. A service was held in the sanctuary attended by District

Superintendent Arthur Brandenburg, Pastor Edwin Green, Associate Pastor Jeffrey Snyder, and former pastors David High and Frank Davis. A replica of the mortgage document was set aflame and burned in front of the altar in a service to mark the milestone.

In 1992, when the term ended for the associate minister, the Administrative Council, on the recommendation of the pastor, reorganized the staff with a Director of Christian Education and a Youth Director instead of an associate minister. The Director of Christian Education is responsible for the operation of the Church School, determining its curriculum, recruiting and training the volunteer teachers, instituting special projects, and delivering a children’s sermon each Sunday during the worship service.

Activities of the youth of the church are guided by the Youth Director who recruits and trains youth leaders, develops and leads weekly programs for junior and



*Mortgage burning
October 18, 1987
From left to right: Rev. Jeffrey Snyder (Associate Pastor); Rev. Art Brandenburg (District Superintendent); Rev. Ed Green (Pastor); Rev. Harvey W. Marsland, Rev. Frank Davis, Rev. David High (Former pastors).*

1987: Church retires its mortgage



senior high youth, and mobilizes the young people to accomplish charitable projects. A high point of the senior high youth program in recent years has been a one-week mission trip, a trip that has taken the young people to Virginia, Tennessee, South Carolina, and Oklahoma to complete work projects for a deserving family or a church. Junior high youth have tackled work projects closer to home in Chester County. In 2004, contributions from the congregation raised \$5,500 to purchase and stock a tool trailer that is pulled by the church van and put to use on these work projects. Over the years, the congregation has been blessed with talented pastoral leadership. Rev. George Bickley, pastor when the first church was built, later became a bishop. Charles Dempsey, who died tragically at 38 while serving in Wayne, was remembered for his “sweet melodious voice and his choice of sacred songs.” Rev. Richard Wells, who served at the Wayne church in the late 1930s and early 40s, served ten years as Secretary of the Philadelphia Conference, assembling all the statistics and other information for the annual conference

journal. After leaving Wayne in 1952, Rev. Robert Beckley became an Air Force chaplain, serving 30 years until he retired with the rank of colonel.

Several pastors have served the church well beyond the Methodist norm in those days of three to four years. Rev. Henry Wahley served at Wayne eight years just before World War I and in later years was one of the founders of the Cornwall Manor Retirement Community in Lebanon County. Rev. Edwin Green, who retired in 2003 after 16 years as pastor, brought to the church the innovation of delivering part of a sermon in song.

No doubt the 13 founding members of Wayne United Methodist Church would be amazed—and thrilled—by what the seed of Methodism they planted in 1891 has matured into. Led by a series of energetic pastors and supported by generations of faithful members, Wayne United Methodist Church today stands ready to further extend its service to others into a new century.

The Memorial

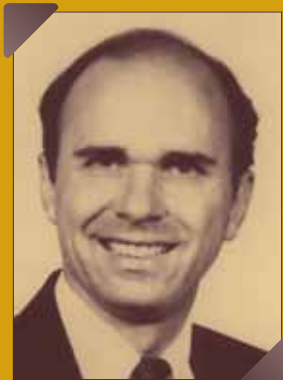
6 Garden 8

Located between the Sanctuary and the Education Building is a landscaped courtyard that provides a serene place for meditation and a repository for the cremated remains of members of Wayne United Methodist Church and their families. The walkway and the plantings of small trees, shrubs, and flowers have been designed to portray the United Methodist symbol, the cross and flame. A wrought iron bench provides a place for quiet reflection.

The Memorial Garden, dedicated in December 1995, was the result of the efforts of a committee chaired by Loren Beebe that researched similar church memorial gardens and established the plan. It contains 52 two-square-foot cells that serve as permanent vaults that can hold one or two containers of ashes. On the wall of the Education Building

is a bronze plaque memorializing those interred in the garden and includes the name and years of birth and death for each person. Each site is numbered and identified with a round metal ground marker. Remaining sites may be reserved for a fee. At the time of interment, a modest charge is made for opening the cell and for the bronze name plate on the plaque. The purchaser receives a copy of the Rules and Regulations for the Memorial Garden approved by the Administrative Council as well as a Certificate of Right to Inter in the site selected.

Each site is indicated on a map and the church office maintains the record of locations. You may inquire about the Memorial Garden at the church office and an appointment for a first-hand visit can be arranged.



The Bishop's Church

United Methodism is divided into geographic units known as *conferences*, each of which links hundreds of congregations in a particular area under the leadership of a resident bishop. In the late 1960s, the local conference office, which had always resided in center city Philadelphia, began to move its operations to Valley Forge, and the conference changed its name from the Philadelphia to the Eastern Pennsylvania Conference. A house was purchased on Ridgewood Road in Wayne to be used as the home for the resident bishop—making Wayne United Methodist Church the nearest UM congregation. As a consequence, an otherwise “off-duty” bishop has sometimes been known to show up for worship on a Sunday or holiday service. Resident bishops whose faces have occasionally been spotted among the congregation have included Bishops James Ault (1972–1980), F. Herbert Skeete (1980–1988), Susan Morrison (1988–1996), Peter Weaver (left)

(1996–2004), and our current episcopal leader, Marcus Matthews. Wayne Church has hosted receptions for the newly elected and incoming bishop to meet conference leaders and staff; first in 1996 to greet Peter Weaver, and again in 2004 for Bishop Matthews.

Over the years, many a bishop has been our guest to lead worship—beginning in 1890 when Bishops Foss and Bowman led services to dedicate the cornerstone of the first building. Episcopal leaders have been present to preach at special anniversary services, including Bishop Joseph Berry at the

25th in 1915, Bishop Ernest Richardson at the 50th in 1940, and Bishop Susan Morrison at the 100th in 1990. In 1891 Bishop Cyrus Foss led dedicatory services for Wayne’s first church building, and in 1967, Bishop Fred P. Corson led services to dedicate the new sanctuary. In January 2004, shortly after his election as president of the Council of Bishops, Peter Weaver was our guest and served communion to each member present in worship. In November 2005, Bishop Marcus Matthews preached as part of our 115th anniversary celebrations.



Wayne United Methodist Church

6

Images of Church Life 8



A. The staff of Wayne United Methodist Church, 2005.
Front row: Dr. Timothy Sidebothom, Director of Music; Rev. Joseph DiPaolo, Senior Pastor; John Shannon, Assistant to the Pastor; Frank Lynch, Building Maintenance and Repair. Middle row: Becky Douglas, Director of Children's Music Ministry; Laura Manger, Director of Youth Ministry; Janet French, Director of Christian Education. Back Row: Krista Bonar, Receptionist; Linda Green Administrative Assistant.



B. Pastor Ed Green with District Superintendent Violet Fisher, late 1990s. In 2000, Fisher was elected a bishop of the United Methodist Church.



C. The Children's Choir, processing in for worship, 1999.



D. Valentine's Day 2000, "Sweetheart Dinner"
Left to right: Fritz & Beth Lang, Ron & Vicki Kirch, Dave & Linda Gallup, Joe & Julia Fisiter, Mike & Julie Morris



E. Rev. & Mrs. Edward Knetter & Family
The Knetter Family were sponsored by Wayne Church as our Methodist missionaries in Taiwan in the 1950s.



F. Bell Choir led by Tim Sidebothom



G. The Church's tool trailer was first used on a youth mission trip to Tennessee in 2004.



H. Steve Bell and Christy DiPaolo working on a kitchen during the mission trip to Tennessee.



H.



I.

H. Snapshots from a 1984 celebration of the Bicentennial of American Methodism. In colonial dress are members Martin Hebert and Art Miller.

I. Gene Wheeler, Marge Miller and Winnie Preston look positively historic as they prepare to take part in a play about John Wesley.



J.

J. Sydney and Elizabeth Rowland and their daughter Betty

Sydney Rowland moved his family to Wayne in 1920, in order to assume his responsibilities as the superintendent of the Radnor School District, a post he held for some 31 years. When he retired in 1951, Radnor was one of the highest rated districts in the nation. Sydney and his wife Elisabeth joined Wayne Methodist Church in 1920, and remained active members all their lives. Today their daughter Betty has the longest active association with the congregation, some 85 years, since she first set foot inside the old building in 1920 at the age of five.



K.

K. Nativity Scene

Joseph and Mary tend the baby Jesus in a tableau in front of the church in the early 1990s as youth hold candles to light the scene.