

UTICA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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ORACLE

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Celebrating 200 Years

In 1818 The Presbyterian Church in Utica was organized by Rev. James Cunningham and some thirty-one members. The church was first called the Concord Congregation but was later changed to the Utica Congregation. Members first met in a tent and then built a church structure. Records were lost on the history of the church until 1838. Some facts about our church:

- Sunday School first started in 1833.
- New church building was built in front of old building in 1848.
- In 1888 the church building was destroyed by fire.
- In 1889, the new church was dedicated.
- In 1916, the Sunday school rooms, kitchen, dining room and basement were constructed.
- In 1939, a special service was held commemorating the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the present edifice.
- In 1946, Mrs. Stevens organized the Friendship Class. This group of young couples did a lot of church work and enjoyed the fellowship. Mrs. Stevens also organized the first Daily Vacation Bible School.
- In 1960, the sanctuary was completely renovated.
- In 1961 a newsletter to the members was started.

A lot of things have taken place since 1961 in our church (see the scrapbooks in our library) and with God's blessing, many more things will happen in the future.

1909



1939



We had a float in the Utica Homecoming Parade on September 19th and served cake to the people attending the Homecoming on September 22nd. Our annual Bake Sale was held on September 22nd also.



and Anniversaries

5 Diana Cherry

25 Kathy Butcher

27 Terry and Mary Holobaugh

16 Sarah Torrens

25 Jeanne Fawcett

23 Ina Heath

25 Todd Salome



As I was thinking about the past events of the Homecoming Festival being 100 years, the 200 year celebration of the church, and the 50 year reunion of my graduating class, I thought about their sustainability and the how's and why's of it all. It takes a whole community to raise a child and it takes a complete community or congregation to put together such a large undertaking. This does not mean that everyone is involved in the planning but it does mean that everyone gets involved in the event if it is to be meaningful and a success. (continued on next page)

The reason I bring this up is I was asked about Moses crossing the Red Sea and what an undertaking it must have been. It took months of planning and persuasion to bring this event about. Not everyone was onboard to leave Egypt even though they were in slavery and being mistreated. Some were enjoying the culture which had been their lives for the past 400 years, while others stuck to the way of life of their forefathers. Still they went. They were willing to look into and embrace the future as one people rather than to live in the past, allowing God to lead them. We see this over and over in the Bible stories from the Judges to the Kings, to the Prophets, to Jesus and to the Apostles. In all these accounts there was a common thread. God.



If we have that same God in all our efforts they will be a success and that is why things last. It is God who brings all people and things together. In Genesis it says we were created for his pleasure and if we live in his will he is there for our pleasure to bring us together as one.

I look forward to continuing the celebrations of life with each of you with God as our guide.

Pastor Terry



Rod & Debra Hornsby	Viola Wilson	Monte Thompson
Margaret & Lynn Fawcett	Mary Holobaugh	Vicky Gruber
Ray & JoAnn McCann	Walter Martin	Anita Bennett
Rick Martin	Kay Byard	Lora Freed
Bob Shaw	Bob Gruber	Lynn Fawcett
Ethel Davis	The Family of Kathy White	
Nathan Butcher	The Bline, Evans & Hale Families	
Carter & the Morrison Family	The Family of Jasey Treadway	



Tuesday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30
1:00 p.m.
in our church dining hall

We are in the process of making quilts for the foster children at the House of New Hope in St. Louisville. We are always looking for more helpers, so come and join us.

Circle of Faith Mission Event

October 2 7:00 p.m.
at Utica Church of Christ

Join us for fellowship & support of all Utica community area women whose desire is to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please bring colored cotton underwear for the women of Uganda who are in need. Guest speaker will be Cynthia Stiverson from Woven Women International, Inc. Refreshments will follow program.



200th Anniversary Celebration Dinner
 Saturday, October 6 6:30 p.m.
 A short program will follow the dinner

There will also be a Special Worship Service with
 Communion on Sunday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m.



Ladies Luncheon
 October 18
 11:30
 at
 Nick's Pizza in Utica




October 14 12:30 p.m.



Utica Halloween Treat Night
 Thursday, October 25 6-7:30 p.m.

We will be passing out treats to the children. We are asking for donations of candy for this project. Please bring to church by October 21.



From the heart
 We all need people who share godly wisdom with us.

Directions: First, unscramble the bold letters to spell another word for "pat." Write that word in the first empty row. Then move the words under each bold letter to that letter's new column. The result will be Proverbs 27:9, NW.

D	E	F	I	R	N
to	bring	Perfume	and	heart,	joy
Perfume	of	the	the	and	pleasantness
advice.	their	a friend	from	springs	heartfelt
A friend					

Answer: F R I E N D; Perfume and incense bring joy to the heart, and the pleasantness of a friend springs from their heartfelt advice. Proverbs 27:9, NW

