

THE HISTORY
of the
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of
HAMILTON SQUARE
NEW JERSEY

Published During
The Celebration of Her
175th Anniversary

Organized in 1772
First Building in 1776
First Pastor in 1774

*DEDICATED TO THE
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE
CONGREGATIONS OF THIS CHURCH
1772-1951*

FOREWORD

It seemed appropriate and essential that a history be written as an important part of the celebration of the 175th anniversary of the founding of the First Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square, New Jersey.

The Anniversary Committee of the church chose the following men and women to form an historical committee to perform this service: the Rev. William David Glenn, Mrs. Percy P. West, Mr. Walter N. Updike, Miss Emma MacGalliard, Mrs. William Boltz, Mr. and Mrs. Walter P. Strohauser, Mr. George R. Hutchinson, Mrs. Charles O. Smith and Mr. and Mrs. George Combs.

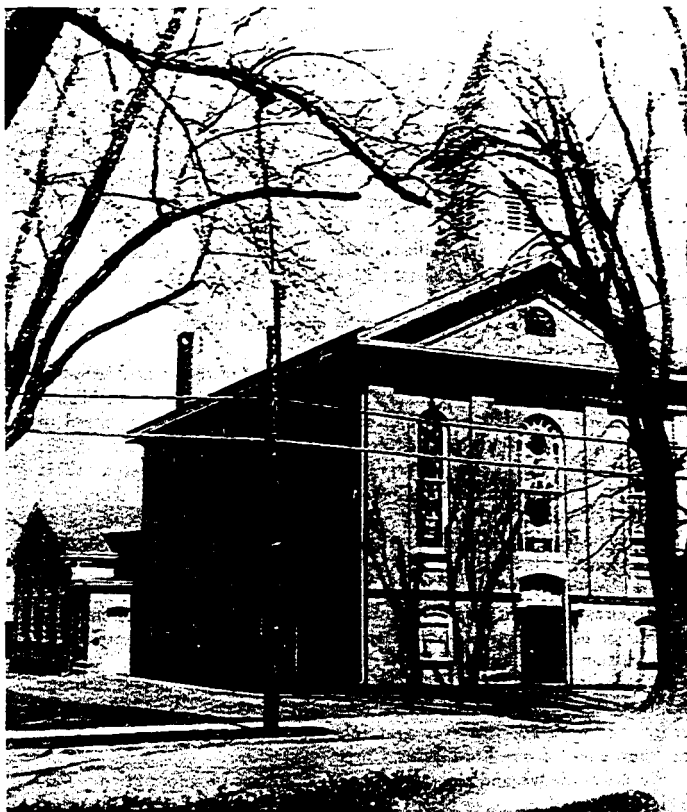
As a committee, we report the results of our best efforts, May this history be entertaining, helpful and sacred to many.

We are proud as Presbyterians to be a small part of the great Presbyterian Churches of America. The Presbyterian Church was established between 1670 and 1680. Our church was the ninth to be organized in this section. Old Tennent, the first church was established in 1692; Lawrenceville, 1698; Ewing 1709; Trenton First, 1712; Kingston, 1723; Allentown, 1725; Cranbury, 1734; Princeton First — and Hamilton Square, 1772.

Many histories have been written about these churches during the passing years. This book should hold a special significance to those of us whose ancestors or friends established and carried on through the years. Their courage and faith have confirmed our faith and hope, and made it possible for us to inherit a church and Sunday School, and the inspiration and christian fellowship that follow.

Our heritage and theirs is great. May we be worthy of this heritage and face the future with courage, confident that our church has even greater years ahead, and ever grateful for the faith of our fathers and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We acknowledge and sincerely thank all sources of information. Valuable historical facts have been received from the Presbyterian Historical Society of Philadelphia, and "The History of Hamilton Square" by the late Joseph H. West. Items of interest were received from the records of the late Rev. Joseph Howell, and from numerous friends of the church.



PRESENT CHURCH

*"I was glad when they said unto me, let
us go into the house of the Lord."*

Psalm 122. V.I

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

HAMILTON SQUARE residents are proud of their quaint town. The historical background concerning this village would constitute the major part of an interesting book. It is situated six miles from historic Trenton, the state capital, 60 miles from New York, and 38 miles from Philadelphia. The community combines tradition, progress, culture and commerce. From the time that Washington crossed the Delaware to the present time, Trenton has been the center of government, education, art, and economic achievement. Residents in Hamilton Square derive benefit from close contact with the world's leading financial and industrial areas. This region possesses great natural attractiveness, lying just 38 miles from the Atlantic seashore, "The Playground of The World" and a short distance from the hills and dales of the Delaware Valley. Schools in this district are among the finest in our country. Worthy praises have come to our local grade school with its superior faculty. Hamilton High School, located in Hamilton Township, with an enrollment of 1800 possesses a high scholastic rating and boasts graduates in many of our leading Universities. College entrance exams are "easy"—"Thanks to Hamilton". Resident families in this section live within easy grasp of the finest cultural and medical centers of the world. College Preparatory and higher educational institutions of the first rank abound in this section. Preparatory schools include Lawrenceville, Peddie, Bordentown Military, and Hun School. Nearby Colleges include—Princeton, Rutgers, Rider College, State Teachers College, Trenton Junior College and Princeton Theological Seminary, with students from all over the world attending. We are proud to boast that eleven of our pastors—1774 to 1949—received their final instructions in Theology at this famous institution.

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Rev. William Schenck	Rev. Joseph Howell
Rev. Joseph Clark	Rev. Thomas P. McKee
Rev. George Ely	Rev. Warren H. Hershey
Rev. Robert S. Manning	Rev. Robert Lennox
Rev. Henry Perkins	Rev. William David Glenn
Rev. I. V. W. Schenck	

Employment may be found here for all, with 500 different factories in Trenton engaged in the manufacture of 100 different articles and our local rubber mill employing 100 men and women.

The first inhabitants of this area came from Hull, England in 1678. They anchored their ship at Burlington, New Jersey, eighteen miles from Hamilton Square. Some inhabitants settled in this section and took grants of land. Among these names are found—Hutchinson, Cubberley, Rogers, Mount, Appleton, West, Pearson, Ivins, Tindall, Hill, Chambers, and Clark. The name of Nottingham was given this section by Isaac Watson who came from Nottingham, England. This village was called Nottingham Square many years before the Revolutionary War. The area of the original township included all of the present township, and all of Trenton south of the Assunpink Creek. The township was called Nottingham from 1686 to 1842. In 1842, Hamilton Township was formed from the greater part of Nottingham Township. The residents of Nottingham Township gradually changed the name to Hamilton Township, and "Nottingham" was lost after more than 150 years.

In 1695, there were 39 taxpayers in Nottingham Township, and their possessions ranged from 30 to 1300 acres. The oldest road in Hamilton Square is the one running North and South, and is now called Mercer Street. This was cut through the woods by the Quakers going to and from the meeting houses at Crosswicks and Stony Brook. This road was used as early as 1695. The road running East and West, now known as Nottingham Way, was a crooked path between Trenton and Allentown—used as early as 1725. At the time of the Revolutionary War, in 1774, there were eight houses and a blacksmith shop in Nottingham Square. At this time

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the Presbyterians built their first church. It was painted yellow and called "The Old Yellow Meeting House". This building was located on the opposite side of the road from the present building. The lot was deeded by David Chambers. This church was used as a sheep shelter during the Revolutionary War. This first church had no lights, no carpets. It was a frame building of weather boards with shingle roof and yellow pine floor. The pulpit was round with a curtain hung in front of it. The Deacons and Elders sat in front of the minister. A square stove burned large logs. This was often replenished during the service. The singing was led by David and John Cubberley, father and son, who stood up in front and got the pitch with a tuning fork. Some times the hymns were difficult to recognize at the end of the second verse because of the various pitches and melodies that had appeared.

There was no Sunday School. Services were held once a month. This building was torn down in 1837 and a new brick building was erected to the west of the old one, on land deeded to the church by the late William C. Sinclair. The lot was 40 by 50 feet. This brick church was built by Mr. James West, at a cost of \$2160. The pulpit was boxed in and small. The pews were boxed with square doors. The pulpit, pews and doors were made of curly maple. Carpet was laid in the aisles. Sunday School was held in the gallery. This building was improved in 1862. A new pulpit and recess were built, pew doors removed, seats painted and scrolls put on the ends.

In 1867, this church was torn down and a third church built. A lot was purchased from Mr. John H. Clark, an honored member of the church, on the north side of the road, nearly opposite the old church. The building was built of brick, 40 by 76, with a basement. The belfry with a steeple was 120 feet high. The pulpit, built in 1862, was transferred to the new church. The cost of this building was \$2180.00. Older members of the church state that the colonial arch over the pulpit was also brought from the former church. The corner stone was laid in June. A box made of copper was placed in the southwest corner of the foundation.

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Rev. Manning arranged the box which contained many curious records. The boys of the village put bottles containing various things at different points in the wall. The Rev. Perkins was the speaker. This building was enclosed in the fall of 1867, and the basement used for religious services until its completion the following summer. It was dedicated to worship December 16, 1868. The Rev. Dr. Hall of Trenton, the Venerable Dr. Perkins of Allentown and others took part. A large congregation attended the service. Much credit is due the Rev. R. L. Manning for his untiring efforts in the erection of the church building. The first service held in this building was conducted by the Rev. John Manning. This was the funeral service for Mrs. Nancy Holmes.

This building committee was Samuel Hutchinson, Christopher Vanness, William Sinclair and Joseph Hutchinson.

THRU THE YEARS WITH ITEMS OF INTEREST.

A LITTLE GRAY HEADSTONE tells us that Betsy Hutchinson, daughter of Phoebe and Amos Hutchinson was the first body to be lain in the cemetery. The date was Oct. 19, 1786. Amos Hutchinson was a prominent member of this church. His name appears on the memorial windows. He was the grandfather of Congressman Elijah C. Hutchinson. His wife was Phoebe Clark, daughter of Col. Clark of Revolutionary fame.

The salary for one year paid to Rev. George Ely in 1840 was \$263.50. This salary was paid quarterly and the months between paydays were long ones. However, the farmers in the congregation supplemented the salary with produce from their farms for the Pastor's table and grain for the horse's feed. Mr. Ely records many deaths which occurred during babyhood and early childhood. Death was expected and although hearts ached as of today—sorrow was the cross all must bear and also share. His report for one month in 1848 follows: July 10th—William West laid his child in the silent tomb, the child of John Anderson was laid to rest, two children of Nelson Silvers, and Joseph Hill's baby were lain in the silent tomb. It is written: "The Lord snatched them away in the morning of life from this world of trouble."

In 1867 Mr. John E. Gordon became a member of this congregation. His faithfulness to the church services and christian work continued throughout his long life. He served as Elder for 46 years. On the 45th anniversary of his Eldership a special social occasion was held in the church to celebrate.

Mr. Gordon's father-in-law, David Lee served as Elder for 37 years.

There is a legend that Mr. Gordon was responsible for securing the Rev. Joseph Howell as pastor in 1858. He had heard the young Princeton student and liked him. On several occasions he brought Mr. Howell to the church as a supply. Next he succeeded in securing him as a candidate, then, finally, as Pastor.

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In 1870 a committee was appointed for the purpose of renting the pews. The following men were named—John H. Clark, Major Voorhees and Abraham Hutchinson. This source of income helped with necessary expenses. However, the results were insufficient and renting of the pews was discontinued.

On the evening of March 20, 1871, the church was robbed of its carpets, bibles, pulpit cushions, marble top table, hymn books, clock, cards and all the keys to the church. On the following Sabbath evening the congregation was locked in the church and the key taken away. The lock had to be broken to let the people out. The following winter the thief was found at Chambersburg. His house was full of the stolen goods. In his bedroom a motto hung on the wall. It read; "Thou Shalt Not Steal." This motto formerly hung in the Sunday School room. Part of the church carpet was found on the floor of his home. The clock was there, also the marble top table.

Mr. George Rea Cook and Mrs. Rebecca Elizabeth Blackwell united with this church by letter from the Pennington Presbyterian Church in June. In 1880 Mr. Cook was elected an Elder. In 1882 he was sent to the General Assembly of the United States of America which met in Springfield, Illinois. He was elected Clerk of the Session from 1890 to 1896. He seldom missed a meeting. Mr. Cook was sent to the Presbytery 29 times during his Eldership. He was a member of the House of Assembly in 1857. He died in 1909 at the age of 84.

In 1875 Mr. William Tindall of Newtown deeded a lot, and a small Chapel was built. The Pastors of the church conducted services there. The services were held on the Sabbath afternoon. These ministers included the Rev. Cunningham, Moore, Smythe, Howell and McKee. Transportation was usually by foot. The orchestra and songsters followed the Pastor's footsteps.

In 1877 about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, high winds, which later terminated in a hurricane, struck this town severely, leaving in its path, destruction. The spire of the Presbyterian Church, which towered 120 feet from the ground was

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destroyed. It fell into the yard of Mr. Reed. The belfry rolled to the ground and the bell rolled out unharmed. Three large stained glass windows were broken and the sash ruined.



On September 26th, 1881, the day that James A. Garfield, President of the U. S. was buried, the bells of the Baptist and Presbyterian churches were tolled from 10 till 11. Memorial services were held in the Presbyterian Church. Remarks were made by Rev. W. W. Case, pastor of the Baptist church and Rev. Elvin, pastor of the Methodist church. Rev. Luke Cunningham, pastor of the Presbyterian church, presided and pronounced the benediction. The church was filled with admirers of the President. Several members of the G. A. R. were present.

The present pipe organ was installed December 5, 1904, and Mrs. Samuel L. Grove was elected organist. She served in this capacity faithfully for many years. Mr. Andrew Carneige gave \$800.00 for the organ's installation. The congregation paid the balance by subscription.

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COPY OF THE FIRST CHURCH BULLETIN

THE BULLETIN

December 12, 1909 No. 246 Rev. Joseph Howell

S. S. at 10 A. M. 3 banner classes—Mrs. Stults, Mrs. Grove's and Miss Johnston's. Wish we could all be such.

11 A. M.—Lottie K. Graves Memorial Services and Infant Baptism.

6:45—C. E.—Leader, Chester Anderson, "Encourage him."

7:30—Sermon "Review Life's Fight."

Wed.—7:30—Prayer Services—subject "He that hath the Sabbath."

"Life" 1 John 5—Help with your presence.

Sabbath A. M. December 26, "Xmas Oratorio". Let all in the Oratorio be present at the practices—rain or shine. Do not miss one of them.

Xmas Entertainment—Tuesday, December 28.

The new officers for the C. E. the coming year are as follows:

President, C. Olden Davis	Treas., Elizabeth Voorhees
Vice Pres., Wm. Vaughan	Pianists, Beulah Davis
Secretary, Ethel Cubberley	Wm. Sharp
Corr. Sec., L. L. Grove	Chorister, Wm. Vaughan

95 different families have contributed to the Press. The amount is \$26.55. Amount wanted is \$40.00 Jan. 1, 1909. Mr. Wh. H. West gave the first \$.50. We are wondering if the whole amount will be in by January 1, 1910.

Mrs. Wm. H. West will be 92 years old next 24th of April, and when the pastor called on her on Monday last, she had the washing all done. For 3 successive weeks she has run the washing machine. Isn't that a record? Mother West wondered if there were any other young girls with as good a record.

The amount in the Roll Call envelopes was \$101.45, since \$2.00 has been handed to the pastor. Will the 74 remaining members please send in theirs? The Pastor will hold a young converts class at his Study every Tuesday P. M. at 3:45. Will all who signed the cards come? And any of

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the young people who desire to know the way of Life more clearly.

Mrs. S. M. Smith is in a serious condition. Mr. and Mrs. L. H. Brown are both upon the sick list. Mr. Joseph Hughes is improving. The women had a fine meeting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. D. B. Chamberlin's on Thursday P.M. The Missionary Barrel is on its way to Arkansas.

On Sept. 8th, 1906, The Lotty Graves Library was ready to install. Memorial services were held for the donor. This library consisted of a hard oak case, 250 books and an oak table and chair. For a few years memorial services were held annually and the library was in charge of a librarian until it became outmoded on March 29th, 1923.

On August 11, 1912 the Rev. I. V. W. Schenck, former pastor preached the morning sermon at our church service. He was then on summer vacation from his charge in Newark. He was entertained at the temperance house on the corner of Nottingham Way and Mercer Street. His hosts were Mr. and Mrs. Samuel L. Grove.

At the installation services of Mr. McKee, November 14, 1913 the scripture was read by the Rev. Samuel Polk, pastor of the Lawrenceville Presbyterian Church and close friend of the family. The sermon was delivered by Rev. William H. Woolverton of Stockton, the installation prayer by the Rev. Joseph Howell, former pastor, charge to the pastor by the Rev. G. W. Ely of Columbia, a former pastor and close friend of the pastor elect, charge to the people by the Rev. George Ingram, Moderator.

The need for a larger, more modern manse was felt by all, especially by the eleven McKees.

This project was carried through by Mr. McKee and his capable committee: Mr. Walter N. Updike, treasurer of the building fund, Mr. E. C. McGalliard, clerk of the Session and Mr. William McGalliard, clerk of the Trustees and chairman of the building fund.

The lot was a gift of Mrs. William Hughes and was located directly opposite the church building.

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The years ahead were trying ones for all. World War 1—youth leaving the home town for army camps and over seas service.

FIRST WORLD WAR HONOR ROLL

Peter W. Crozer, U.S.N.	Charles McCabe
C. Olden Davis, Army	Field Service
Paul H. McKee, Navy	John F. Caswell,
George R. Lockwood, Army	U. S. N. Reserves
Fred Mount, Army	Henry K. Chamberlain, Army
George L. Tomlinson,	John A. Hart, Army
Air Force	Charles C. Hart, Army
David C. McGalliard, Jr.,	Thomas Hawley, U. S. N. R.
Army	Harlen White, S. A. T. C.
James S. Chamberlain, Army	Horace Hills, S. A. T. C.
Harold L. Dennis, Army	J. Waldron Reed
George H. Combs, Army	Dr. E. S. West,
Percy P. West, Air Force	Medical Corps

On April 11, 1915 a flag pole in front of the church was donated by the Barracks association of Trenton.

The New Era movement in the Presbyterian Church in 1919 was a call to enter into the Lord's work with more enthusiasm and devotion. The New Era fund campaign was carried through successfully with our church going over the top. In the campaign for church membership, 21 members were received into the church. The committee appointed to direct the work of the New Era Movement was: Chairman, Rev. T. P. McKee; Secretary, Miss Beulah Davis; D. L. Cook, E. T. McGalliard, M. V. Nutt, H. E. Maddock, Mrs. T. P. McKee and Mrs. D. L. Yard.

The Acetylene lights hung low between the pulpit and the congregation. The chandelier obstructed the view of the pastor and also the congregation. Then, too, the large room needed better illumination.

Dr. George R. Robbins wished to invest some money in a memorial to his wife, his daughter, Millie, and his three grandsons, George, Mimford and Elijah C. He was also interested in assisting the church in her needs. Dr. Robbins consulted the pastor, Mr. McKee and asked him to suggest

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a project for him to carry through. The decision was that the lighting system was important and necessary. The church was wired for electricity and the present beautiful fixtures installed. The center chandelier was given in memory of his wife, Mrs. Anna Watson Hutchinson, and the side lights in honor of his daughter Millie and her three sons.

The memorial windows were also installed during Mr. McKee's pastorate. Four men representing the glass company in Pittsburgh, Pa., spent two weeks in Hamilton Square, supervising and installing the windows. These men boarded at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Grove. They were much impressed with the village and the hospitality of the people. When vacation time came they returned with their wives to show them the town and people they had described.

The memorial windows added beauty to the sanctuary and the names inscribed there remind us of the faith of our fathers.

One of the accomplishments of the Sunday School in 1920 was the enlargement and renovation of the Sunday School room, the well equipped kitchen, the attractive session room, the oak floors, the folding doors, and the tile vestibule. These improvements add interest and convenience to the Sunday School and help greatly in the social occasions of the church. The committee in charge was D. L. Cook, chairman; W. N. Updike, Treasurer; C. H. Snedecker, A. M. Dye, and Eden West.

The late Mrs. M. V. Nutt was chairman of the Fourth Liberty Loan of World War I. She held a medal made from a captured German cannon, also a German helmet was presented to her in recognition of her services. Our handsome individual communion service was a gift from Mrs. Nutt in 1920.

During the pastorate of Mr. Strohauer a junior congregation was formed to help develop the church-going habit among the youth of the church. At the close of the year appropriate books were presented to the most faithful. "The Pioneers" was organized by the Rev. Mr. Strohauer in May, 1933. This was a junior high group with Jeane A. West as the first president of the organization. After her death in June, 1934,

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the organization was named "The Jeane West Pioneers" in her memory.

On January the 8th, 1934, special services were held in the church to honor three members of the congregation who had served as elders of the church for 40 years. The program was arranged by the pastor, Mr. Strohauer. The names of the three honored were: Mr. Latham B. Walsh, Mr. Edward C. Sharp, and Mr. E. T. McGalliard.

During the months of 1928 the Junior choir was gowned. This added unity and created an atmosphere of importance and separation from the world.

During the pastorate of Rev. Paul Strohauer, in 1929, a committee was formed to solicit funds for the renovation of the church and building of an addition to the Sunday School room. Those appointed were: J. Clark Stryker, W. N. Updike, Charles O. Smith, E. T. McGalliard, and Henry Davis. Mr. Walter N. Updike was chairman of this committee and also treasurer. The amount received was \$8918.99. Mr. George Combs, Mr. Walter H. Snell, Mr. Addison Stults, Mr. Hartford Mount, and Mr. Lewis Cottrell formed the financial committee to see that the necessary funds were provided. These men carried the building to completion according to plans. A \$5000.00 mortgage was given to Mr. Arthur, who lived in Vermont. He was a brother of Dr. Francis M. Arthur, well known Hamilton Square physician. The total cost of this renovation was \$18,655.00. This debt was reduced several times when the ladies aid made payments of \$500.00, the sale of cemetery lots amounted to \$155.00, and the Sunday School donated \$100.00. The congregational pledges amounted to \$8202.00.

On Aug. 29, 1926, Dr. Joshua Pierrepont, dentist, Elder and Clerk of the Session, died suddenly while praying during the Sunday School service. Dr. Pierrepont's prayers were devout and earnest. This Sabbath morning all of his strength went into his prayer and his spirit ascended to the Lord to whom he prayed. Mrs. Pierrepont had died in May and friends who know them intimately understood that the separation

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was too much to bear. He had resigned as Clerk of the Session on Dec. 31st., after having served for 12 years.

During 1927 and 1928 the cemetery was completely cleared of objectionable grass. It has been a place of beauty. The kind of place every relative and friend of the deceased desires. The change was so pronounced that many friends had difficulty in locating the graves when they brought floral tributes. The Presbyterian cemetery was now conceded to be the most beautiful, best cared for cemetery in this section. Many thanks to Mr. Strohauer who had the courage to work out his dream.

On May 25, 1944 a reception was held in the church in honor of Rev. and Mrs. Robert Lennox. This was to commemorate their 7th anniversary at the church. Many friends were present, refreshments were served, and a gift of Trenton's own Lenox china was presented to them. This conveyed the love and respect of the congregation. Mrs. Lennox received the gift with her customary graciousness.

At the time of our 175th anniversary, Mr. Henry Davis is 87 years old. Mr. Davis was born in Freehold, N. J. and came with his parents to live on a farm adjoining Hamilton Square at the age of four. He grew up in the church, seldom missing a service of any kind. Mr. Davis' father was a trustee of the church and he was treasurer for 25 years. His father and grandfather are buried in Old Tennent Church cemetery.

One outstanding contribution of the celebration of our 175th Anniversary has been a complete renovation of the church. The program actually began long before the final plans were announced, when the Sunday School and friends paid for the redecoration of the Sunday School auditorium and installed new draperies on the windows. The deacons next undertook the urgent job of having the stained glass windows in the sanctuary straightened, repaired and strengthened. The Helping Hands Class provided for the painting of the sanctuary while the Ladies Aid Society recarpeted the floor and covered the pew cushions. Several gifts of brass were secured as memorials: a pair of candlesticks in memory of Mr. Milton C.

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Kirby, given by his wife; a pair of vases in memory of Miss Mary E. Cubberley and Rev. Paul Strohauer, offering plates in memory of Mr. and Mrs. W. V. McGalliard, Mr. David Bunting, Mr. Addison Stults and Mrs. Carrie Mather, a pulpit lamp in memory of the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter N. Updike, and an organ lamp, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. M. Voorhees Nutt.

SECOND WORLD WAR HONOR ROLL

Wayne Anderson	Henry Paul Ivins
Orrin Anderson	John Milton Ivins
Franklin Anderson	Donald Sprague
Rodney Anderson	Edward Sprague
Franklyn Mershon	Vincent Snedecker—★
Charles Mershon	Fred Hammell, Jr.
Leroy Sprague	Luther Hammell
Ronald Nicol	Emerson Hammell
Lindsay Nicol	Frank Okerson, Jr.
James Nicol	Helen Decker
Harry Nicol	Albert Decker
Grover Tindall	Arthur Watson
John E. Lockwood	Albert Anderson
Leon M. Rogers	Albert Appleton
Leon VanNess	Walter E. Hall
Carlton Mount	Dr. Floyd D. Hunter
Harold Tindall	Dean Patterson
Alfred Chamberlain	Katherine M. Stryker
Howard Carr, Jr.	Ernest Conover
Stewart Mitchell, Jr.	George G. Higgins
John Hartshorn	Russel Paterson
Huston M. West	Arthur Bennett
Joseph H. West	Clifton Yard
Parker M. West	Earl Kirby
Lionel Jackson	Barclay VanNess
Samuel Johnson	Horace E. Story
George Rogers	William E. Sharp
Thomas Higgins	Fred Hartshorn
John Arthur Ziegler	Carlton Dilatush
Charles L. Cubberley	George Clifton Morgan
Harold G. Wiley	

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The Home Department secured 25 new hymnals and the Missionary Society furnished 25 Bibles for the Sunday School. Under the leadership of the trustees the roof was repaired, the exterior of the church was given a new stucco finish and an oil burner was installed in the furnace with the aid of the Helping Hands Class. The Session is bringing up to date the congregation's memorial window in the vestibule, containing the names of pastors and providing space for the names of future ministers.

Besides these material aspects of celebration the congregation gathered together old friends on Oct. 16, 1949 for a homecoming "Old Pew Sunday" featuring a choir made up of those who had sung during the past 25 years. The church was also host to the Presbytery of New Brunswick in January 1950 and to the Women's Presbyterial Society in April.

OUR PASTORS

REV. WM. SCHENCK

In 1774 Rev. Wm. Schenck, a graduate of Princeton, was called to be the first pastor of the Presbyterian church of Nottingham Square. Previous to this he acted as a stated supply, giving part of his time to Allentown Presbyterian Church and a church in Imlaystown. He remained until 1778. He died in Franklin, Ohio in 1823 at the age of 83.

REV. GEORGE FAITOUT

A call was presented by the Nottingham and Allentown churches for the pastoral services of Rev. George Faitout at a meeting of Presbytery in Trenton in April 1779. Mr. Faitout gave one-third of his time to the Nottingham Church, two-thirds to Allentown. One session with members in both churches kept up the spiritual interest in each church. Mr. Faitout remained two years.

The Rev. George Faitout was born in New York City in 1750. He received his B.A. from Princeton University in 1775. He died August 21, 1815.

Valuable papers have been found in the office of Stated Clerk of New Brunswick; one of these follows:

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To the Rev. Presbytery of New Brunswick now sitting at Trenton, Old House, being Tuesday, the 27th April, 1779. The call of the congregation of Nottingham, Burlington County in New Jersey. Rev. Sirs: We the congregation of Nottingham accounting it a great mercy of God that he had been pleased to establish a church in our wretched world and to furnish the same with outstanding ministry and looking upon it to be our duty as far as it is in our power not only to promote the kingdom and encourage the ministry of Christ in general but also considering the necessity and advantage of having the stated means of grace and a regular gospel minister, do join and agree to call Mr. George Faitout to be our minister. We are well satisfied and well pleased with his preaching and deportment. We also agree to give him a decent and comfortable support while he may continue giving and dividing of his labors between us and our Allentown brothers. The call is signed by Jonathan Hutchinson, Thomas Hutchinson, Wm. Willgus, Robert Hutchinson, Moses Quigley, John Pearson, James Fagan, Laban Hamell, Jacob Rozzel, David Gordon, Henry Silvers, David Chambers and nineteen others.

REV. JOSEPH CLARK

Mr. Clark was born at Elizabeth, N. J., Oct. 21, 1751. He was apprenticed as a carpenter at the age of 17. His early desire to become a minister inspired him to work all day and study most of the night with light from a pine knot. Rev. Clark entered Princeton University as a junior but was soon compelled to leave because of the war. He served for two years and was a quatermaster on the staff of Major General Adam Stephen, Continental Army, Revolutionary War. At the close of the war Mr. Clark returned to Princeton and was graduated in 1781. He then studied theology for two years and was licensed to preach as a supply.

He was called to the Allentown Presbyterian Church in April 1784. On July 28, 1786, commissions from Allentown and Nottingham met in Allentown and Mr. Clark was asked to continue as pastor of Allentown and also to preach at Nottingham. His duties were to preach one sermon in the

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afternoon of every fourth Sunday, catechise the children, give weekly lectures, preach funeral sermons and visit the sick. The articles of agreement were signed by Jonathan, Thomas, John, Amos and Isaac Hutchinson, Jacob Richardson, William Wilgus, Robert Tharas, William Mount, David Cumberly and David Chamberlain. Rev. Clark was installed with the celebrated Dr. Witherspoon performing the duty of induction. His salary was 14 pounds, 10 shillings for the year 1788 to 1789, 21 pounds for the year 1793, paid quarterly. He preached four years, and at the request of the congregation, Presbytery ordained Mr. Clark as an Evangelist. This was done because he was in poor health and unable to assume the numerous duties of a pastor. Added duties impaired his health and he was compelled to ask for supplies. For the next two years Presbytery supplied the pulpit. Among these were the names of Miller, Alexander, Woodhull, Comfort, Hull, Cornell and Perkins. Services were held once or twice a month during the period of supplies. Mr. Clark preached the funeral sermon of Honorable William Patterson Esq. LL.D., Assistant Justice of the Supreme Court of U.S.A. During Mr. Clark's ministry the condition of the church was one of peace, growth, and efficiency. Mr. Clark received a call from New Brunswick. His friends here opposed Mr. Clark's leaving because he was needed and dearly loved. Mr. Clark asked advice from Presbytery at the September meeting and was advised to accept the call. He moved to New Brunswick on Wednesday, the 21st day of December 1796, and preached his first sermon on the following day. On the 4th of January 1797 he was installed.

Mr. Clark took with him the records of the church and they were lost when a fire destroyed his house.

REV. JOHN CORNELL

On June the third, 1800 a call from the United Churches of Allentown and Nottingham, was presented to Presbytery at Kingston, requesting the services of Rev. John Cornell of the Dutch Reformed Church of New Brunswick. The meeting was held at Kingston. The call was placed in his hands and his acceptance declared. Presbytery met in Allentown on

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

June 23, 1800 and he was ordained and installed as pastor, and served the congregation for nearly twenty years. The memorial window in the church vestibule records Mr. Cornell's pastorate as the years 1798-1818, and so we can suppose that he served for two years as student supply before his ordination.

Mrs. Cornell was Miss Maria Frelinhuyser, daughter of General Frederick Frelinhuyser of Somerset County. She is remembered as a very pious woman and established the first Sunday School in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Cornell had a large family of children. Some of them sleep in the Allentown cemetery.

Mr. Cornell left Allentown to take charge of a classical school at Somerville, New Jersey in 1818.

REV. HENRY PERKINS

Rev. Henry Perkins succeeded Mr. Cornell. He was ordained and installed pastor of the United Churches of Allentown and Nottingham on December 5, 1820. When Mr. Perkins received the call it was just before his graduation from Princeton Seminary.

The Elders at this time were: David Cubberley, Jacob Fisher, Robert Vanderbeck, Cornelius Vanderbeck, James Hughes, Amos Hutchinson, Theophibus Furman, David McKean, and Ebenezer Smith.

Rev. Perkins gave one quarter of his time to Nottingham Square. The salary was \$53.32 a year paid semi-annually. The number of communicants at this time was seventy-five: Forty-eight at Allentown and twenty-seven at Nottingham.

The names of David Cubberley, James Hughes, Christopher Vanness, Matthias Mount, Captain Amos Hutchinson and Joseph Appleton appear in the records as active men in the Nottingham Church at this time.

Four revivals took place during Mr. Perkins' Ministry. The largest of these was a joint revival, with the members of both churches participating. Seven hundred forty four persons were received into the membership of the two churches. Rev. Perkins was pastor of the Nottingham Square Presbyterian

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Church from 1820-1840. He was pastor of the Allentown Presbyterian Church from 1820-1864.

Rev. Perkins received the degree of Doctor of Divinity from the College of New Jersey in 1858. He died in Allentown June 30, 1880.

REV. GEORGE ELY

In December 1837 the congregation of Nottingham Square met for the purpose of dissolving the connection between the churches of Allentown and Nottingham, and for calling a pastor in cooperation with the Presbyterian Church of Dutch Neck. He was to give half of his time to each church. This move was to become effective when negotiations with Allentown were completed.

The Rev. John Yeomans presided over a meeting which resulted in the election of Rev. George Ely by unanimous vote. Mr. Ely accepted, and on April 29, 1840 Presbytery met and Rev. George Ely was ordained and installed Pastor. The services were conducted by the Rev. Perkins, Rev. Rodgers, Rev. Comfort and Rev. Henry. The elders of the Church were David Cubberly, James Hughes, Samuel Hutchinson, Christopher Vanness, and John Cubberly.

Rev. George Ely was born in Trenton, New Jersey, January 3, 1808. He graduated from the University of Nashville in 1833, and from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1838.

In 1844 a revival resulted in sixty three conversions. In 1844 a new manse was built on a lot bought from Mrs. Sarah Hughes, on the north side of the village opposite the present Rubber Mill. In 1850 another revival was held with fifty five conversions.

The first Harvest Home of the church was held during Mr. Ely's pastorate. It was held beside the church next to Mr. William Hughes under a large tent. An admission fee of five cents was charged and collected by Mr. James Hutchinson. The second Harvest Home was held in the new manse before Rev. Ely moved into it.

On February 20, 1856 a meeting of the congregation was called by the Rev. Ely for the purpose of requesting a release

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

on account of ill health. It was resolved that his request be granted, and a committee was appointed to present his request to Presbytery. They met at Trenton on February 28, 1856, and after deeply sympathizing with Rev. Ely in his affliction, agreed to release him of his pastoral duties at Hamilton Square and Dutch Neck. The Rev. Nassau was appointed to declare the pulpit vacant.

Rev. Ely was a faithful, diligent, successful pastor for sixteen years, greatly loved by his people. His memory lived in the hearts of his congregation for many years. He died in Hartsville, Pennsylvania August 14, 1856.

REV. ROBERT MANNING

On June 16, 1856 the congregation held a meeting for the purpose of calling a pastor. Rev. A. D. White presided. The Rev. Robert S. Manning was unanimously elected. He was a member of the graduating class of the Princeton Theological Seminary.

On July 22, 1856 Presbytery met at Hamilton Square and Mr. Manning was solemnly ordained and sworn in as pastor. Rev. Davis, Dr. Davidson, Dr. Macdonald and Dr. Cooley took prominent parts in the service.

Rev. Manning divided his time between the Dutch Neck church and Hamilton Square. He was a devoted pastor and friend. During his ministry there was a gradual increase in membership. One hundred thirteen were received into full membership. At a congregational meeting on May 7, 1868 Mr. Manning requested that the congregation join with him in asking the Presbytery to dissolve the pastoral relationship between him and his people. A committee was appointed to prevail on him to withdraw his request and remain, but he declined.



Rev. Robert Manning

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Mrs. Manning was loved by all and shall always be remembered as a lovely, cultured person. She conducted a private school during her stay at Hamilton Square. This school used the Manse for classrooms.

Mr. Manning was known as a shrewd business man. During his pastorate in Hamilton Square, he formed a partnership with Mr. L. V. Mead and built the local Rubber Mill, which is now the Mercer Rubber Company, owned and operated by Mr. Fred R. Sayen and Mr. Henry Sayen.

Mr. Manning's salary is recorded to be \$600.00 a year. Perhaps he felt that the supplementary income allowed for intellectual development and physical necessities. Even well deserved comforts were possible.

REV. ISAAC VAN WERT SCHENCK

At a meeting of the congregation on April 27, 1869, Rev. Isaac Van Wert Schenck, a member of the graduating class of Princeton Theological Seminary, was unanimously chosen for the pastor. Rev. A. L. Armstrong presided. The call was presented to Presbytery by Mr. John C. Cubberley and Mr. John H. Clark, commissioner. Presbytery met at Hamilton Square on the eighteenth of May and installed Rev. Schenck as Pastor. Rev. Kennedy presided, Rev. Simms and Rev. Armstrong served as clerks. The New Brunswick Presbytery had invited the Rev. A. V. C. Schenck of the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Philadelphia to preach the ordination sermon. Dr. Green, of Princeton, led in Prayer and Rev. Elias S. Schenck, father of the pastor elect, delivered the charge to the congregation. During Mr. Schenck's pastorate a religious revival was held and sixty four were received into the membership of the church. Fifty five on confession of faith and nine by certificate.

When a pastor was called the call specified that the pastor was expected to preach one sermon a month at Edinburg, in the school house, and also at the Robbinsville chapel.

Mr. Schenck was a man of great inventive power. Had he chosen Engineering or the Sciences instead of the Ministry, he probably would have made a name for himself on earth

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

instead of in Heaven. Perhaps he acquired these inventive powers because he was not too ambitious and was always thinking—trying to find an easier way to perform necessary tasks.

Mr. Schenck owned a horse. The animal was his only means of transportation over the country roads, and very necessary to call on the sick, visit his parishioners and perform the usual ministerial duties. However, he did not enjoy arising early in the morning to feed the horse. After some thought, Mr. Schenck invented an easier method. A box, built the proper size to hold the feed, was connected to his bed by a wire. When feeding time came, all Mr. Schenck had to do was pull the wire, trip the box, and the feed was in front of the horse's mouth. Mr. James Everitt, owner and trainer of horses and a wise old man who lived to the age of 99, told Mr. Schenck that the idea was all wrong. The owner of the horse should get up and see if the horse was in good health and ready for his breakfast.

Rev. Schenck was called to a large church in Newark in 1879 and remained there until his retirement. He passed away in the St. Barnas Hospital in Newark, December 15, 1913.

REV. WILLIAM L. CUNNINGHAM

Rev. William L. Cunningham was born March 4, 1847 in Alnwick, Northumberland, England. He received his B. A. degree at Rutherford College, his B. Ph. at Weslean, Illinois and his D. D. from Yale Divinity School. He also attended Princeton Theological Seminary.

Mr. Cunningham was called on May 11, 1880, at a salary of \$810.00, to be paid quarterly. His first sermon was preached in our church on the same day as the old Baptist Church was having the last sermon of its pastor.

The church was in debt when Mr. Cunningham became pastor, but he soon had things on a sound financial basis. No doubt he was forced to spend quite a lot of time balancing his own budget with \$15.50 a week to manage on. Part of the expenses were raised by renting the pews. The profit from the Harvest Home held in August 1887 was \$310.00.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Mr. Cunningham requested that he be released in January 1887, as he had received a call from the First Presbyterian Church of South Tarrington, Massachusetts. The people liked him and were loath to let him go. Presbytery met in Trenton, it was voted that he remain. He had made arrangements for leaving and had even posted some of his personal belongings for sale. He was promised a raise in salary so he remained for another year.

Mr. Cunningham died at Point Pleasant, New Jersey, October 5, 1897.

REV. DANIEL STUART MOORE

Rev. Daniel Stuart Moore was born in Priestland, Ireland on May 7, 1861.

He was graduated from Magee College in 1883, and was a teacher in Assembly College, Belfast, Ireland from 1883 to 1885. He studied at the Princeton Theological Seminary from 1885 to 1886, and was ordained as pastor of the Delaware Water Gap Church by the Lehigh Presbytery.

In 1889 he became the pastor of this church and served it for four years. After leaving the Hamilton Square Church he was installed as pastor of the South Church in Philadelphia. This pastorate lasted from 1893 to the time of his death in 1928. During this time he received his honorary D. D. degree.

REV. DAVID T. SMYTH

Rev. David T. Smyth was born in Carlemont, Ireland on September 12, 1854. He was licensed and ordained in the Methodist Episcopal Church in Belfast, Ireland in 1881. While the Rev. Smyth was at Clifton, Delaware he was unanimously elected as pastor of the Hamilton Square Church at a salary of \$900.00 to be paid quarterly together with the use of the parsonage and a four weeks vacation.

John G. LaBaw, David Lee, and George R. Cook were appointed commissioners to a Presbytery meeting held at Frenchtown, New Jersey on June 27, 1893 to prosecute the call. He was received by certificate on examination of his belief in the doctrines of the Presbyterian Church, since he

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

was transferring from the Methodist Episcopal Church. At the installation ceremonies on July 13, 1893, the Rev. D. R. Foster of Bethany Church, Trenton preached the sermon and asked the constitutional questions. The charge to the pastor was given by Dr. W. A. Brooks, pastor of the Prospect Street Church of Trenton and the charge to the congregation was given by Rev. D. Stuart Moore of Old South Church in Philadelphia.

During Rev. Smyth's pastorate, the envelope system of collection was adopted. The envelopes were printed and distributed each month with the purposes of the collection printed on the front of them. One hundred eighty nine members were recorded in the church for 1896. The total receipts in that year were \$2032.92 and expenses were \$1784.32.

Mr. Smyth left in 1897. His last pastorate was at the Langcliff, Pennsylvania Church, where his post office address was Avoca, Pennsylvania. He retired from this church on December of 1925, and died in Stroudsburg on March 13, 1931 at the age of seventy-seven.

REV. JOSEPH HOWELL, M.A.

Joseph Howell, fourth son of William August Howell and his wife, Emmaline Darrah Howell, was born in Harmony, New Jersey, June 26, 1858. He was reared on a large farm and lived the life of a farm boy until 1885 when he began to teach in the Pen Argle School in Pennsylvania. He became Assistant Principal in 1889. Later in that year he entered Parks Preparatory School, Easton, Pennsylvania and in 1890 entered Lafayette College. During his senior year at Lafayette he was President of the College Brainerd Y.M.C.A., which necessitated his



Rev. Joseph Howell

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

attendance at the Summer Conference at Northfield, Massachusetts. In the summer of 1893 at a Round Top Prayer Meeting led by Rev. Dwight L. Moody, he made his decision for the gospel ministry. In 1894 he was graduated from Lafayette College and was assigned as one of the speakers at Commencement with honors. In the fall of 1894 he entered Princeton Theological Seminary and was graduated in May 1897.

His long life of ministry was spent as follows: Ordained by New Brunswick Presbytery May 27, 1897; and installed as Pastor of the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church, Hamilton Square, New Jersey, where he ministered until June 29, 1913. From there he went to Easton, Pennsylvania where he ministered from July 13, 1913 to January 4, 1921 as Pastor of the South Presbyterian Church. He then accepted a call from the First Presbyterian Church, Windsor, New York where he remained until June 27, 1928, at which time he received a call from the First Presbyterian Church, Elmer, New Jersey. He served there until his retirement in July 1941.

He was married October 15, 1913 to Linda Lee Grove in Hamilton Square, New Jersey and was the father of two children, Eleanor Fair and Josephine Annette. He is survived by his wife and children, Mrs. James W. Atwood and Mrs. Wilbur Blair of Wayne, Michigan.

After his retirement he lived in Wilmington, Delaware where he remained active as a supply preacher for the churches in and around Wilmington until his death.

Funeral services were held March 17, 1945 at the Christy Funeral Home, Elmer, New Jersey. Dr. A. H. Kleffman of the West Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Delaware assisted by the Rev. Robert Strain of the First Presbyterian Church, Elmer, New Jersey conducted the services. Interment was at the Greenwood Cemetery, Trenton, New Jersey.

Joseph Howell, M.A., was a man to whom Christian faith was not merely a creed, but a way of life. Widely read and deeply interested in public affairs, his sermons were outstanding and his prayers beautiful in content and sympathetic inspiration.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

REV. THOMAS P. MCKEE

Rev. Thomas Parker McKee was the son of Thomas McKee and Elizabeth Parker. He was born at Clintonville, Pennsylvania in 1867. His parents



Rev. Thomas P. McKee

were Scotch Irish Presbyterians. His father was elder in the Presbyterian Church and president of the local bank. Thomas was one of nine children. Three of his sisters married Presbyterian ministers and two nephews studied for the ministry at the Princeton Theological Seminary.

Mr. McKee attended Preparatory School in Harrisburg and was graduated from Wooster College and Princeton Seminary.

In June 1891, Mr. McKee and his bride, Adella Huston, accepted a call to the New Harmony Church in York County, Pennsylvania. This pastorate lasted twenty one years.

Ten children were born in the manses. Nine of these children are still living: Thomas Parker, Jr., Old Lyme, Connecticut, Mrs. Percy P. West, Hamilton Square, New Jersey, Paul H. McKee, Rising Sun, Maryland, Mrs. Richard M. Balderston, Wilmington, Delaware, Mrs. William R. Pogue, Wilmington, Delaware, Prof. John A. McKee, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, Mrs. William Martin, Burlington, New Jersey, Mrs. Herbert L. Laube, Auburn, New York and Joseph H. McKee, Claymont, Delaware.

The call from the Hamilton Square Church in 1913 was an answer to the hopes and prayers of this growing family from a limited rural parish. Thomas was enrolled in Princeton University, Paul in Lawrenceville Preparatory School. The local Grammar School and Trenton High School fulfilled the needs of the remaining seven.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Mrs. McKee was president of the Missionary Society, the first president of the Ladies Aid Society and the first president of the Hamilton Square Parent Teacher Association.

In 1922 Mr. McKee received a call to the historic West Nottingham Church in Rising Sun, Maryland. He was also Professor of the Bible at the West Nottingham Academy. His next pastorage was Georgetown, Delaware, a few miles from Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.

After retirement in 1933, Mr. and Mrs. McKee spent their winters in the hills of Maryland overlooking the Conowingo-bridge, and their summers at their cottage at Carpenters' Point, Maryland.

Their nine children, all married and raising families, kept them busy baptising grandchildren, then marrying grandchildren and baptising greatgrandchildren. Mr. McKee died the day following his eightieth birthday, June 13, 1947, at the home of his daughter in Hamilton Square. His body was taken to the West Nottingham Church for burial services. The memorial organ, installed during his pastorate, played his favorite hymns. Burial was in the church cemetery.

REV. WARREN H. HERSHEY

Warren H. Hershey was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. He received his A.B. degree from Franklin and Marshall College in his home county, and was a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary.

Rev. Hershey served as Pastor of the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church from May 11, 1922 until April 8, 1925. During that time he endeavored to stress Bible teaching and the evangelical spirit.

Rev. Hershey lived in Modena, Pennsylvania until his death on May 13, 1950. He is buried in Fairview Cemetery in Coatesville, Pennsylvania and is survived by his wife, a daughter Ruth, and one granddaughter.

A testimony given by Rev. Hershey about a week before his death shows his benevolent Christian philosophy of life, and is therefore printed below.

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"Tell others that in times of illness the half has never been told of the wonders of Christ's person and the Heavenly Home. Also that I have assurance in very full measure that it is only the blood of Christ that gets us there. Make it clear that I have great peace in the assurance that it is only the blood of Christ that gets us to that Heavenly Home."

REV. PAUL J. STROHAUER

Paul John Strohauser, son of Johan and Christina von Olenhausen Strohauser, was born in Schenectady, New York, on May 15, 1871. In 1879 the family moved to Caro, Michigan, where Mr. Strohauser received his high school education. He was graduated from Union College in Schenectady, New York with the bachelor of science degree in 1897.

After graduating from the New Brunswick Theological Seminary in 1900, Mr. Strohauser was ordained and held pastorates in the Princetown Reformed Church at Gifford, New York, Spotswood, New Jersey, Wyckoff, New Jersey, Churchville, Pennsylvania, Franklin, New Jersey, The Sixth Presbyterian Church of Albany, New York. He came to the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church, in October 1925 where he remained until the time of his death, September 30, 1936.

He was the author of several religious pamphlets and translations from the German. He was a member of the Royal Arcanum and of the Odd Fellows.



Rev. Paul J. Strohauser

Mr. Strohauser was married on June 21, 1900 to Frances Churchill Lyons of New Brunswick, New Jersey. She survives him as well as two daughters: Mrs. Kenneth Pearce of Glen Ridge, New Jersey, and Mrs. Edmund Joyce of Cranbury, New Jersey; and two sons, Walter P. Strohauser and Nelson A. Strohauser both of Hamilton Square, New Jersey. Another daughter,

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Mrs. Edward C. Sharp, Jr., of White Horse, New Jersey, died on February 19, 1946.

Funeral services for Mr. Strohauer were held September 30, 1936 in the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church. Rev. Elmer Walker of the Ewing Presbyterian Church and the Rev. Glen Harris of West Trenton Presbyterian Church officiated. Interment was made in the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church Cemetery.

Rev. Paul J. Strohauer, lives in many hearts. He was a quiet man of few words. Kind to those in need. Those who were near to him realized the truth in "actions speak louder than Words".

REV. ROBERT LENNOX

Robert Lennox was born in Bellskill, Lanarkshire, Scotland on June 12, 1907, and his family returned to Ireland when he was about three years old. He received his elementary school education in Belfast, Ireland. In 1923 his family came to Canada and settled in Ottawa. After several years, he decided to study for the ministry. Upon completion of his high school education in Ottawa, he entered Magill University in



Rev. Robert Lennox

1931, where he was graduated with a B.A. degree in 1934. The following year, while doing first year theology work at The Presbyterian College of Montreal, he completed work for his M. A. degree. Mr. Lennox entered Princeton Theological Seminary in 1935 and completed the Theological Course in the spring of 1937 with the degree of Th.B.

He was ordained and installed as pastor of the Hamilton Square Presbyterian Church on May 25, 1937.

On August 20, of the same year, Mr. Lennox and Miss Gwendolyn Ardill were married in Montreal and took up

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

residence in the manse about the first of September. Three daughters, Ruth, Lois and Beth, were born here.

Mr. Lennox continued his studies at Princeton and in 1943 was invited to be associate professor at Temple University.

He resigned as pastor of this church in August 1945 to become Professor of Old Testament Theology at the Presbyterian College affiliated with McGill University of Montreal, Canada.

Dr. Lennox received his Ph.D. degree from Princeton University in 1947 and in 1948 was appointed Principal of the Presbyterian College by the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Canada.

During Dr. Lennox's pastorate here, the mortgage was burned, the organ repaired and the interior of the church redecored. A week of special services resulted in inspiration to all. With the finest speakers available and record breaking crowds, all who attended were greatly helped spiritually.

REV. WILLIAM DAVID GLENN

William D. Glenn was born in Spokane, Washington, on December 30, 1910. He is the eldest son, of Mr. and Mrs.



Rev. William D. Glenn

George A. Glenn. Mr. Glenn received most of his education in Spokane. During his high school days he was a regular Sunday School teacher and for a period had a class of junior age Japanese boys in a mission connected with the church. He was a charter member of the Hi-Y clubs of Spokane and it was through his leadership experience there, as well as his activities in the youth organization of the church, that he decided to enter the ministry. One year after graduation

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

from high school he enrolled in Whitworth College at Spokane, from which he was graduated with an A.B. degree in 1934. Mr. Glenn then came East to enter the Theological Seminary at Princeton and completed his course in 1937 with a Th.B. degree.

Mr. Glenn's first pastorate was the rural parish of the Providence and Jacksonville Presbyterian Churches near Burlington, New Jersey, where he served from 1937 to 1942. He was then called to the Bennett Presbyterian Church of Luzerne, Pennsylvania, where he remained until he was commissioned a Chaplain in the U.S. Army in January 1944. During his military service Chaplain Glenn served the 110th General Hospital for one year and the 12th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Division for another year, joining that famous division in Luxemburg the night before the "Battle of the Bulge." His division was brought back to the United States in July 1945 to be prepared for shipment to Japan, but V.J. Day made further travel unnecessary. He was discharged in January 1946 and was immediately called to our church, taking up his duties the last week in January 1946.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

CLERKS OF THE SESSION

John C. Cubberley 1840-1890
George R. Cook 1890-1896
Edward T. McGalliard 1896-1909 also 1922-1940
Dr. Joshua H. Pierrepont 1909-1921
J. Clarke Stryker 1940-

ELDERS SINCE 1890

William H. Hughes	J. Clarke Stryker
L. B. Welch	Charles O. Smith
John E. Gordon	Walter R. Snell
John G. Labaw	Addison H. Stults
Edward C. Sharp	Leon A. Sprague
M. V. Nutt	Everett Kirby
E. T. McGalliard	George R. Cook
Henry E. Maddock	John C. Cubberley
D. Stuart Gordon	Dr. Joshua H. Pierrepont
Eden V. West	

MEMBERS OF PRESENT SESSION

Members of the present Session: Henry E. Maddock, D. Stuart Gordon, Eden V. West, J. Clarke Stryker, Charles O. Smith, Everett Kirby, Leon A. Sprague.



OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Certificate of Incorporation of the Trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square, New Jersey.

We, the undersigned, Trustees elected at a meeting of a congregation of a religious society of the denomination known as Presbyterian, held at their usual place of meeting for worship, on the 4th day of April, A.D., 1906 at 7:30 o'clock P.M., 10 days previous notice having been duly posted, as required by law, under and by virtue of the provisions of the Act of the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, entitled an act concerning the election and incorporation of the trustees and the management of the temporal affairs of Christian congregations connected with the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America. Approved April 12, 1905, and to take effect January 1, 1906, do hereby make, sign and seal this certificate, and we do hereby certify and set forth:

FIRST: The location of the usual places of worship and other property of said congregation, of which the undersigned have been elected trustees are as follows, to wit:

1. The main church building is located on the north side of Main St., in the town of Hamilton Square, township of Hamilton, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey.
2. The cemetery of the church is located opposite the church, on the south side of Main Street in the same town.
3. The manse of the congregation is located in the same town on the northwestern side of Mercer Street, which street leaves the town in the direction of Edinburgh, New Jersey.
4. The Newtown chapel is located in the town of Newtown, on the northeastern side of the stone road leading from Newtown, New Jersey to Allentown, New Jersey in the County of Mercer and State of New Jersey.

SECOND: The names of the trustees elected at said meeting, and their respective terms of office are, William H. Hughes, Jasper Hughes and Henry Davis for the terms of one year; Azariah Cubberley, Ralph Rogers, and Walter H. Grove for the term of two years; William H. White, R. Manning Everett, and Matthias M. Combs for the term of three years.

THIRD: The name chosen by the congregation by which the Board of Trustees shall be known is "The First Presby-

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

terian Church of Hamilton Square, New Jersey” In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals this ninth day of April in the year A.D., one thousand nine hundred and six.

Wm. H. Hughes	Ralph Rogers
Jasper Hughes	Walter H. Grove
Henry Davis	R. Manning Everitt
Azariah Cubberley	M. M. Combs

Be it remembered, that on the ninth day of April A. D., one thousand nine hundred and six, before me, a master in Chancery of the State of New Jersey, personally appeared Wm. H. Hughes, Jasper Hughes, Henry Davis, Azariah Cubberley, Ralph Rogers, Walter H. Grove, W. H. White, R. Manning Everitt and M. M. Combs, who, I am satisfied, are the persons named in and who executed the foregoing certificate and I having first made known to them the contents whereof they did each acknowledge that they signed, sealed and delivered the same as their voluntary act and deed.

All of which is hereby certified.

John Sykes,
M.C.C. of N. J.

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of John Sykes.

State of N. J.

County of Mercer

S.S.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

J. Milton Ivins, President; Fred R. Van Ness, Vice President; Walter N. Updike, Secretary; Forman Dilatush, Lewis Cottrell, George H. Combs, Matthias M. Combs, George Burd, George Hutchinson.

Fred G. Cottrell, Church Treasurer; Mrs. Anna May Ivins, Envelope Treasurer.

The Board of Trustees is the legal holding company of all church property, delegated by the state law to care for the physical property of the church and all financial matters having to do with the running of the church.

DEACONS

Mr. David C. McGalliard is our first recorded Deacon. He served for many years prior to his death in 1916. Mr. McGalliard's Christian benevolence with charity towards all and malice towards none made him well suited for the position he filled so faithfully.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



BOARD OF DEACONS

William A. Sharp was elected after Mr. McGalliard's death and served in that capacity until 1944.

The idea of organizing an active Board of Deacons consisting of nine members was conceived by the pastor, Rev. Robert Lennox in the early spring of 1945.

In order for such a board to be organized, the Session had to give its consent. This was granted and members of the Session were asked to contact the following men. Robert Ross, Sylvan Carson, Lewis Cottrell, Hilmar Mueller, Eugene Hutchins, David Bunting, Arthur West, William Sharp and Minford Hutchinson. These men were elected at the annual Congregational meeting held in April 1945.

The following men were elected: William Sharp, Arthur West and Hilmar Mueller to serve three years, Eugene Hutchins, Robert Ross and Minford Hutchinson to serve two years and Lewis Cottrell, David Bunting and Sylvan Carson, one year.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Members cannot be re-elected until one year of inactivity has elapsed.

The Board now consists of twelve men who are elected for terms of three years each. The following men are now on the Board:

Donald Dilatush, President, Harvey Pinkerton, Treasurer, Minford Hutchinson, Secretary, Arthur West, Hilmar Mueller, Eugene Hutchins, Clifford Dilatush, Alex Thomson, James Legg, LeRoy Coleman, Howard Everett and Richard Horn.

The primary duties of the Board are as follows:

1. To have charge of ushering for every service
2. To have charge of preparing the elements for the Communion
3. To visit the sick and needy
4. To take care of such repairs and physical necessities of the church as are not taken care of by the Trustees.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The first record we can find of any Sunday School is a notation in the diary of Athaliah Voorhees during the pastorate of Mr. Ely, dated Sunday, May 9, 1847: "Today we have opened our Sunday School and may the Lord bless our endeavors to instruct the youth and may the Spirit of the Lord be poured out upon both the teachers and children." Ever since that day the Sunday School has been one of the most vital parts of the church program.

Since the life of an organization is built around people our superintendents have been our life-giving leadership. The Session minutes of the church tell us that Elder David Lee was Sunday School Superintendent for about twenty five years. A memorial minute of June 2, 1906 shows that Wm. Harrison Hughes had been Superintendent from December 15, 1894 to April 1, 1900. Later a record shows that on June 2, 1900, Mr. Dennis was appointed Superintendent with Mr. L. B. Welch assistant. Elder E. T. McGalliard became Superintendent in 1903. After that we find the names of M. Voorhees Nutt, Spafford W. Hutchinson, Rev. Warren Hershey,

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SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD

as temporary Superintendent, Charles Smith who served for one year and then the name of J. Clarke Stryker who began his service in 1926 and has now completed twenty five years of active leadership.

In recognition of the vital place Mr. Stryker has taken, the Sunday School recognized his quarter century of service by a surprise celebration and presented to him an associate membership in the Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. This membership is given by the Board upon evidence of unusual service and the payment of a membership fee of fifty dollars by the sponsoring organization. This fee is used to aid the education of students for the ministry. Mr. Stryker became a teacher in 1925 and on Children's Day 1926 was made superintendent. In 1928 he was elected an elder and has served as clerk of the Session since 1940. In 1942 he was a commissioner to General Assembly. He has served as a member of Presbytery's Council and has been a

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

member of the Christian Education Committee. He was appointed enlistment chairman of that committee, a fitting appointment since his son, Bill, is the first student for the ministry we have on our record.

Under the combined leadership of these superintendents and our other teachers the Sunday School has been constantly growing. At the present time 225 members are on the roll. The school is almost completely departmentalized with separate superintendents for the following departments: Nursery, Kindergarten, Primary, Junior, Junior-High, and Senior-Young People. The adults meet with the youth for worship. In 1950 our church adopted the new curriculum material published for the church school, Christian Faith and Life, a program for church and home. The envelope system for church school contributions was also a marked improvement in teaching regular stewardship to the children. With the rapid building of new homes and the coming of new families into the community this seems to be only the beginning of a great period of growth.

THE HELPING HANDS CLASS

The Helping Hands Class was organized April 16, 1940 at the home of Mrs. Howard Hooper. The following persons attended the first meeting. Mrs. Robert Lennox, Mrs. Walter Strohauer, Mrs. Lionel Jackson, Mrs. William Boltz, Mrs. Robert Neil, Mrs. Merrill Shourds, Mrs. Lewis Lincoln, Mrs. John Zeigler, Mrs. Karl Zeigler, Mrs. Walter Hall, Mrs. Sylvan Carson, Mrs. Roy Saunders and Mrs. Howard Hooper.

The first officers were: Mrs. Howard Hooper, President
Mrs. Walter Hall, Vice President
Mrs. John Dawson, Secretary
Mrs. Merrill Shourds, Treasurer

The class was organized so that mothers might attend a Bible class during the church school hour. The first teacher of the class was Mrs. Ida Hanheen. The teachers who have followed have been; Mrs. William Davis, Mrs. Robert Lennox, Mrs. William David Glenn and Mrs. Frank Kauffman.

The class has grown from a membership of thirteen to more

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HELPING HANDS CLASS

than forty members. Social meetings are held once each month either in the church or the home of a member. The group has furnished many teachers for the Sunday School, and as the name implies, has been a helping hand to the church and community.

The most recent projects have been the painting of the children's rooms in the Sunday School, assistance with the cost of the installation of the oil burner, sponsoring the vestments and music for the choirs and their very generous anniversary gift, the redecoration of the Sanctuary. Contributions were also made to the Blair Fund for the purpose of sending our youth to camp.

The following have served as presidents of the organization:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1940—Mrs. Howard Hooper | 1946—Mrs. William Boltz |
| 1941—Mrs. Hilmar Mueller | 1947—Mrs. George Laciskey |
| 1942—Mrs. George Briel | 1948—Mrs. Paul Frisbie |
| 1943—Mrs. Carl Ziegler | 1949—Mrs. Lloyd Biesecker |
| 1944—Mrs. Donald Stewart | 1950—Mrs. Robert Sharples |
| 1945—Mrs. Robert Ross | |



OLD PEW SUNDAY CHOIR

THE CHOIRS

The choirs of our church are deeply rooted in its history. Although the personnel has changed from time to time, the services of adult choirs have been constant.

The first choir director on record is Mr. William Hughes. The organist at this time was his daughter, Belle Hughes Kohler. Mr. Lewis Klockner played the organ a number of years following Mrs. Kohler. At this time Mrs. Carrie Hutchinson, Mrs. Linda Howell, and Mrs. Edith Pullen were faithful members of the choir.

For many years Mrs. Lulu Grove served as both organist and choir director with Mrs. John Caswell assisting. Some members of the choir at this time were: Miss Mollie Pierrepont, Mrs. Thomas P. McKee, Mrs. James LaBaw, Mrs. Ethel Anderson, Mrs. Percy P. West and Mr. Hoover Snedeker. During Mr. Strohauser's pastorate while Mrs. Grove continued to play the organ, Mr. Harold Snedeker became the first paid choir director (1932). Under his leadership a most successful musical program was carried out.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



SUNDAY SCHOOL CHOIRS

Mr. Snedeker recalls that some of the adult choir members at that time were: Mrs. Sara Hughes, Mrs. Florence Sharp, Mrs. Amos Dey, Mrs. Donald Stewart, Mrs. Samuel Johnson, Mrs. Milton Ivins, Mrs. James Johnson, Mrs. William Butcher, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ford, Mr. and Mrs. George Morgan, Minford Hutchinson, Nelson Strohauser, Clifton and Warren Morgan and Mrs. Robert Peacock.

In 1932, under Mr. Snedeker's direction, the first youth choir of the church was formed. This group of 14 or 15 high school boys and girls took an active part in the musical program of the church for three or four years. They held several plays to earn the money to purchase their vestments and some of their music.

Mr. Snedeker was succeeded by three Westminster Choir College students: Mr. Charles Squires, Miss Delacey and Mr. Sloan. During their ministry of music the adult choir was vested for the first time and a group of about twenty young people, ranging in ages from six years up formed a vested choir for a time.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

With the coming of the Second World War many of our men were working seven days a week and were unable to continue helping with the musical program of our church. The result was the forming of a women's chorus, under Mr. Mueller's direction. During 1946 and '47 a group of girls from the Sunday School also under Mr. Mueller's direction, sang for special services in the church.

In February 1950, the youth of the church appealed to Mrs. Frank Freeman to help them organize a youth choir. This appeal was a result of the inspiration they had received at Blair Summer Conferences. Mrs. Freeman promptly organized not only a youth choir, but a Junior and Cherub Choir as well. The combined youth choirs held a service of dedication in the church on May 28, 1950. The Helping Hands Class agreed to sponsor and support them. Their vestments were completed and worn for the first time at the Union Reformation Service held in the War Memorial Building on November 5, 1950.

In the early fall of 1950, the church and church school directors held a conference as to the feasibility of having the Youth Choir sing in the church service. It was whole-heartedly agreed upon by the directors and the Youth.

The Cherub Choir was placed under the direction of Mrs. Luther Bertolet in October 1950.

The Cherub and Junior Choirs sing during the Junior-Primary Worship Service and for special occasions in the church.

LADIES AID

"March 21, 1916—A meeting was called today to draft by-laws and elect officers for a Ladies Aid Society for the Presbyterian Church of Hamilton Square. The following officers were elected: Mrs. Thomas P. McKee, Preside; Mrs. C. H. Snedeker, First Vice President; Mrs. D. B. Chamberlain, Second Vice President; Mrs. W. N. Bersch, Secretary; and Mrs. M. V. Nutt, Treasurer. It was moved and passed that the Treasurer buy books for the society and a coffee urn for \$1.39."

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



LADIES AID AND MISSIONARY SOCIETY

From that day to this, the Ladies Aid Society has held regular meetings and has become an integral part of the church. The work that they have accomplished is inestimable. The minutes of the society record many interesting projects. May 10, 1916, shows an entry of Mrs. M. V. Nutt presenting silverware with the understanding that the different groups of the church might use it. Another entry dated May 23, 1916 tells of a rug committee being appointed. It consisted of Mrs. Hoover Snedeker, Mrs. D. B. Chamberlain and Mrs. Amos Dey. The committee was to investigate prices of rugs at the weavers, and send materials collected by the church to the weavers to be made into rugs and sold at a profit. The minutes also show that on February 1917 flowers were sent to Mrs. Marvin LaBaw who was ill. In July 1917, a gift of \$200.00 was donated for three purposes: shades and screens for the manse, and the remainder to the building fund. Mrs. Albert Mount and Mrs. D. L. Cook were appointed as a committee to select the shades. On October 17, 1917 at a meeting at the home of Mrs. Martin West, Mrs. Rebecca

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

Yard, Secretary, records the purchase of a \$50.00 Liberty Bond. In 1918, a report of an autograph quilt was made and also at that time refreshments were abandoned at meetings in view of the need for economy in war times.

In 1918, at a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Walter N. Updike, a motion was made to give \$250.00 for renovation of the Sunday School room. Also at a meeting at Mrs. H. E. Maddock's home, a treasury balance of \$562.00 in the bank and the \$50.00 Liberty Bond were reported. The bill for a pulpit rug was \$11.25. A gift of \$165.00 was made to the Sunday School in August 1920 to help in their renovating.

The annual Church supper was discussed and it was decided to hold it in the Grange Hall as usual. This meeting was held at the home of Mrs. William McGalliard. An entry of April 1921 shows a unanimous motion for \$150.00 to help install an electric blower for the church organ.

At a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Albert Mount, Mrs. Spafford Hutchinson and Mrs. M. M. Combs reported the purchase of an electric cleaner for \$25.00. A motion was carried that the sum of \$275.00 be paid for the painting of the church and \$52.04 to finish the rest room.

June 10, 1924, Miss Anna Watson, Secretary, records a treasurer's balance of \$899.94. Also a committee consisting of Mrs. Fred VanNess, Mrs. Henry Maddock and Mrs. Edward Ford purchased a piano for the church from Barlow's Music Store at a cost of \$531.00.

In October 1925, two tables and a sink for the kitchen were paid for by the Society and chosen by Mrs. Henry Maddock, Mrs. Edward Ford and Miss Mary Cubberley.

The officers for the year 1930 were:

President—Mrs. George Combs

Vice Presidents—Mrs. Hoover Snedeker
Mrs. M. M. Combs

Secretary—Mrs. Harvey Rogers

Treasurer—Mrs. Fred VanNess

The Society purchased during this year—dishes for the church supper. Mrs. Walter N. Updike presented them with 100 glasses.

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Down through the years—no project too big or too little to manage or consider—these ladies have pressed forward, holding suppers, selling rugs, knives, quilting, etc., giving of their time and energy.

The charter members of the Society were:

Mrs. J. W. LaBaw, Mrs. Amos Dey, Mrs. Edward Sharp, Mrs. Albert Mount, Mrs. Thomas P. McKee, Mrs. M. V. Nutt, Mrs. Edward McGalliard, Mrs. Walter N. Updike, Mrs. Forman Dilatush, Mrs. Fred VanNess, Mrs. Henry Maddock, Mrs. Manning Everett, Mrs. D. L. Cook, Mrs. Merta Bradshaw, Mrs. Jacob Clayton and Mrs. Lucy McCabe.

The Twenty fifth Anniversary was celebrated on April 8, 1941, with nine charter members present. A dinner was served and an interesting program presented with Mrs. Walter P. Strohauer, the president, presiding.

The presidents who served during the last fifteen years have been Mrs. George Combs, Mrs. Sarah Rogers, Mrs. Floyd Hunter, Mrs. Walter P. Strohauer, Mrs. Robert Peacock, Mrs. Lionel Jackson, Mrs. Emma Larson, Mrs. Roy Saunders and Mrs. William Davis.

MISSIONARY SOCIETY

The first recorded meeting of the Missionary Society of the church was held on October 13, 1887. The meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. I. Ely Reed. This day had been set aside as their quarterly prayer meeting. The study of Missions was also discussed.

On November 3, 1887 the pastor's wife, Mrs. F. A. Cunningham was elected President and Mrs. M. M. Nutt was chosen Secretary. The subject of the meeting on December 1, was "The Spiritual Condition of The Whole Country." Eleven attended the meeting and a petition was passed protesting the admission of Utah into the Union. The Society had been taxed \$6.00 towards the erection of a church in Ogden, Utah. Two dollars was collected at this meeting for this cause and Miss Cady consented to go out to solicit the balance.

Mrs. Cunningham resigned as President on August 2, 1888, and Mrs. Elizabeth Hughes was elected to fill her place. A

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

call had come for financial assistance for the erection of a school at Logan, Utah. At the March meeting in 1889 the amount of \$2.50 was raised. Not satisfied with this amount, two ladies stood at the door every Sabbath morning and asked for subscriptions. The amount was increased to \$29.75.

The election of officers was held on October 9, 1890 and the wife of the new pastor was elected President, Mrs. D. Stuart Moore. This year \$32.82 was sent to the Foreign and Home Mission Boards.

The collections reported for the meetings in May and December 1892 were eight cents and eleven cents. The amount raised during the year of 1894 was \$49.69. Ten dollars of this amount was sent to Ashville to help furnish a school building. The usual custom of the Society is the election of the pastor's wife as president. The arrival of Rev. Smyth was followed by the election of Mrs. Smyth as the President and she served until April 1, 1897. During this time a girl's wardrobe was furnished. She was in charge of a mission school and much in need. Material was purchased and the sewing done by the members. A barrel of clothing was sent to the Rev. Joseph Brown and family in Mansfield, Wisconsin. The collections taken at monthly meetings ranged from four cents to seventeen cents and the balance needed was usually solicited at the door on Sabbath morning.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Presbyterial Society was held at Hamilton Square on January 14, 1897 and a silver offering was taken, the amount received was \$6.40.

Rev. Joseph Howell becomes pastor and since there was no Mrs. Howell to fill the office of president, Mrs. F. B. Welch was elected. At the next meeting, December 9, 1909 it was decided that any person contributing five cents a month would be permitted to vote for the officers at the regular business meetings. At this time the first mention of "refreshments served" comes to our notice. The Treasurer reports increasing prosperity. Perhaps this is the reason for the refreshments.

November 1, 1910 election of officers was held and Mrs. M. M. Nutt was elected President, Mrs. J. H. Pierrepont as

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Vice President, Mrs. M. V. Nutt as Secretary with nine to thirteen attending meeting.

In 1911 the first supper was held under the auspices of the Missionary Society. A vote was taken that all over \$100.00 be spent for silverware for the church.

It is interesting to note the various ways in which the ladies raised money to carry on the work of the church. During the year 1915 a traveling basket was started. This basket, filled with useful articles, was circulated among the families to raise money. A banquet was served the men of the church in 1915 at the price of twenty five cents. In 1919 "The Light Bears" children's society was organized.

In 1924 the society's receipts are recorded as \$336.57.

During 1934 and 1935 teas were held in homes. Some of these homes were: Mrs. Rebecca Cottrell, Mrs. Fred Ham-mell, Mrs. Lewis Cottrell and Mrs. M. M. Nutt and Mrs. M. A. Conover. At these teas quilts were pieced and several sent to the mission field. While the women were quilting, interesting articles and poems were read.

Mrs. Eugene Hutchins, born in India, has had a personal interest in missions and has helped the society grow in attendance and activities.

As a part of the 175th Anniversary Celebration, the society entertained about 500 women of the New Brunswick Presbyterian at their annual meeting.

As years passed the following faithful women served as Presidents:

- 1918—Mrs. Thomas P. McKee
- 1928—Mrs. Paul J. Strohauer
- 1929—Mrs. Walter Snell
- 1930—Miss Beulah Davis
- 1931—Mrs. Lewis Cottrell
- 1932—Mrs. Paul J. Strohauer, reelected
- 1941—Mrs. Roy Saunders
- 1944—Mrs. H. W. Carr
- 1947—Mrs. W. D. Glenn
- 1948—Mrs. Eugene Hutchins
- 1950—Mrs. Walter Hart.

OF HAMILTON SQUARE, NEW JERSEY

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

During the summer of 1947 the Sunday School conceived the idea of developing the youth leadership in the church by sending some of the young people to summer conferences. It was difficult to interest any one in the idea at first, but at last three were secured to attend a Blair conference for one week. These youth came back inspired by their experience. Bill Stryker and Joe Jones found it a discouraging effort trying to interest the young people in youth work, but slowly the Fellowship was organized.

The following summer fifteen young people were sent to different conferences. During this time the Youth Fellowship became increasingly active and has become recognized as one of the most important groups, not only in the church, but also in the community.

Through the cooperation of the Sunday School, other organizations of the church and the parents, there were twenty-six sent to conferences as representatives from our church in 1950. As a climax to these activities, Bill Stryker was one



YOUTH DELEGATES TO 1950 CONFERENCES

HISTORY OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

of the five delegates to represent the youth of New Brunswick Presbytery at the National Presbyterian Fellowship conference at Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa in June 1950. Bill was elected moderator of the Westminster Fellowship of New Brunswick Presbytery and Joe Jones Vice Moderator.

As the outcome of enthusiasm of the youth, a young people's choir has become a part of the worship service in our church. Three youths are now members of the Celtic Cross. These are planning to dedicate their lives to church vocations. Bill Stryker and Joe Jones for the ministry and Edna Hilditch for a career in church music.

