

1864

1939

The  
Sebenty-fifth Annibersary  
of  
The First United Presbyterian Church  
of  
Sewickley Borough  
Pennsylvbania

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The Seventy-fifth Anniversary  
of  
The First United Presbyterian Church  
Sewickley, Pennsylvania

September 17-24, 1939

PROPERTY OF TED MASSON

**Anniversary Committee**

James W. Cameron, *Chairman*

Harold McK. Grubbs

Mrs. James G. Williams

Mrs. George M. Watson

Mrs. Albert B. Craig

Thomas W. Neely

Thomas Woods

Miss Jennie B. Wallace

Miss Elizabeth Wakeham

Mrs. Joseph G. Lambie

Miss Mary M. Miller

Mrs. Elmer E. Miller

Mrs. George L. Craig

Miss Margie R. Stevens

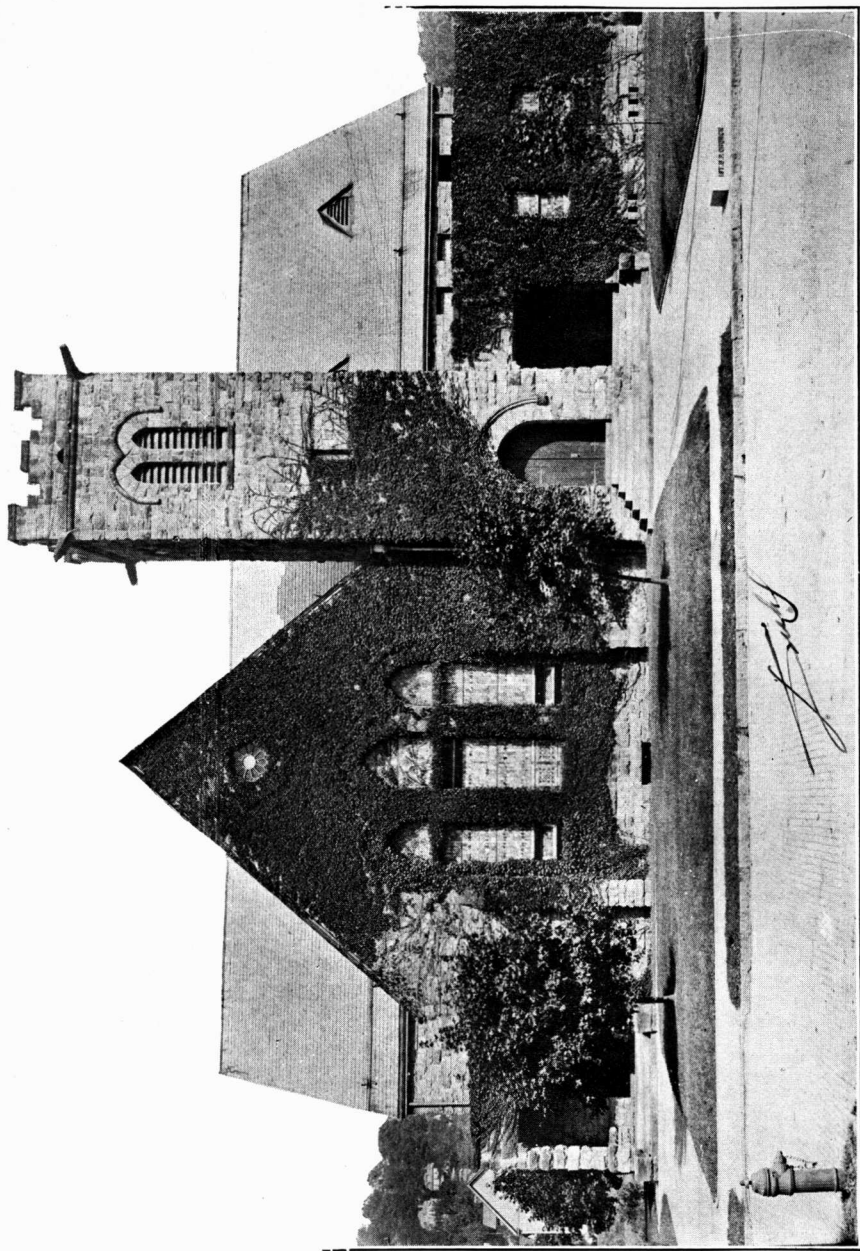
Robert B. Ivory

Mrs. Robert Trimble

Mrs. George C. McMaster

Rev. Rodney Thaine Taylor

Arthur B. McBride, *Historian*



FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF SEWICKLEY  
Erected 1896-7      Dedicated May, 1897

1864

1939

**The First  
United Presbyterian Church**

Beaver Street at Peebles Street  
Sewickley, Pennsylvania

THE REV. RODNEY THAINE TAYLOR, *Minister*

*Organist*: GEORGE J. MACLEOD      *Soprano*: HELEN MARGARET MOYER

**Anniversary Program**

SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 17TH.

- 9:45 A. M. Special Anniversary Service in the Sabbath School  
11:00 A. M. *Looking Back Upon Seventy-five Years of Service*  
The Rev. John McNaugher, D.D., LL.D., President of  
Pittsburgh-Xenia Theological Seminary.  
7:00 P. M. Young People's Christian Union  
*Fifty Years of Golden Service*
- 

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH.

- 3:00 P. M. The Women's Missionary Society Anniversary Tea.
- 

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20TH.

- 7:00 P. M. Congregational Anniversary Dinner  
Greetings: The Honorable H. Walton Mitchell, LL.D.,  
Moderator of the General Assembly.  
The Rev. Clarence J. Williamson, D.D.
- 

SABBATH, SEPTEMBER 24TH.

- 11:00 A. M. *The Future, a Golden Heritage*  
The Rev. A. Gordon MacLennan, D.D., pastor of Shady-  
side U. P. Church, Pittsburgh, Pa.

1864

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**The Diamond Jubilee**  
of the  
**Sewickley United Presbyterian Church**

**Foreword**

We are meeting to celebrate seventy-five years of a glorious past, and we gratefully acknowledge the goodness of Almighty God in guiding and directing our forefathers in the years gone by.

With renewed faith in and loyalty to our Heavenly Father, we re-dedicate ourselves to His service, and press on in the present to do His will, casting all our care upon Him who cares for us.

With confidence in our youth that they will carry on the work of the Kingdom in the future, we commend them to the King and Head of the Church, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

*O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Be Thou our guard while troubles last,  
And our eternal home.*

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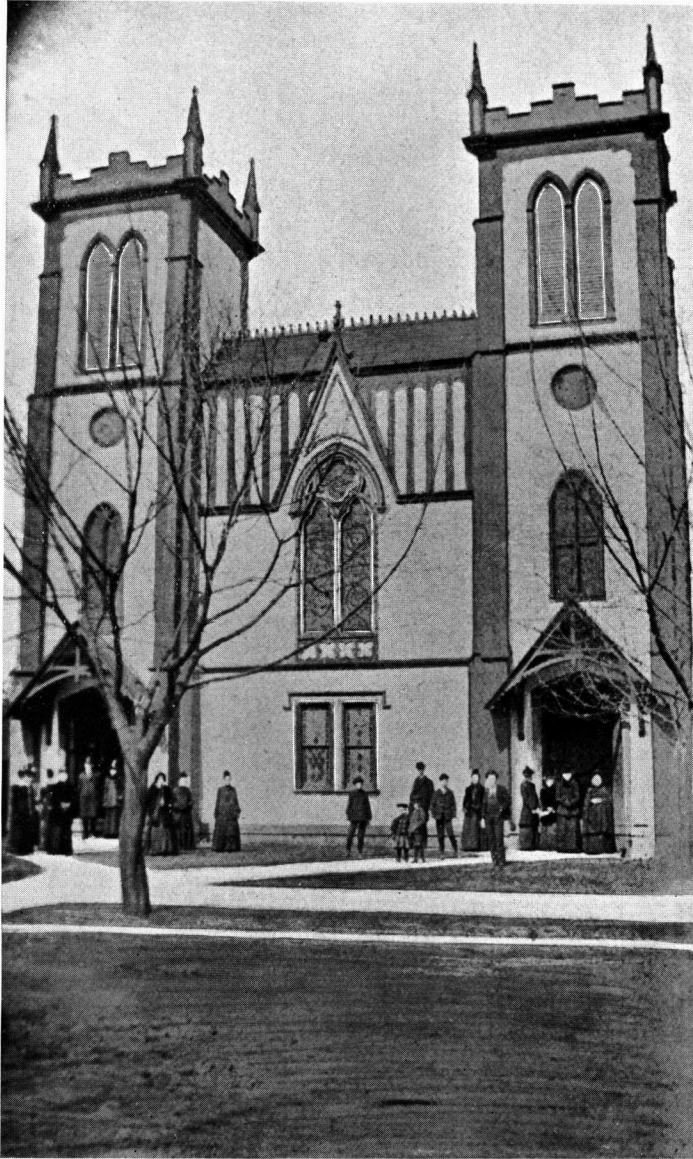
## The History of The First United Presbyterian Church of Sewickley Borough

In the Spring of 1863, a goodly number of the members of the Sewickley Presbyterian Church being dissatisfied with the introduction of an organ by the Church authorities, decided to ask for the organization of a United Presbyterian Church in Sewickley. At that time the United Presbyterian Church was opposed to the use of instrumental music in their services. Mr. Robert Dickson, representing this group of dissenters, called upon Mr. Thomas E. Wakeham, Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, and Dr. John T. Pressly, the President of the Board, who warmly approved the idea and expressed their willingness to further the movement in every way possible.

Shortly after this, an informal meeting was held at the home of Mr. John Thompson, at which resolutions leading to the formation of a United Presbyterian congregation were adopted, and the sum of six hundred dollars was subscribed. A lot on Broad Street was purchased, adjoining the Methodist Church property, and the work of building a Church was commenced. The first preaching service was conducted by Dr. Pressly on August 2nd, and after that, services were held every two weeks. The Methodist brethren kindly gave the use of their Church to their United Presbyterian neighbors for these services.

On May 3, 1864, by appointment of Presbytery, Dr. John T. Pressly, accompanied by Elder Thomas McCance of the First U. P. Church, Allegheny, and Elder William Watt of the Mt. Gilead U. P. Church, organized a congregation to be known as the First United Presbyterian Church of Sewickley. The following eighteen persons who presented certificates from other congregations, were enrolled as members: John Thompson, Mrs. Eliza B. Thompson, William Miller, Mrs. Emeline Miller, Margaret R. Black, Sarah Shinn, James Ellis, Jannette Ellis, Agnes Ellis, Mrs. Amanda Park, Alexander McElwain, Mrs. Mary A. McElwain, Miss Margaret McElwain, Mrs. Sarah J. McMaster, Robert Dickson, Elizabeth Dickson, Mary Dickson, and Rachel Dickson.

The Church building was completed shortly after the formal organization, and on the 12th of June, 1864, was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies. Dr. John T. Pressly preached the morning sermon, Dr. J. B. Clark in the afternoon, and Rev. W. H. Locke of the Sewickley Methodist Church in the evening.



THE FIRST UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ON BROAD STREET

At the congregational meeting held on September 22, 1864, Mr. William Watt, formerly a ruling elder in the Mt. Gilead U. P. Church, and Mr. James Ellis, formerly a ruling elder in the Church of Scotland, were unanimously elected and installed as ruling elders in this congregation. At the first communion held in the new Church on September 25, 1864, forty-two new members were received, and within a year from the organization the membership had increased to more than one



hundred. A charter was granted to the congregation by the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, on January 21, 1865, to be known as "The First United Presbyterian Church of Sewickley Borough." John Thompson, Thomas McGahan, Alexander Miller, William McCoy, and Francis McClelland were installed as additional ruling elders.

## Our Ministers

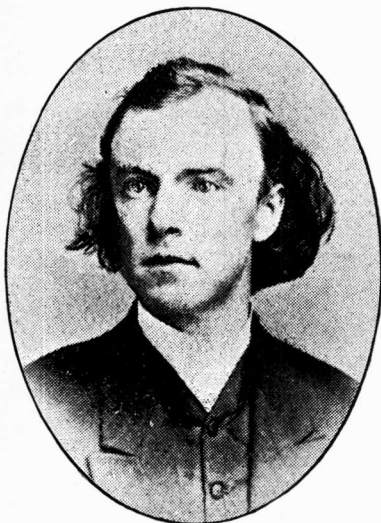
Rev. William A. McKenzie was the first pastor, and served the congregation from April 5, 1865, to June 13, 1871. This was Mr. Mackenzie's first pastoral charge and he labored quietly, earnestly, and faithfully during the more than six years of his pastorate. His oldest son, Thomas Hanna Mackenzie, a baptized member of this Church, became a United Presbyterian minister. William Reed, James McGowan, H. J. Murdoch, and T. E. Wakeham were added to the Session.

In 1869 the Church building was remodelled by adding a vestibule and a gallery in front, and a Sabbath School room in the rear.

Dr. D. S. Kennedy was the second pastor, serving from December 10, 1872, to June 11, 1878. Dr. Kennedy was a forceful, energetic man, and was the author of a stirring pamphlet on the question of instrumental music in the Church. He organized the first adult Bible Class in the congregation.



DR. D. S. KENNEDY



REV. WILLIAM A. MACKENZIE

Dr. William L. Wallace was installed as the third pastor on June 27, 1879, and was released on June 25, 1886. He was a man with a great soul in a frail body, and labored as long as failing health would permit, but finally he was obliged to give up the work.

For some time before Dr. W. L. Wallace resigned, Dr. A. G. Wallace, who resided in Sewickley, preached for him, and afterwards was prevailed upon to act as Stated Supply for two years, until the congregation was prepared to choose a new pastor. Dr. A. G. Wallace was at that time and for many years afterwards, Corresponding Secretary of the Board of Church Extension and was instrumental in establishing United Presbyterian





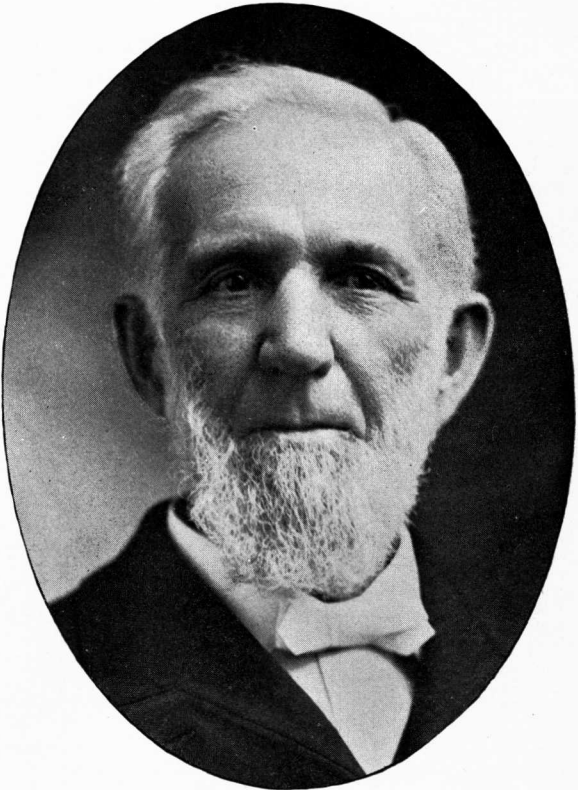
DR. WILLIAM L. WALLACE

congregations in all parts of the United States. He also was for many years on the editorial staff of "The United Presbyterian," and Clerk of the General Assembly. Although one of the busiest and most useful men in the United Presbyterian Church, he preached regularly and attended to the pastoral work of the Church during this time. Thomas Hare, James W. Arrott, and John Richardson were installed as ruling elders.

The fourth pastor, Dr. A. M. Campbell, was installed on September 11, 1888, and released on April 1, 1892. Dr. Campbell was a man of sincere and earnest purpose and original in thought. He organized the first Young People's Society in our Church. Robert Trimble, James H. Scott, and Elmer E. Miller were added to the Session.

Rev. Mason W. Pressly, the fifth pastor, was installed as pastor of the congregation on December 6, 1892, and released on March 20, 1894. As a preacher, he was brilliant, versatile, and original. He was ready to help anybody in need, without regard to their Church affiliations.

Dr. E. M. Milligan began his labors as the sixth pastor, in June, 1895, although he was not installed until October 1st. Mr. R. B. McMaster and Mr. J. W. McKinney were installed as ruling elders shortly before Dr. Milligan became the pastor. In the Spring of 1896, the congregation decided to erect a new Church. On the first Sabbath of May, 1897, our present Church edifice was dedicated to the worship of God with appropriate services.



DR. A. G. WALLACE



DR. A. M. CAMPBELL

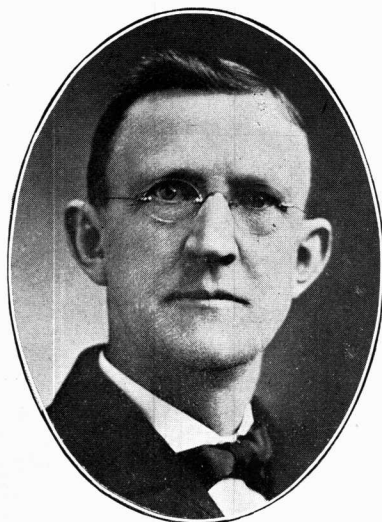
Those participating were: Dr. J. C. K. Milligan, Dr. A. G. Wallace, Dr. W. O. Campbell, Rev. J. H. Hill, Rev. William McKinney, Rev. James L. Reed, Dr. W. H. Jeffers, Dr. James Allison, and Dr. D. F. McGill. During Dr. Milligan's pastorate, additional elders elected and installed were: Arthur B. McBride, John J. Koch, John C. Reed, and John McClester.

Under the pastoral care of Dr. Milligan, the congregation enjoyed a period of peace and prosperity for almost eighteen years. He was an earnest, forceful preacher and a fearless champion of what he believed to be right. John C. K. Milligan, one of his sons, is a United Presbyterian minister. Having been elected manager of the Board of Publication of the United Presbyterian Church, Dr.

Milligan resigned as pastor and was released on March 18, 1913.

In July, 1913, the congregation made out a call for Rev. Paul Calhoun, who was installed as the seventh pastor of our Church on October 14, 1913, and was released on May 27, 1918. Mr. Calhoun was young and energetic, being a forceful preacher of the evangelistic type. He conducted many evangelistic campaigns for other United Presbyterian ministers. He was especially interested in Young People's work and was Presbyterian Secretary of Young People's Work in Allegheny Presbytery.

On Sabbath, May, 3, 1914, the Semi-centennial Anniversary of the congregation was celebrated with appropriate exercises. Dr. A. M. Campbell, a former pastor, addressed the Sabbath School, and Arthur B. McBride gave a history of the school. The morning sermon was preached by Dr. W. O. Campbell, pastor emeritus of the Sewickley Presbyterian Church; a fraternal meeting was held in the afternoon, in which several of the local ministers took part; and in the evening a special service by the Young People's Christian Union was held, after which Dr. A. M. Campbell brought the message. The meeting on Monday afternoon was devoted to historical addresses and reminiscences, and was presided over by Mr. Robert Trimble, the general chairman. This meeting was followed by a congregational dinner and social hour. In the evening,

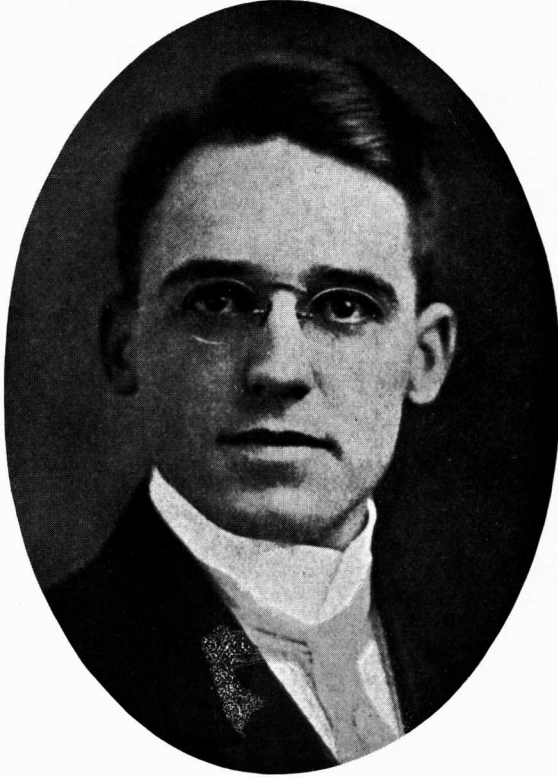


DR. E. M. MILLIGAN

addresses were given by Dr. J. W. Witherspoon and Dr. A. M. Campbell.

Later in 1914, the Church was enlarged by adding rooms for Sabbath School classes, which also are used for social activities, and a modern, well-equipped kitchen.

Dr. Joseph C. Hamilton, the eighth pastor to minister to our congregation, began his work on the first Sabbath of May, 1919, but was not installed until June 18th. He continued as pastor for eighteen years, preaching his farewell sermon on April 25, 1937. Dr. Hamilton was



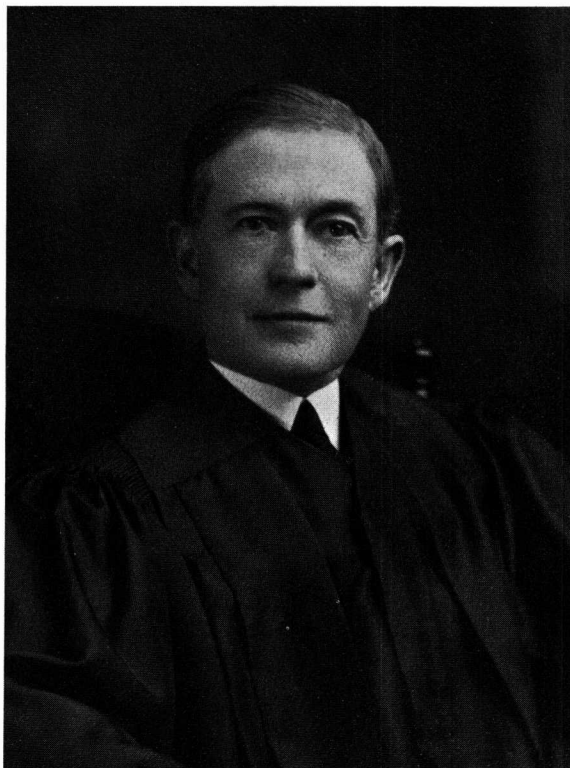
REV. PAUL CALHOUN

always a courteous gentleman, a great reader and scholar, and well thought of in the community, and has the honor of holding the longest pastorate since the organization of the congregation. On April 4, 1923, additional elders installed were: John G. Boggs, Ira Gribben, George C. McMaster, and A. M. Shields. In the fall of 1926, a new Austin pipe organ was installed in the Church, at an approximate cost of \$25,000.00. In the spring of 1927, Mrs. R. J. McCready purchased the vacant lot adjoining our Church property on the west, and deeded the same to the Church.

At the annual congregational meeting, held on April 3, 1935, the Rotary System in the eldership was adopted. The elders then in office resigned, and the following were elected to serve as ruling elders for limited terms of years: John J. Koch, A. M. Shields, Lee B. Purdy,

William I. Dithridge, James W. Cameron, John C. Harger, and Arthur B. McBride.

On Sabbath, September 12, 1937, Rev. Rodney Thaine Taylor, the ninth pastor, preached his inaugural sermon, and was installed by a Commission of Allegheny Presbytery on the following day. In the two years of his ministry among us, Mr. Taylor has endeared himself to old and young by his genial personality and youthful enthusiasm. The Church is prospering under his leadership, and the young people,



DR. JOSEPH C. HAMILTON

under his guidance, are actively engaged in the work of their organizations.

On April 5, 1939, Edwin F. Waring and Harry W. Hinkley were elected ruling elders, to serve for a period of seven years, and were duly installed on May 7th.

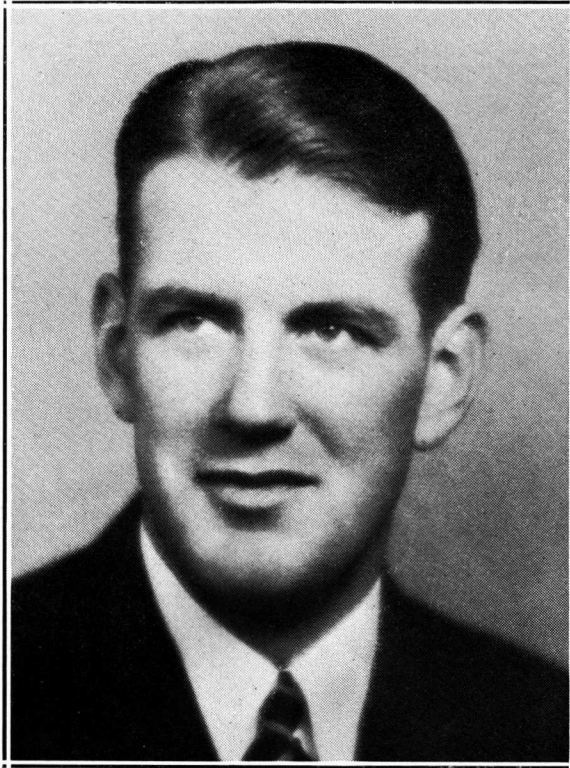
In anticipation of our Seventy-fifth Anniversary celebration, new memorial lights were installed in the Church and Sabbath School rooms, and the Church has been re-decorated and re-carpeted throughout, mostly paid for by voluntary contributions. The Church basement had been previously remodelled and an outside entrance added, and is used by the men's Bible Classes, the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, and for social activities.

During the years, our Church has been honored by three resident

United Presbyterian ministers, who worshipped with us and gladly assisted the pastors when requested. They were: Dr. David R. Kerr, Dr. A. G. Wallace, and Dr. S. B. McBride.

Rev. William A. Miller, pastor of the Lewistown, Pa., United Presbyterian Church, is a son of the congregation, his parents having been charter members. Three of his children have been in missionary service in foreign lands, and another son is a United Presbyterian minister.

Andrew V. McCracken, also a son of the congregation, is pastor of



REV. RODNEY THAINE TAYLOR

the First Congregational Church of Concord, New Hampshire.

Andrew Ellis and Samuel Mackey, who later became well known ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and William E. Stewart, a Presbyterian minister, attended this Church during their youth.

In brief, we have recorded these tributes to our spiritual leaders, and recalled these important events in the life of our congregation. Only God can know the number of souls that have been brought into the Kingdom through this Church, but the seed has been sown by faithful ministers of the Word, and they have been ably assisted in their work by conscientious men and women, who have been willing to spend and be spent in the service of the Master.

The outlook for the future is bright, and under the leadership of our pastor, Rev. Rodney Thaine Taylor, with his gracious wife, we

face the future, looking to Him, who has promised that He will never leave us nor forsake us, to guide and direct us in the Way Everlasting.

“Commit thy way unto the Lord; trust also in him; and he shall bring it to pass.” Psalm 37:5.

## **Organizations of the Church**

All of the departments of the Church are well organized and have a mind to work. The present membership is 382, and our Church is free from debt.

- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. The Session                    | 7. Senior Y. P. C. U.        |
| 2. The Board of Trustees          | 8. Intermediate Y. P. C. U.  |
| 3. The Sabbath School             | 9. Junior Missionary Society |
| 4. The Women's Missionary Society | 10. Boy Scouts               |
| 5. The Women's Aid Society        | 11. Girl Scouts              |
| 6. The Guild                      |                              |



# MEMBERS OF THE SESSION

J. W. Cameron	L. B. Purdy	A. M. Shields	H. W. Hinkley	E. F. Waring
	A. B. McBride	Rev. R. T. Taylor		J. J. Koch



## THE SESSION

Rev. Rodney Thaine Taylor, *Moderator*

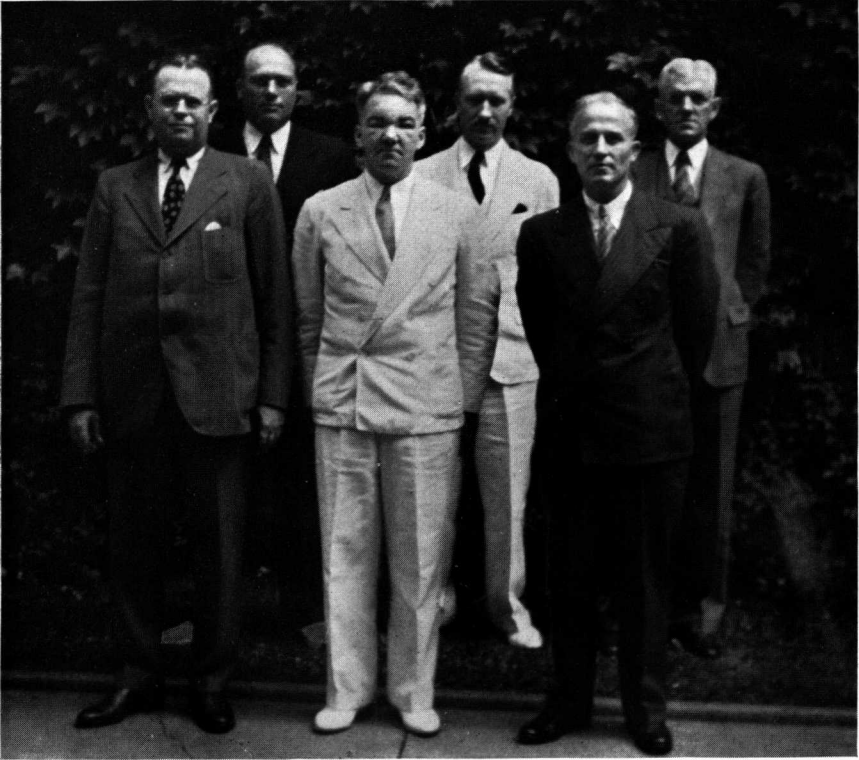
Arthur B. McBride, <i>Clerk</i>	(1909)	Lee B. Purdy	(1935)
John J. Koch	(1911)	James W. Cameron	(1935)
A. Milo Shields	(1923)	Edwin F. Waring	(1939)
Harry W. Hinkley		(1939)	

### MEMBERS OF SESSION 1864 to 1939

<i>Elders</i>	<i>Elected</i>	<i>Elders</i>	<i>Elected</i>
William Watt.....	1864	Robert B. McMaster .....	1895
James Ellis .....	1864	John W. McKinney† .....	1895
John Thompson† .....	1865	*Arthur B. McBride† .....	1909
Thomas McGahan .....	1865	*John J. Koch .....	1911
Alexander Miller .....	1865	John C. Reed .....	1911
William McCoy .....	1865	John McClester .....	1911
Francis McClelland .....	1865	*A. Milo Shields .....	1923
William Reed .....	1868	George C. McMaster .....	1923
James McGowan .....	1868	Ira Gribben .....	1923
Hugh J. Murdoch .....	1868	John G. Boggs .....	1923
Thomas E. Wakeham .....	1870	*Lee B. Purdy .....	1935
Thomas Hare .....	1880	William I. Dithridge .....	1935
James W. Arrott .....	1880	*James W. Cameron .....	1935
John Richardson† .....	1883	John C. Harger .....	1935
James H. Scott .....	1889	*Edwin F. Waring .....	1939
Robert Trimble .....	1889	*Harry W. Hinkley .....	1939
Elmer E. Miller† .....	1889		

\* Present Elders

† Clerks of Session



THE TRUSTEES

Harold McK. Grubbs	Dr. D. C. Wilson	William H. Bond
Albert B. Craig	Samuel C. Mahood	Joseph P. Shannon

## THE TRUSTEES

Harold McK. Grubbs, *President*

Albert B. Craig

Joseph P. Shannon

Samuel C. Mahood

Dr. Donald C. Wilson

William H. Bond, *Secretary and Treasurer*

### TRUSTEES FROM 1864 TO 1939

James Park	John J. Koch	Albert B. Craig
William Miller	George A. Smith	William H. Bond
William A. Ellis	William A. McElwain	John C. Hiteshew
Robert Dickson	Thomas Woods	C. M. Armour
Alexander McElwain	Hugh J. Murdoch, Jr.	E. F. Waring
William Reed	William Arrott	Dr. J. Floyd Murdoch
Samuel C. McMaster	John W. McKinney	Robert J. Clarke
C. Coleman	S. Edgar Hare	James W. Arrott III
Henry Wilson	Dr. Frank H. Smith	George L. Craig, Jr.
Henry Rowan	James W. Arrott, Jr.	William F. Struthers
Ellis W. Scott	George B. Taggart	J. Ronald Macqueen
James Dickson	H. F. Carr	H. F. Burkholder
Andrew McNall	George L. Craig	Henry Goodband
Thomas E. Wakeham	R. R. Brown	Thomas W. Neely
J. P. Scott	Samuel Adams	J. C. Harger
Charles Marlatt	J. D. Miller	J. Lester Koch
William P. Murray	E. B. Dithridge	Leslie G. Rink
Thomas Hare	A. E. Tweed	George M. Watson
W. T. Shannon	H. Rollin Miller	F. M. Hobaugh
W. W. Scott	Lee B. Purdy	R. B. Ivory, Jr.
John McElwain	B. Scott McFarland	Ernest Thompson
William Dickson	J. C. Hahn	Harold McK. Grubbs
Dr. S. F. Shannon	Alexander Davidson	Joseph P. Shannon
Boyd Nevin	D. L. Swearingen	Samuel C. Mahood
Robert Trimble		Dr. D. C. Wilson

# THE SABBATH SCHOOL

The Sabbath School of this congregation was organized in 1864, with Mr. John Thompson as its first Superintendent. The present enrollment is about 200.

## THE ROSTER OF OFFICERS AND TEACHERS

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Arthur B. McBride
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Lee B. Purdy
<i>Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fred L. Wilson
<i>Assistant Secretary</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Miss Harriet M. Cuckenberg
<i>Treasurer</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Leslie G. Rink
<i>Pianist</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	Miss Margaret C. Waring

## THE HOME DEPARTMENT

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Miss Jennie B. Wallace
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. A. M. Shields

## THE CRADLE ROLL

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. Thomas Woods
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Miss Sarah G. Woods

## BEGINNER—PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. Fred L. Wilson
<i>Secretary-Pianist</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. Harold McK. Grubbs

### Teachers

Beginners	Primary
Mrs. Elmer E. Miller	Mrs. William S. Ellis
Miss Janet R. Walkingshaw	Miss Katherine R. Leathen

## JUNIOR DEPARTMENT

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. W. G. Purdy
<i>Assistant Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. Samuel C. Mahood

### Teachers

Mrs. L. G. Rink	Miss Margie M. Greig
Miss Ruth L. Taggart	Miss L. Jeanne Burkholder

## INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR DEPARTMENTS

<i>Superintendent</i>	-	-	-	-	-	Mrs. George M. Watson
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### Teachers

Miss Margie R. Stevens	Mrs. George W. Gregg
Mrs. William Alexander	Mrs. George C. McMaster
Mrs. D. L. Swearingen	Wayne L. Shaffer
Mrs. James G. Williams	

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT

### KING'S DAUGHTERS' CLASS

*Teacher*, Mrs. Arthur B. McBride  
*President*,  
Miss Margaret H. Eckard

### YOUNG MEN'S CLASS

*Teacher* - Rev. Rodney T. Taylor  
*President* - Dr. Donald C. Wilson

## ADULT DEPARTMENT

### MRS. LEE B. PURDY'S CLASS

*Teacher* - Mrs. Lee B. Purdy  
*President* - Mrs. William Alexander

### MEN'S BIBLE CLASS

*Teacher* - - James W. Cameron  
*President* - - A. Milo Shields

## WOMEN'S BIBLE CLASS

*Teacher* - Mrs. Thomas W. Neely  
*President* - - Mrs. A. M. Shields

## SUPERINTENDENTS OF THE SABBATH SCHOOL

John Thompson	- - - -	1864	John C. Reed	- - - -	1909
Hugh J. Murdoch	- - -	1869	John W. Milligan	- - -	1917
Thomas Hare	- - - -	1877	A. Milo Shields	- - -	1920
James H. Scott	- - - -	1889	Lawrence B. Avison	- - -	1924
Elmer E. Miller	- - - -	1890	Harold S. Brownlee	- - -	1925
John J. Koch	- - - -	1903	Thomas W. Neely	- - -	1926
Arthur B. McBride	- -	1929			

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## THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY

In the year 1875, a group of women in the United Presbyterian Church under the leadership of Mrs. Sarah Hanna organized the first Missionary Society. Their earnestness and zeal met a popular response and in 1883 a general society was effected under the name of "The Women's General Missionary Society of the United Presbyterian Church of North America."

The Sewickley Society was organized in 1879 with the following officers: President, Mrs. W. L. Wallace; Vice President, Mrs. John H. Dury; Secretary, Mrs. J. A. Quay, and Treasurer, Miss Matilda McElwain.

This Society has continued, doing splendid work both at home and abroad. In India, the Sudan, Egypt, and Ethiopia, there are evangelistic workers, schools, hospitals, and schools for the training of native converts.

In our own country work is being done among the American Indians, the Negroes, and in the mountains of Kentucky; also home mission work in the Presbyteries, and among the aliens.

The Society at present (1939) consists of thirty-eight members with the following officers: President, Mrs. Thomas W. Neely; First Vice-President, Mrs. Arthur B. McBride; Second Vice-President, Miss Jennie B. Wallace; Secretary, Mrs. John G. Boggs; and Treasurer, Mrs. George C. McMaster.

The meetings are still held as they were sixty years ago, in the Church parlors or at the home of a member, at 2:30 o'clock on the first Thursday of the month.

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## THE WOMAN'S AID SOCIETY

In loving memory of Mrs. John H. Dury, we attribute the organization of the Women's Aid Society of the United Presbyterian Church. Her enthusiasm and vision of the need of such an organization inspired others to call a meeting of the women of the Church. About twenty-eight women met in the Church on April 20, 1911. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. George L. Craig; Vice-President, Miss Sarah Thompson; Secretary, Mrs. W. Miller Dickson; Treasurer, Mrs. B. Scott McFarland.

Monthly meetings were held the third Thursday of each month. The object of the Society was to aid the Pastor, the Session, and the Trustees, and to look after those in need of help and sympathy. Later, the all-day sewings were changed to the fourth Thursday of each month, except during July and August. Lunch is prepared by a committee at twenty-five cents a plate.

Money was raised by holding bazaars and festivals. The need of dishes, silverware, linens, and tables was something to work for. The first all-day sewing was held in the home of Mrs. R. B. McMaster of Sewickley Heights on October 19, 1911, to prepare for the bazaar on December 18, 1911. The machines were donated and loaned by members.

The first \$200.00 they could spare was given to the Trustees to improve the basement of the Church. The last few years the funds have been kept up by the Rummage Sale, membership dues, and contributions.

During the World War, the Society worked for the Red Cross. They also prepared food during the flu epidemic and at the time of the flood.

The Society pays toward the monthly salary of the Social Worker of the Union Aid. They sew for the Valley Hospital, Columbia Hospital, Orphans' Home, Children's Service Bureau, Crippled Children's Home, District Nurse, Fresh Air Home, Union Aid, and hospitals in the Mission Fields.

Mrs. John H. Dury was made an Honorary President in 1915 and Mrs. Matilda Craig McCready in 1921.

Mrs. George L. Craig has been President for more than twenty-five years, and through her substantial support and the active, untiring service of the members, the work continues to be successful.

The officers for this 75th Anniversary Year are: President, Mrs. George L. Craig; First Vice-President, Mrs. Thomas Woods; Second Vice-President, Mrs. W. F. Holthaus; Third Vice-President, Mrs. George M. Watson; Secretary, Mrs. D. L. Swearingen, and Treasurer, Miss Elsie M. McHenry.

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## THE GUILD

In the Fall of 1920, a few members of the former Bethany Bible Class met at the home of Miss Emma M. Dickson to organize a society for business and professional women and others desiring to study the Bible, to enjoy a social hour, and do an evening's work for a worthy cause.

The purpose of The Guild is—"To promote spirituality and sociability among women of the Church, and to extend a helping hand wherever needed."

Miss Mary A. Purdy was the first president and Miss Gertrude R. Scott, the second president. These two fine women endeared themselves by their willingness at all times to help, and by their wise counsel inspired others to more loving service in advancing Christ's kingdom.

Since The Guild's organization, membership has grown from fifteen to sixty-eight. Work has included donations of clothing to mountaineers, making garments for blind Chinese children, donations to Foreign and Home Missions, supporting a Bible woman in China, and making surgical dressings for the Valley Hospital. The Guild sent girls to the New Wilmington Missionary Conference (1938-39).

This Year The Guild had new lights installed in the Primary rooms of the Sabbath School in loving memory of Miss Purdy and Miss Scott. It has also been possible to install memorial lights in the Church auditorium and Sabbath School rooms; Mrs. Albert B. Craig, a Guild member, was largely responsible for soliciting the necessary funds.

Officers: President, Mrs. S. C. Mahood; First Vice-President, Mrs. William S. Ellis; Second Vice-President, Mrs. R. D. Galey; Secretary, Miss Margaret C. Waring; Treasurer, Miss Mabel I. Jones.



## THE Y. P. C. U.

In the Session minutes of December 12, 1880, we find the following: "A notice was read from the pulpit for the Young Men's Prayer Meeting at 6:30 o'clock. The meeting was well attended by both young and old. One of the young men conducted the meeting. The young men have been holding a Prayer Meeting on Sabbath evenings for the last four months, and during that time they have been well attended and it is believed much good has resulted from them."

It is believed that the Young People's Christian Union had its start from this Young Men's Prayer Meeting.

The Y. P. C. U. was organized June 25, 1889, by the Pastor, Dr. A. M. Campbell.

It filled a long-felt want as a training school for the young of the Church. Some of the members who have left our Society have testified to what a help the training they received has been to them in after years.

In the past fifty years there have been discouragements, but today we have three flourishing Young People's Societies; the Intermediate Society of fifty active members; the Senior Group with forty active members; and the Forum with twenty-five members.

The Sewickley Society has always supported the projects of Allegheny Presbytery and the National Y. P. C. U., as well as having a special object of their own. For the past year this object has been the purchase of the new bulletin board for the church.

The Lord has blessed our Society, spiritually, financially, and in numbers. Our aim is to win souls for Christ and to train our members for service in the Church.

The present officers are: Robert Bond, President; David Galey, Vice-President; Robert Ingram, Treasurer; Margaret Eckard, Recording Secretary; Ruth Taggart, Corresponding Secretary.

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## INTERMEDIATE Y. P. C. U. SOCIETY

The Intermediate Y. P. C. U. seems to have been more or less intermittent since 1914, when the Sewickley society carried off Presbyterial honors and won the banner.

It was re-organized in 1919 and remained active for many years, and the members were received into the senior group at sixteen.

With the coming of Rev. Rodney T. Taylor in September, 1937, steps were taken to again re-organize an Intermediate group and it has grown from twenty to fifty members.

This group which meets every Sabbath at 7:15 p. m. has been under the sponsorship of Miss Bess Buckley, Mrs. Harold Grubbs, and Mr. James Orth and aside from the regular meetings has many social activities.

The present officers are: Glenn Beitel, President; Jack Coulter, Vice-President; Richard Harkness, Recording Secretary; Virginia Grubbs, Corresponding Secretary; Phyllis Macqueen, Treasurer.

## THE JUNIOR MISSIONARY SOCIETY

Early in 1900, the Junior Missionary Society was organized under the leadership of Miss Gertrude R. Scott and Miss Emma M. Dickson. They carried on the work for more than ten years. Since then the work has continued under various Superintendents.

The program consists of teaching the children Bible verses, Bible stories, and about the Missionaries in Home and Foreign Lands. They are taught to conduct the meetings and to pray. The Society aims to teach the children Christian living.

The present officers are: President, Dorothy Cenis; Vice-President, Peggy Davis; Secretary, Peggy Watson; Treasurer, Muriel Alexander; Superintendent, Mrs. George M. Watson; Assistant Superintendent, Mrs. Joseph Cenis.

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## TROOP 242—BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

In the summer of 1932, the Men's Bible Class decided to sponsor a Scout Troop. A committee of seven men with Mr. J. W. Cameron as Chairman, was appointed by the class to carry out the organization of the Troop. D. W. Rice was elected Scoutmaster and on August 31, 1932, Troop 242 received its charter, having ten boys registered.

During the seven years of operation the average membership has been twenty scouts, and much emphasis has been placed upon citizenship, character building, leadership training, and duty to God and country. Troop 242 has always been a well-organized, active troop, and the officers look with pride upon the young men of our Church and community who constitute the alumni of the troop.

The present Troop Committee consists of S. J. Coulter as Chairman, Dr. D. C. Wilson, John Lottes, W. L. Pluechel, and Rev. Rodney T. Taylor. Of these men, Mr. Coulter, Mr. Lottes and Dr. Wilson have served over five years. L. G. Rink has served as Scoutmaster since 1933, and he is now assisted by Charles Andrews, J. L. Liggett, and Donald Ross as assistant Scoutmasters.

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## TROOP 109—GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA

For the past ten years Girl Scouting has grown steadily in the Sewickley Valley. During the last two years Troop 109 has had the privilege of being one of the organizations of the First United Presbyterian Church of Sewickley. The troop is sponsored by Mrs. Lee B. Purdy's Bible Class, and serving on its committee are: Mrs. Harold Grubbs, Chairman, Mrs. Rodney T. Taylor, Mrs. Stuart Link, Mrs. Frank Hegner, and Mrs. Robert Kleindienst. Miss Margie Greig is the Scoutleader.

Girl Scouting is a leisure-time, character-building movement for girls from seven to eighteen years of age. Its objective is the development of girls along physical, emotional, mental, moral, and social lines.

Activities for Girl Scouts cover a wide range. They are intended to include a normal girl's interests and to suggest new fields to explore. They center in the fields of homemaking, camping and the out-of-doors, citizenship and community service, health and safety, international interests, dramatics, music, and arts and crafts. The Girl Scout Promise and Laws represent the code to which each Girl Scout is expected to subscribe.

*When the Great Recorder comes  
To write against your name,  
He writes not that you won or lost  
But how you played the game.*

## **"OLD HUNDREDTH"**

*Psalm 100*

*All people that on earth do dwell,  
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell,  
Come ye before Him and rejoice.*

*Because the Lord our God is good,  
His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood,  
And shall from age to age endure.*

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