

Clio Christian

by Mrs. Herman Cass



Clio Christian (Photo by Nellie Dunbar)

It was on October 18, 1876 that a group of Disciples of Christ met at the Brush School House, about two and one half miles north west of Clio, Wayne county, Iowa and sought to make this house a house of worship for the Lord, having no rules but the Bible. Acknowledging no name but that of Christian and having no officers but Elders and Deacons, and pledged their Christian love and fellowship to every worthy disciple of Christ.

Service were held here until 1884. At this time the members decided to move their membership to Clio. A plot of ground and a building were donated by Robert Cook of Clio to be used as a church with no rules but the Bible, and no name but Christian. This Robert Cook was the grandfather of our local barber R.A. Cook.

Services were held in the church until 1903. Rev. H.R. Burns was employed to preach during the years 1884-85-86. We have no record from 1886 until 1903, but it is known that regular services were held in this church until 1903.

It was on August 15, 1903 that the members of this church met. and elected new officers and decided to build a new church on the same lot where the old church stood. W.W. Rynor and H.R. Schoonover were elected as Elders, B.F. Shriver and H.M. Speer as Deacons, J.S. Ferrel, J.H. Greer, H.R. Schoonover and Adamson Shriver, Trustees, with J.S. Ferrel as Clerk. The building committee named was J.S. Ferrel, Adamson Shriver, J.H. Greer, H.M. Speer, T.C. Preston and W.W. Rynor.

The new church building was completed and the dedication took place on June 19, 1904. Elder S.H. Hedrix of Allerton, Iowa was the speaker of the day and forty-two persons put their membership in the church at this time. On October 2, of the same year, Evangelist W.S. Johnston from Des Moines, Iowa, held a revival meeting with great interest, and fifty-nine people added membership.

Pastors of the church since 1906

Rev. W.E. Jones, 1905	Rev. W.W. Leonard, 1906
Rev. Schooler, 1907-8	Rev. Coffee, 1909-10
Rev. Hugh C. Guy, 1913-14	Jim Alltide, 1920
Rev. H.S. Hayson, 1921-2-3	Rev. Ammons, 1924
Rev. Babcock, 1926-7	Rev. Zesley Cox, 1933
Rev. Channess, 1934	Rev. Vernon Carter, 36-7
Rev. Walter Goughnour, 1942-3	Ruby I. Jones, 1944
Rev. McCurdy, 1945	Ruby I. Jones, 1946 to 9
Rev. Harris, 1952	Rev. Kenneth Hayden 3-4
Rev. Beathen, 1955	Rev. Louis Schaffner 1958-1970

The present church board consists of two Elders, Claude Vandel and Ray Allen,-two deaconess, Mary Vandel and Mellie Dunbar,-Secy and Treas. Nellie Cass,-with Pianist Eloise Allen.