

Cambria Methodist Church

by
Mrs. Effie Garton

On March 27, 1874, Ansil L. Hart and his wife Helen, deeded some land to the trustees of the Cambria Methodist Episcopal Church on which to erect a church. This was built on the first knoll west of the Amos Sheets farm home.

The parsonage was in New York, Iowa. It seemed like a long road in those days, for the minister to drive or ride horseback through the unbroken snow drifts. As the church was not built until 1874, meetings were held in school houses and homes. The membership was about 100. The church was in the Chariton district at that time.

The following is a partial list of early ministers;

Rev. Wortz - Rev. Harris - Rev. C.W. Brewer - Rev. Mike Harned - Rev. Burley - Rev. J.R. Baker, 1864 - Rev. W.W. Glanville, 1865 to 1871 - Rev. B. Shinn, 1884 - Rev. S. Farlow, 1884-45, - Rev. D.J. M. Wood, 1885-86 - Rev. W.L. Douglas, 1886,87,88. - Rev. L.B. Carpenter, 1889, - Rev. H.A. Carlton, 1890 - Rev. D.S. Main, 1890,91, - Rev. A.L. Bates, 1892 - Rev. T.G. Aten, 1893 - Rev. M.S. Burns, 1894 - Rev. J.W. McCurdy, 1895,-96,97,98, - W.C. Smith, 1899-1900 - J. Harned, 1901 - R.J. Tennant, 1902 W.E. Harvey, 1903, G.T. Roberts, 1904,-5 - Edward L. Stone, 1906,07 - C.W. Brown, 1908 - W.B. Cox, 09,10-Fred A. Mead, 1911 - H.E. Copeland, 1912,13 - O.R. Jones, 1914 - E.A. Place, 1916-17, - L.H. Smith, 1917, - F.H. Perkins, 1918, - L.C. Duncan,

1919,20, - Mrs. A.E. Porter, 1921, - Ira L. Selby, 1922, - R.W. Meeker, 1923,24,25, - W.L. Cunningham, 1926, - H.A. Cottrell, 1927,28, - G.L. Hufstader, 1929, -O.A. Dillon, 1930, 1931,32, - O.L. Jones, 1933,34,35, - W.J. Hamilton, 1936,37, - Gerald Rogers, a student from Simpson, 1938,39,40, - Roger Crabtree, a student from Simpson, 1941,42, - Willard Peterson, a student from Simpson, 1943,44, - Monroe Nixen, student from Simpson, 1945, - none 1946 D.C. Callison, 1947.

H.B. Fay, 1948, - M.C. Shupe, 1949, - Clare H. Boos, 1950, - David Barker, 1951,52,53, - J.E. McClellan, 1954, - Robert Ropp, 1955, - Richard Viney, a student from Simpson, 1956,57,- Roy Shimer, a student from Simpson, 1957,8 - Alan Helland, student from Simpson, 1958-59, - Walter Kipp, student from Simpson, 1959,60, - Mark Weston, 1960,61, - Roy Harness, lay speaker, 1960,61 assisted by Mark Weston. 2-63. - Paul Williamson, 1964,5,6,7,8,9,70.

The church was moved to its present site of Cambria in the early 1880's and is still in use. In 1896 a parsonage was built in the present site of Cambria. The church was transferred to the Des Moines Conference in 1896.

The trustees of the Methodist Episcopal church of Cambria deeded the land to Thomas Sheets June 15, 1883. (Book 32 page 264.) Some time afterwards the church was moved.



A close-up of the old Cupola of the Methodist Church which was struck by lightning. (Photo by Lowell Garton.)



The hand of God is still seen in the preservation of the Methodist Church here. Lightning struck and knocked off the Cupola of this structure but did not set it afire. (Photo by Lowell Garton.)