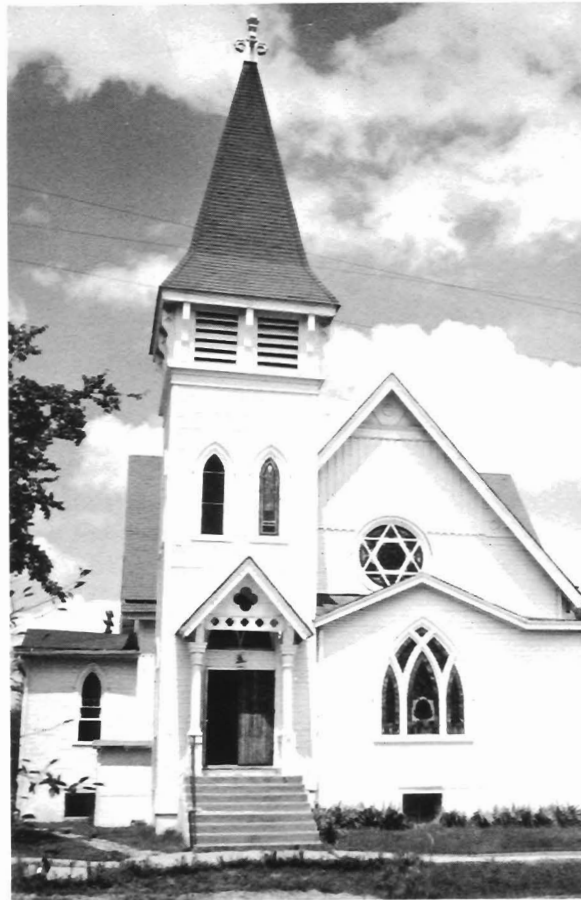


Lineville Methodist

by
Mrs. Ruby B. Cravens



Lineville Methodist (Courtesy of G.W. Molleston)

The present Methodist Church was dedicated May 8, 1898. The following "programme" of the dedication was found among the papers of W.N. and Carrie Lyon by their daughter Eva of Encondida, California.

Rev. J.N. Hosier was pastor and other speakers at the Dedication services were; Rev. T. McStuart, Rev. A. Thornbrue and Rev. F.J. Enyeart.

The board members were; Dr. E. Glendenning, E.R. Belvel, G.W. Dickson, J.M. Sullivan and J.S. Dennison.

The following people placed memorial windows.

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Jas. H. Rogers Post, | in memory of G.A.R. |
| Mrs. M.E. Wasson, | in memory of J.D. Wasson |
| Mr. J.M. Sullivan | in memory of Rev. Joseph Sullivan |
| Mr. B.T. Waldrip, | in memory of Rev. I.C. Waldrip |
| Mr. W.O. Mullinex | in memory of Allie Mullinex |

Mr. C.W. Bolster and family
A.M. Helton
E.R. Belvel

in memory of Dr. and Mrs. A.W. Prather

in memory of Mrs. Indiana Helton

Dr. E. Glendenning
Former Sunday School dedicated to Teachers of Sunday School.

L.M. (Lem) Belvel was president of the Epworth League at this time. They held ice cream and cake socials, art displays, etc., Also each member pledged to raise \$1.00 by their own efforts. Mrs. Vera Belvel, daughter of I.A. Greenlee, recalls that she journeyed to the timber west of her father's home, picked, stemmed and sold wild gooseberries for 15c per gallon to make her donation.

Mrs. Cravens says that she obtained the above information from Mrs. Vera Belvel, Greenfield, Ia., Mrs. Eva Lyon Barnhart, Calif., Mrs. Lulu Miles White, Florida and from the scrap book of Miss Dora Brown.

by
Ortha Green
From Wayne and Appanoose
County History

The Methodist Episcopal Church of Lineville, Ia. was organized in the year of 1858 by Rev. D.T. Sweem, with ten members. Their house was built in 1867 and was a 40 x 25 ft. building. This first structure was blown down in 1868, but was immediately rebuilt at a cost of \$1,500 and it was a 50 x 25 ft. dimensions.

Pastors assigned to this charge were: J. Farlow, James E. Bracewell, Isaac Waldrip, Rev. Phillips, J. Volmer in 1876 who came from the Red Oak Conference, E.W. Brady, Andrew Hancox, J.W. Cassel and A.B. Morrison. The membership in 1885 was about 80. This Sunday School superintendent in 1885 was E.R. Belvel.

From the Recorders Office in book 14, page 421 we find a deed. S.A. Collins and wife M.C. Collins to the trustees of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Lineville, Iowa. the west 20 ft. of Lot 1, Block 8 for the sum of \$200.00. Dated June 25, 1897.

In 1941 they made plans to build a new church. The following items were taken from the Lineville Tribune May 26, 1938. Two ministers of the town of Lineville, Rev. W.T. Hamilton and Rev. D.R. Finley were featured in a special article by George Shane.

The Methodist of south and north have voted to unite nationally, and these two and the Protestant Methodists will merge.

The faith of each group has always been the same, only is there a slight difference in the order of service. At a Conference in Kansas City, Mo. which is Episcopal in administration says the newly incorporated churches will be known as "The Methodist Church".

Rev. W.J. Hamilton was very active in bringing

about this merger. The church merger was completed in 1939. Rev. Hamilton preached his last sermon in Aug. 1939 and went to Oregon, Rev. Folchie of M.E. South preached his last sermon Oct. 8, 1939, and in Nov. 1939 Rev. Harry Ezell was pastor. He had Clio, Mt. Olive, Logan Chapel and Lineville as his pastorates.

The pastors named below have been secured from various news papers. Rev. J.M. Hosier, 1898, Fred. M. Stevenson, 1912, George W. Hall, 1920, W.L. Cunningham, 1924, Douglas Steffenson, 1930-32, Azel L. Smith, 1935, O.E. Jones, 1935, each a half year, Henry Neighbor, 1936, sent by Mo. Conf. W.J. Hamilton, 1938-39, Harry Ezell, in Nov. 1939, R.I. Faucett, 1st half of 1941 and Gerald Rogers, 2nd half of 1941, from the Lineville circuit, He had just graduated from Simpson College. Fred Martin, 1942-44, Tom Moore King, 1944-47, Stanley Woeste, 1951, Hugh Barrett, 1952, Rev. Nesbitt, 1953, Rev. Otto R. Thome and wife Florence Resnor Thome, 1954-55-6-7, Earl Stryffeler, 1958, Dwight Belnap, 1960, and Howard Ball 1961-62-63-4-5, Russell Vanderhoff 1966-7, Barry Ballard 1968-9, John Broden 1970-1.

It was Rev. Harry Ezell who started an Orchestra in 1939 with many prominent persons as members, among them was Ralph Cain.

The Ladies Aid has always been very active and helpful. The church built a new parsonage, and as both north and south churches were in need of repairs they made plans in 1941 to build a new church.

The following poem was written by a former Lineville, Iowa girl and expresses the warm feeling for the old country churches of yesteryear. Used by permission. From her book "Driftwood".

OLD COUNTRY CHURCH BACK HOME

by
Mary (Cox) Stuteville

The brightest spot in my childhood
Was, when Sunday came around,
Dressed in our Sunday clothes
For church we were bound.

We all filed in together
And sat well up in front,
No matter what the weather
From us kids was never a grunt.

We loved that dear old church,
It's dark and shiny pews.
Our heads just reached above them,
And to be late was no excuse.

And quite often the Minister
Went home with us and dined.
The memory of those Sundays
Around my heart is twined.

And when I've finished lifes journey
And on this earth no longer roam,
I wish the last words O'er me could be spoken
In that dear old country church back home.