

RATHDRUM COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH HISTORY

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Appendix - Miscellaneous photos and mememtoes

Note: Video tapes are also file in the church library:

1. Commemoration of Gertrude Poleson's over 50 years of service, May 1990
2. Frontier Service on church lawn, July, 1990

This edition of the history compiled by Nora Howard and Connie House, September, 1992. It is expected that this history will be updated every two years until the year 2000, which is the one hundredth anniversary of Methodism in Rathdrum, Idaho. At that time a more complete history will be published in book form.

## INTRODUCTION

*Prayer: O, Lord, over the centuries others have worked so we today can know you. Help us to work and spread the good news that others will benefit likewise. In Jesus' name. Amen.*

*Lillian Runyon*

Methodism is more a spirit than a doctrine. Methodists themselves have always regarded May 24, 1738, as the most significant date in their origin, since on that evening John Wesley experienced his profound spiritual awakening. This occurred at a meeting of a "religious society" in London. This had been held in the midst of a low state of morals, carelessness and corruption of the clergy, and the cruelty and degradation of the social life in England in that century. The Wesleyan movement thrived among the miners and other poor elements of the society of the time.

John Wesley evangelized the lower elements, but also worked at the higher stages of society. Some of his contacts were the outstanding persons of his century. He wrote, edited, and published three hundred or more books and pamphlets which were circulated to hundreds of thousands of people of all classes.

John's brother, Charles Wesley, was one of the greatest and most prolific hymn writers of all time. He was also instrumental in establishing the "Holy Club" among the students at Oxford University for the purpose of the development of personal piety and also doing good works among the prisoners and the poor. These people were called "Methodists" because of their systematic routine.

It was in the United States that the Methodist Movement first became a church, although this required separation from the Church of England had not entered John Wesley's thinking in the beginning. (Ferm, American Church of the Protestant Heritage, Philosophical Library Publishers, New York, 1953.)

Frontier worship was by our present standards rather crude, but had a spirit we could emulate in any era. This was the time of the "camp meeting". In this period the "anxious seat" or "mourner's bench" was common. A "mourner" was one who became alarmed at the state of his/her soul and began to pray and seek deliverance from the bondage of sin.

The music of the camp meeting revivals typically included much of the call and response type of singing. The responses were often short ("Glory Hallelujah"). Refrains were common, allowing all to sing together in spite of the absence of printed music. No instruments were apparently used, perhaps conserving the older psalm-singing style, or perhaps simply because none were available.

The music of camp-meetings is best preserved in several old collections printed between 1815 and 1855, bearing such titles as *Kentucky Harmony*, *Southern Harmony*, and *Sacred Harp*. These books are still used in part of the south.

Methodism arrived in the Northwest when Rev. Jason was sent west as a result of an inquiry by four Indians who had travelled to St. Louis from west of the Rockies to inquire about the white man's religion. He set up the Oregon Mission in 1834. From that small beginning, churches, colleges, hospitals, and more missions have been established. (Howell, Methodism in the Northwest, Parthenon Press, 1966.)

Rathdrum, originally Westwood, dates back to 1861 when a trapper named Connors built a cabin on the site. This became a relay station in 1871 when a pony express route was established between Missoula, Montana and Walla Walla, Washington.

The railroad survey was made in 1880. The pony relay station was designated a railway station and quickly the settlement began to grow into a prosperous town. Track laying was completed in 1881, and the town was founded the same year. The town site was plotted in 1882, and incorporated in 1891.

According to information from Jane Post Andrews (Box 114, Hailey, Id 83333), taken from her mother's "cookbook", the Post family was then instrumental in the establishing of several institutions in the area. Fredrick Post built a saw mill on Fish Creek (outlet of Fish Lake), now Twin Lakes, northeast of town. Timber cut from the town site was converted into lumber to build what soon became the metropolis of the entire region between Missoula and Walla Walla. The mill was turned over to his nephew A. W. Post, when Fredrick was interested in the Post Falls Dam and new mill projects.

In 1900 a pastor named T. G. Hodgson was appointed to serve the Methodists in Rathdrum, Idaho. The original church was built sometime prior to 1905 on the hill on Mc Cartney Street in the south part of town. At this time there was also a functioning Presbyterian Church. The history of the Methodist Church in Rathdrum is intertwined with nearby Presbyterians for the next close to one hundred years, until July 1, 1992, when this church "broke the yoke" with the Presbyterians of Spirit Lake, and once again stands on its own.

## THE BUILDING

*For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. The Bible, Hebrews 3:4*

The original Methodist Church was a small building built some time prior to 1905 on McCartney Street on the hill in the south part of town.

The project of building the present church building was started in 1904 by the Presbyterians. Many money contributions were given at that time. Fredrick Post's name appears again in the history of the area, as he donated the land on which the church would be built.

In 1905 the Presbyterian congregation commenced to build a church on the corner of Post and McCartney Streets with S. M. Dennis as architect in charge and Frank Denee as contractor for the building. The bell was cast in 1887 by the Clinton H. Menelly Bell Company of Troy, New York. In August 1906 the bell from the old (information as to "old" is unknown) Presbyterian Church was transferred to the tower of the new edifice.

Mr. Cady, a carpenter, donated his work at 50 cents an hour. Much labor was donated by others. The beautiful stained glass windows were donated by members in memory of relatives who had passed on. The total cost of the building was \$3200. The first service was held in the new church on September 7, 1906, and the dedication was held on December 2, 1906.

A more complete story of this project is revealed by the following information researched by Sunne Rounds. This is a verbatim transcript from the newspaper accounts of the time:

Excerpts from *The Rathdrum Tribune*, (succeeding *The Silver Blade*), established 1895

Friday, September 22, 1905

Work on new Presbyterian Church is about to be begun. It is a building 48 x 72 and is to be erected on the same site as the old structure.

Friday, September 29, 1905

Work on the foundation of the new Presbyterian Church is progressing gradually. The old structure has been moved into Post Avenue and excavation made for a stone foundation.

Friday, October 6, 1905

FIRST BEST CHURCH

## Presbyterians Erecting Fine Modern Edifice

The Presbyterian Church of Rathdrum is the first church organized in Kootenai County - about 20 years ago - and when the new edifice now in course of construction is completed, Rathdrum will have the first best church in the county. The new structure is planned after the most modern and up-to-date designs and will be a credit to the building committee that has the matter in charge as the whole community whose interest and local pride is invoked to assist in seeing that the edifice is pushed to completion without delay.

Funds are needed and now that the work has been begun contributions, large and small, will be welcomed. The new church will be on the old site, the building ranging lengthwise northwest by southeast on the corner of McCartney Street and Post Avenue. It will have an extreme length of 82 feet and be 42 feet wide. It will be sided and plastered. It will have a bell tower and a smaller tower on the corner at the right of the pulpit. The main entrance will be about the middle and will open into the street. A smaller entrance will be opposite, and another to the left on the corner.

On the right of the main entrance, going in, will be the Sunday School class rooms, about 12 in all, in 2 stories; on the left will be the church room, proper, with a lofty, umbrella shaped ceiling, the floor sloping toward the pulpit, back of which will be an alcove 8 feet deep. The seats will be arranged in a curve with two aisles converging toward the pulpit. Heat will be furnished by a furnace.

The plans were drawn by S. M. Dennis who is the architect in charge. Frank Denee has the contract for building the foundation which is of stone. Work on the foundation which has been somewhat delayed by rains, but the excavation is completed.

Friday, December 15, 1905

The roof on the new Presbyterian Church will soon be completed.

Friday, April 6, 1906

Excerpt from "Local Paragraphs"

Work on finishing the exterior of the new Presbyterian Church is progressing nicely. The construction of the new church began last fall, and it is expected that it will be completed before many more weeks.

Our bell was made by: Clinton H. Meneely Bell Co., Troy, New York, U.S.A. It was cast in A. D. 1887.

Friday, August 3, 1906

On Tuesday the bell of the old Presbyterian Church was transferred to the tower of the new edifice, the interior of which is now nearly completed. The seats in the auditorium of the new church have also been received. They were purchased in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Friday, September 7, 1906

Presbyterian Services were held in the Sabbath School Room of the new church building Sunday last for the first time, and the use of the Fraternal Opera House for the purpose since last fall was discontinued. The Sabbath School Room will be used for church services each Sunday until the arrival of the seats for the auditorium. The seats which were made in Michigan are expected here the latter part of the present month.

Friday, September 14, 1906

The new Presbyterian Church is now practically completed. The interior has been handsomely finished in the natural wood by L. E. Tucker who had that contract. The walls have been plastered, electric lights installed, two beautiful memorial windows are in place, and upon arrival of the seats, the edifice will be fully equipped. H. C. Dennis who planned the building and superintended its construction, informed us yesterday that the seats and pulpit are on the road and will be installed by him as soon as they arrive.

Friday, October 19, 1906

The new seats for the Presbyterian Church have been received. They were hauled to the edifice on Monday and the work of setting them up was begun, Mr. H. C. Dennis being in charge.

Friday, October 26, 1906

Sunday, October 28th, has been designated as opening day at the new Presbyterian Church, the program to be given in place of the regular morning service. Services were held in the auditorium of the new edifice for the first time last Sunday.

Friday, December 7, 1906

Presbyterian dedication-Sunday, December 2, 1906  
(Newspaper research by Sunne Rounds, 1984)

Again, information from the "cookbook" belonging to the mother of Jane Post Andrews, the following is a summary of the dedication service of December 2, 1906.

United Presbyterian Church  
Rathdrum, Idaho

SERVICE OF DEDICATION  
10:45 A.M. December 2, 1906

Order of Worship

Organ Voluntary

Doxology

Invocation

Psalter Selection No. 6

Hymn No. 33, "Holy, Holy, Holy"

Scripture Lesson - 1 Kings 8: 27-30, Rev. D. J. Schnut

Pray - Rev. J. H. Martin

Anthem - "More Love to Christ"

Announcements

Sermon - "A Dedication Blessing"

A. L. Hutchinson D.D., Tacoma, Wash.

Hymn No. 24 "Spirit Divine, Attend our Prayers"

Services of Dedication

Offering

Transference of Keys

Prayer of Consecration

Anthem - "Arise O King"

Benediction

There was also an evening service at 7:30 p.m. on that important day, with A. L. Hutchinson D. D. preaching a sermon titled "A Derelict".

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Personal notes on the congregation at that time taken from the notes of Jane Post Andrews' mother reveal that the furnace was fueled by wood, and in her opinion was often cold. She also mentions that there were several school teachers in the congregation as one of the requirements of hiring was that all teachers must attend a church of their choice. The family aspect was noted as she stated that families always sat together at the worship service, but as the children became older they could sit with friends.

According to the same source, "The older boys would get to ring the bell and my oldest brother was real proud when his turn came." She noted also that those who lived on farms as "we did" had to get up early and do their chores, etc. and get to Sunday School and church. Cold weather or hot we went either with team and buggy or sleigh, rain or snow. She says, "Those were the good old days"!

Quoting an unknown researcher, "The town of Rathdrum continued to prosper until November, 1908 when, by questionable means, the county records were moved to Coeur d'Alene which then became the county seat of Kootenai

County. After that the town dwindled to the point where, in 1917, there seemed to be insufficient support for the two protestant churches." (*sic.*)

This researcher continues by saying that in 1917 the town of Post Falls, Idaho, was also having a problem trying to support its Methodist and Presbyterian churches so the decision was made to consolidate those two church buildings into one building. Rev. Nathan Fiske, who was serving as pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Post Falls advocated that the Methodists there withdraw from Post Falls and join with Greenacres, Washington and Harrison, Idaho to the church at Rathdrum. The Presbyterians from the Rathdrum area would support the church at Post Falls or affiliate themselves with the "Rathdrum Community Methodist Church".

On Friday, February 15, 1918 the Presbyterian congregation held a meeting which resulted in the decision to discontinue the Presbyterian church organization in Rathdrum.

The Methodists concluded that their own church on South McCartney Street was too small for the combined congregations and lacked room for expansion and voted to move into the former Presbyterian Church located at Post and McCartney Streets. The original Methodist Church was torn down.

Again quoting the newspaper articles from the *Rathdrum Tribune* researched by Sunne Rounds:

Friday, March 15, 1918

In the uniting of the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches of Rathdrum, now said to be practically consummated, the supporters and adherents of the two find the opportunity for uniting their support, heretofore divided between two churches, and thus having one strong protestant organization. A large get-together meeting is being planned for Easter.

Friday, February 15, 1918

The Presbyterian congregational meeting held last Sunday afternoon resulted in decision to discontinue the Presbyterian Church organization in Rathdrum and permit the members and adherents to affiliate with or give their support to the Methodists Church after the expiration of the current Presbyterial year in April. At Post Falls the Methodists have decided to merge with the Presbyterian organization, with Reverend Fiske continuing as pastor. (*Above newspaper research by Sunne Rounds, 1984*)



Mildred Egbers Koper (Mrs. Paul W. Koper of 128 Greenwood Avenue, Jenkintown, PA 19046) has written of her experiences living in Rathdrum and being active in the Methodist Church where her parents were very active. Egbers was born on July 15, 1915, and gives a very personal and enlightening account of what church activities were during the 1920's. This information was written in 1987. This information is included in her own words as she wrote it.

We lived next door to the Roman Catholic church, I guess you would say we lived behind the Roman Catholic Church. An alley separated our house from the Roman church. Mr. and Mrs. Young (he was head of the Rathdrum State Bank) lived next door on the front side of the church.

Almost kitty-corner from our house on a corner was a small frame church and I think it was the church we worshipped in when I was very small, I remember going to Sunday School there and going to some evening services there and my parents singing in the choir there. Thus, I do not recall when we began attending church in the Methodist church which was across the railroad tracks from the main street and next to the creek that runs through Rathdrum. (I believe this is the church now active or still active.)

I recall they (the church by the creek) had a very adequately furnished kindergarten room which my mother ran with help from some other women. It was my delight each Sunday morning to go and play at the sand table, we could stand around it and had paper buildings or animals etc.etc. to build and make things on the sand table. We sang many songs and I enjoyed the Sunday school at that time very much. It was nice to take home a "Memory Verse card" each Sunday. When I was in the 1st grade and on after that, we were supposed to learn that verse each Sunday. I did learn many of them and remember them to this day. I liked the colored Bible pictures on each one and used to carefully save them in a box. Affluence did not prevail in those days like today.

I recall one of my teachers was Mrs. Lathrop. We met in one of the little classes on the second floor. She had her husband make each of us a clip board and we wrote during class time whatever she wanted us to write. She made us pay attention and I recall wiggling a lot but she put up with us. I was in 4,5, and 6 grade when she taught me. She would have us meet at her home over by the Milwaukee depot for taffy pulls ever so often. We loved that. We each took a cup of sugar and she furnished everything else and we would pull taffy and play games. She had two trees I loved to climb I recall. She was always having us fix boxes to send to foreign countries as a mission project. I think that was my introduction to being Mission minded. We sent several packages to Japan I recall. She would have a list

of items and we would each bring one thing, all any of us could afford at the time. We would take soap, pencils, wash clothes etc. I feel this was a very good Sunday School at that time.

We had "Opening Exercises" to begin with in the sanctuary when all gathered and the supt. Mr. Sanders would preside. We sang many songs and he let the children choose many favorites. He made announcements etc. and then dismissed us to classes. After Sunday School we all stayed for church.

There were Sunday Evening services from 7:30 to 8:30 every week. We always went back to church at night with our parents. We would lean on them and sleep a lot during the service. I recall walking home many a Sunday night not quite awake, leaning on my father.

When I was in the 5 or 6th grade my father and others decided we needed more space in the church for social events etc. They devised a plan to dig a basement from the "creek" side of the church and add a basement room. Work was begun after some money was raised. The conclusion after the work was done was a very adequate room in the basement with an outside entrance. Off the main room was a very nice small kitchen. Everyone seemed so pleased to have this room, it was multi-purposed. Ladies Aid held meetings and socials there, Sunday School parties were held there, Epworth League used it. I recall being in 7th grade and our Sunday School teacher had us go on a sleigh ride party one night. We went all over the country in a sleigh with sleigh bells and then back to the church for hot chocolate and sandwiches and cake. This was my first party there and I remember thinking that the room was beautiful. I had been to day-time affairs but not special 7th grade party.

The Church had two big programs each year, actually three. The Christmas program held in the church sanctuary and given by the Sunday School was really something for us children. We learned "pieces" from memory and did what they called "exercises" where several children would line up on the stage, or where the pulpit was, and say "pieces" that all went together to express an idea. There would be a large Christmas tree all decorated, we all made chains and popcorn and cranberries for it. We used real candles on our trees at that time in our home but I do not ever recall real candles being on the tree at church. It was before days of electric tree lights. There would often be a pageant given by the older young people. We sang many Christmas carols. At the conclusion, Santa Claus would come bounding in and give us each a bag of candy with an orange also or sometimes a little box of hard candy and an orange. Such excitement. This service was at 7:30 and was over early so we could have time at home too.

The second big program was Easter. I do not recall the exact date of this program but it was before Easter Sunday morning service. We all learned "pieces" and special songs for this Easter presentation too. I remember having to go from school to the church every aft. for several days to "practice" for the program. We children would all go into the Rathdrum woods (which were in the middle of the town practically) and gather literally tubs of wild flowers and put on the stage for this program. They always seemed to be blooming no matter which day Easter fell on. The more we picked the more appeared next year which does not seem to be the case anymore where they prohibit the picking of wild flowers. We picked blue bells, daisy pinks, Easter lillies, yellow bells, ferns, grass pinks, turkey pips (shooting stars), wild roses, May flowers and triliums from up on the mountain. This program may have been on Palm Sunday or even the Sat. before Easter, I just do not recall this date.

The choir always prepared a Christmas and Easter Cantata to be presented during those two appropriate Sundays. My parents both sang in the choir so I was very interested in the Cantatas. Mrs. Rogers directed the choir.

The third special day was Children's Day, the second Sunday in June. We had a special program during Sunday School on that Sunday. Rally Day was in the fall and that was in Sept. when we started up the fall program.

The Methodist church often had special Evangelism Emphasis programs and speakers. I recall one summer there was a big tent revival service which went on for several weeks. It was a Rev. Sturgeon and another assistant, do not recall his name. This was not the famous preacher whose name was Spurgeon. It was hot in the tent in the summer but our family hardly missed a meeting. My mother sang in the special choir each night. Rev. Ben Madsen was the minister when this partaicular event took place. On Sundays during these meetings, people took food and we had one huge picnic under the tent, food being put on tables in the center aisle, buffet syle. They were regular feasts. On one occasion, my brother and I decided we should walk down the aisle and accept Christ as our Saviour and so we did. I have always felt that was an important moment in my life. I have had many experiences and opportunities for Christian growth but that was the beginning.

There was an active Epworth League in the Rathdrum Church. I was too young to belong when we lived there but I recall they met regularly, sent young people to twin Lakes to attend the summer conference at Twinlo etc. My sister Martha went to Epworth League for one year prior to our moving to Coeur d'Alene.

The Rathdrum Methodist church was a vital force in the community. Looking back I think it was a financially poor community. When one does not equate happiness with money, it seems unimportant and I did not realize until years later that it was a poor community.

The church members helped townspeople and fellow members in many ways when there was a need. There was a terrible fire in Rathdrum and I believe it was about 1927, not certain of that date, the church as a whole made up of members, helped the whole town out. Fire departments came from Spokane, Coeur d'Alene and all over to help put out the horrible August fire. The church stayed open all night and people whose homes were burned went there til they could be placed. Men and women got supplies and cooked for the firemen all night and through the next day at the little old church I first mentioned.

I recall one time a Rev. and Mrs. Danforth spent a week at the church. They traveled from church to church doing special Christian Education work and evangelistic services in the evening. They had a meeting for all of the children every day after school and on Sat. They instructed in the Bible, had drama and required us to learn many, many things in a short time. We were given a little symbol each time we learned the certain thing, then they pasted those on a red ribbon for us to hang at home. I did not walk but ran to the church every aft. after school and learned everything they required every day. My red ribbon was complete at the end of the time and I was terribly proud and happy to have this reward. I was in the 5 or 6 grade when they were there. We were rather an isolated community and something special like this was great. Some of the things required for learning were: Lord's prayer, 23rd Psalm, Books of the New Testament, John 3:16, Beatitudes, etc.etc. I still have this red ribbon!!

I think prayer meetings on Wednesday evenings were quite regular throughout the history of the church. I think they were often held at the parsonage for I recall my parents going there and we children went with them sometimes and I recall not being "too good" a few times. This seemed to be an important part of the spiritual life of many members. I believe they met at our house a few times too and I recall the choir practicing downstairs at our house in the winter sometimes so they would not have to heat the church. We children would lie in our beds upstairs and listen.

Every summer there was an annual picnic, I do not really know whether it was a Sunday School picnic or a whole church picnic but it was for everyone and it seemed to be a great success and everyone went. It was often held at Honeysuckle Beach at Hayden Lake and at that time there was nothing but sand and water there. It was held once at the Heitman

summer home on Lower Twin Lakes. We played lots of games and had contests and we children thoroughly enjoyed it.

My father, Miles F. Egbers, used to teach a class of boys at Sunday School and he drew boys from all over town whether their families were in church or not. He had a hard ball baseball team for these boys all summer and they had such fun playing and he would always make them come to Sunday School if they wanted to be on the team. He often had hot dogs and pop for them which they appreciated. I was a year younger and a better player than the boys and my dad let me practice with them but I could not play with them in their "real" games. One time I hit one of their baseballs so far over the hill they never did find it and my dad had to buy them a new one!! They raised money for their ball equipment.

The church with its boards and members kept an eye on the Village of Rathdrum and kept it a decent place to live in at that time. The church had an influence and impact on the Village I am sure.

Names of people I recall as being active in the Methodist church in Rathdrum, Idaho from the time I first recall until we moved away in 1928. I was 13 years old when we moved.

My parents Miles F. and Eva F. Egbers

Mr. and Mrs. Rogers and daughter, Donna. Mrs. Rogers directed the choir for many years while we were there.

Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Sanders and family, he was Supt. of Sunday School for years, and their son Everett and also son Burton

The Barnes family, daughter Josephine and other children

Mr. and Mrs. Noel Taylor, he sang in the choir I remember

The Elmer Feeley family, lived on a farm outside of town. Had a daughter Alice and other children.

Mr. and Mrs. Peavey and family, Dorothy and Omar  
Mrs. Marian Clumpner and family, Betty & Donnie  
Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Layton, children Edna, Donald, and Virginia (very active).

Two Fransworth(sp?) families were very active. One of the men was a Veterinarian and well-known and active throughout the whole area. He was called "Doc". The women of both families were active in the church activities. One of the wives names was "Lottie".

The Swanson family, children Edward, Margaret, Irene, Teddy and Claire and an older son who was not home but in the Navy. Claire died of pneumonia when he was just a little over a year old. Made an impression on my mind. Teddy died when he was 11 or 12 of Rheumatic fever.

Mrs. Laura Thompson Brown, an older widow-woman when I remembered her. She was very active. For several

years one of the church activities was a "Waffle Breakfast" to raise money and it was held at Laura Thompson Brown's home. It was always a special affair for us children to be taken there by our parents. (We did not own a waffle iron at the time and it was a special treat).

I think the Burgess family or part of them was active in the church. Their son Merle was in my age bracket.

Mr. and Mrs. Lathrop were very active.

Rose Gonser and her sister

When I was a very small or young child, Reverend Harvey was the pastor of the church. He and Mrs. Harvey lived in the parsonage up on the hill above the old Methodist church. I think Rev. and Mrs. Clarke followed the Harvey's. Also there was a Reverend Lyman Burke and his wife and three small children. She died in childbirth while they were in Rathdrum, it was very sad. She lost the baby and then her life from blood poisoning. He took the three children and went on to another church. I perhaps do not have these in the right order but I know Rev. Harvey is the first minister I recall; after Rev. Burke and Rev. Clarke came Rev. Ben Madsen and his wife Lu and their children. I recall the children's names because by that time I was in the 6,7 grade in school. Kendall, Dolores and David were their children. They were at the church when we moved from Rathdrum to Coeur d'Alene.

(Mildred Egbers Koper, 1987)

Most of the older members of the congregation remember Christmas Eve services. There was always a tree, they said, and until electric Christmas tree lights were common, this tree was lighted with candles. Most of these folks remember a Christmas program with children saying "pieces" and sometimes a pageant or other enactment of the birth of the Christ child. After the services, there was always a little bag of candy for the children.

In the 1940's and '50's, there was an earlier service for the children at 7:30 p.m. and then a midnight candlelight communion service for the adults and those children who could stay awake.

The union of the Evangelical Brethren Church with the Methodist Church took place nationwide in 1967, and in 1977 there was filed a "Notice of Intention to Amend the Articles of Incorporation of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Rathdrum, Inc." in the church records. This notice states that at a regular meeting of the Rathdrum Methodist Church it is intended to vote on the proposition amending the Articles of Incorporation. The proposition states the intention of changing the name to Rathdrum Community United Methodist Church, amending the objects and purposes of the corporation, amending the requirements of membership to those provided in the *Discipline of the United*

*Methodist Church*, to conduct the business by a Board of Trustees of not less than three nor more than nine persons, each at least 21 years of age who will be elected and organized by the same "*Discipline...*". Dated the 28th day of September, 1977, and signed by Eugene Runyon, Chairman, Board of Trustees and Gertrude W. Poleson, Recording Secretary. This action put the Rathdrum church in line with the other Methodist churches in the area.

Another document of interest on file in the church records is a letter from the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, responding to a letter from Secretary Mildred Scarcello, inquiring of the possibility of the church being eligible for listing in the *State Historical Register*.

The letter states that the Society would be happy to include the church building in the state inventory of historic sites. It goes on to state that this building would probably also be eligible for the *National Register of Historic Places*. Enclosed with the letter are the necessary worksheets to be completed should this be the wishes of the Church. The worksheets are filled out. It is not known whether they were sent in. It is believed that this building is not in the national register at the present time, September of 1992.

On December 9, 1986, George Forgacs, who was in 1986 the Chairman of the Building Committee, sent a letter to the Board of Directors and Congregation of the Rathdrum Community Methodist Church explaining a study that he and Grant Groesbeck of Groesbeck and Pasold, Architects, of Spokane, Washington had just completed. In summary, Groesbeck and Forgacs met at the church building at 2:00 p.m. on December 7 of 1986 and made a tour of the building to inspect for structural deficiencies, safety hazards or any other problems. The complete letter is also on file, but the report indicates that although some work was needed in the foundation, main sanctuary, and attic, Forgacs felt that the church does have the man power to do most of the repairs. Mr. Groesbeck has offered his expertise in costs estimates of materials. Forgacs requested direction from the Board on further action.

Special "Frontier Services" were held on the church lawn in July of 1990 and again on August 25, 1991. These services were to honor and commemorate the pioneers for their uncompromising faith and the strong foundations they have left for us. Many of the old hymns were sung: *Church in the Wildwood*, *What a Friend we have in Jesus*, *In the Garden*, *The Church's One Foundation*, *Blessed Assurance*, *Sweet Hour of Prayer*, *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*, *Shall we Gather at the River*, *Faith of our Fathers*, *Amazing Grace*, and *Blessed be the Tie that Binds*. Pastor Weber's

sermon in 1991 was entitled "*Faith of our Fathers and Mothers*".

In 1991 a letter was sent to Rollie Stierwalt, District Superintendent asking support for a "breaking of the yoke" which binds the Rathdrum Methodist with the Spirit Lake Presbyterian churches. Documentation was sent to him also of the reports from many committees in the Task Force for further study of the situation. Included in this letter are reports from several committees: Advertising and Promotion, Building, Financial, Parking, Parsonage, Programs, and newspaper articles and copies of demographic trend studies that show the increase of population in this area and the anticipation of great increase in the future. District Superintendent Stierwalt supported the Board of Trustees in this critical step.

According to a column by Joyce Nowacki in the *Post Falls Tribune* of June 25, 1992, quoting Don Weber, Rathdrum Methodist has shared ministries many times, having shared with Post Falls Presbyterian, Greenacres of Washington, and more recently with Athol Methodist and Spirit Lake Presbyterian. Athol separated in 1988, leaving Spirit Lake and Rathdrum in the shared relationship. June 28, 1992 the worship service had the theme of "*Homecoming Celebration*" and the "breaking of the yoke" was final on July 1, 1992. As of that date, Rathdrum Community United Methodist Church has its own pastor, Don Weber.



## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

*For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe. These things command and teach. The Bible, 1 Timothy: 10,11*

From the earliest days Methodist leaders worked with determination to bring enlightenment to the minds and hearts of children through education. One of the first steps in the Pacific Northwest was setting up schools for the Indian children. Methodist schools were also desired for all children, but dire poverty at the time prevented this endeavor from getting hardly past the dreaming stage. Thus the Oregon Conference in 1866 set for the Methodist attitude toward public schools, "We regard the common school system as one of the best safeguards of American citizenship, and rejoice in the general spread of knowledge by its means...regarding the Bible as the source of civil and religious liberty, we trust it will continue to be read in all our schools without note or comment." In 1856 the Oregon Conference recommended that members pledge to organize Sunday schools where two or more persons could be assembled for the purpose of spreading religious knowledge essential to spiritual growth." (Howell, *Methodism in the Northwest*, 1966.)

It is assumed that establishing Sunday School was a high priority of the first congregation and the first minister who arrived in Rathdrum in 1900. We know that by 1906 Sunday School was functioning well at this church. The first notes about Christian Education in Rathdrum Methodist are from the notes made by Jane Post Andrews' mother. She notes that the small rooms to the sides of the new church building (1906) were for different age children. The room to the east was the primary as today (1975), "children being moved on to others as the years passed. All rooms were filled with boys and girls before growing to adults." The adults used the auditorium.

She goes on to say that every Christmas there was a beautiful Christmas tree and candy and nuts treats after the program of songs and recitations were given.

The same source mentions that A. W. Post was the first superintendent of the Sunday School. "He had the most beautiful white beard and hair. And he gave each child a Bible at Christmas time who had not missed a Sunday through the year...and I was very proud when I received one."

February 9, 1912 - a letter from Elizabeth (Mrs. Francis) Egbers states "We have a large Sunday School here now. There are 8 classes. There are over 20 in the infant class. Bertha Sylvester is their teacher."

Gertrude Poleson was Sunday School Superintendent for many years. Hortense Kugler and Mrs. Simpson were also involved at that time. Flannel boards with beautiful pictures and the Bible were the only materials used at that time. The Sunday School then was entirely self-supporting.

During the 1940's and '50's, before the old grade school was torn down and replaced by the one that is located there now (1992), Vacation Bible School was held in the old building because there were too many children for the church to accommodate. At this time there were close to 100 students. At one time, Bernice Steele and some other mothers enrolled 125 VBS students.

A printed Bible school program from about 1962 belonging to Julie Darlas Alworth lists the names of 71 students in the Bible school program. There were classes for nursery and beginners, primary, juniors, and junior high. The theme that year was "Living for Jesus".

Begun in 1967 when the Lakeland Parish was created by "yoking" the Spirit Lake Presbyterian Church and the Rathdrum Methodist, and into the 1970's Twinlo was the location for Vacation Bible School, under the supervision of Fred and Sophie Owen. There were over 100 students at these schools, also.

Bible Study for adults was begun also by the Owens'. It began in the evening and many couples attended. Soon, however, the meeting was changed to mornings. Pastors Drew, Owen, and Smith led these groups for the first few years. The group is still meeting in 1992. Those who attend the class take turns teaching. Attendees at the present time are: Marianne Power, Bernice Steele, Nora Howard, Beth Holcomb, Evelyn Sylte, Mildred Scarcello, Doris Black, Kathryn Caswell, Maimie Moore, Mae Howell, Hazel Newcomb, Harriet Bedard and Maxine Harbaugh.

Bessie Jean Hoy (daughter of Nora Howard) was the Sunday School superintendent in the 1970's. She held this position until the family moved to Montana. Mary Ann Walker was the superintendent when Bessie Jean moved, and held this position until she herself moved in 1982.

Sharon Dillon started teaching Sunday School when she moved here in 1978. She worked mostly with the primary age children. Bev Young moved to the area around 1980 and started teaching the intermediate level. Barbara Kruse taught junior high level at about the same time. These three all taught the Sunday School until about 1990. At that time, probably due to many other churches having been built in the area, the population of the area decreasing a great deal, and due to a general disinterest in religion in

America, enrollment was down to an average of about 20 students.

When Mary Ann Walker left the area in 1982, Sharon Dillon took over as superintendent and served until 1990. During this time Dillon re-instated the Christmas Eve program, which had been dropped for an unknown period of time, and also arranged some type of special activity for the children at Easter. A personal note by Sharon is that somewhere the tradition of a Christmas tree during the Christmas season was abandoned, perhaps for only a year or perhaps longer, it is not known. However, when she and her children attended services on Christmas Eve of 1978, she felt the church looked very drab and unattractive to children. After this she, her son Duane, and Dale Fritzsche brought a tree into the church every Christmas season, and it was decorated, usually by the Sunday School children.

In recent years, many persons have helped with the Christmas Eve program. 1987: Jacquie Echelberger, 1988 and '89: Connie House, 1990: Beth Holcomb, and in 1991 Julie Alworth and Beth Holcomb.

The tradition of the lighted and decorated Christmas tree continues. Russell and Doreen McMillan have been furnishing the tree, and in recent years (1980's and early 90's), a family potluck dinner is held, at which time families and all who wish help trim the tree.

At the present time (1992), Gail Belanger is Sunday School superintendent and Julie Alworth is head of Christian Education.

## MEMBERSHIP AND CHURCH FAMILY

*Be ye therefore followers of God as dear children: And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us...The Bible, Ephesians 5:1,2*

BATTLES, LYNETTE. An artist whose work included three pieces selected for "Idaho!", a juried exhibition of two-dimensional art in Boise in June of 1992.

BRADBURY, LULU (MAYER) born September 5, 1886 in Tryon, Nebraska. Her parents were Albert and Birdie Mayer. The family left Nebraska in 1896 from Broken Bow, and travelled in a covered wagon planning to go to Canada. Went through Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and landed in Idaho in 1902. Here Lulu met and married Harry Bradbury in 1904. Her father was a fiddler and she remembers he played for all the dances. Father and family went on to Canada in 1905. Harry and Lulu went up in 1906 and took up a homestead, and proved up in 1906. Planning to come back to Idaho they had an auction sale. Harry got a job working as a butcher and meatcutter so they stayed until 1915, when Harry's father, Edd Bradbury got sick. He wanted Harry to come back to Rathdrum and look after the farm two miles west of Rathdrum. Harry also got a job in the meat market here with Charlie Johnson, then Jack? Beimond and several others, as the market changed hands. Lulu and Harry had seven children, 4 boys and 3 girls. Elwin, Albert, Louise, Birdie born in Canada. Melvin, Vernon and Pearley born in Rathdrum. Harry served as Chairman of the school board for about 15 years. Harry passed away in 1945. "Here I am planning to stay the rest of my days." *Mrs. Lulu L. Bradbury, Rathdrum, Idaho, 1978*

CARLSON, JOHN AND EVELYN (POLESON) were married on May 17, 1943 in Tacoma, Washington. He served in the Naval Air Force from 1938 - 1946, and again in '50-'54. They have one son, Jared Carlson, who lives in San Jose, California, and have one granddaughter, Karna Carlson.

CASWELL, JAMES T. AND KATHRYN C. - (Photo on file) Children Barry Caswell, David Caswell, and Jane Caswell Bright. They started attending church here when they moved to Rathdrum in 1958. Their early attendance was mostly Sunday School where the three children attended each Sunday through their school years. Kathryn taught Sunday School those years to the third and fourth graders. She also helped play the piano "when there was absolutely no one else to do it." the whole family was baptized and became members of the church on May 22, 1966. At that time the minister was Rev. Paul Perkins. The children also attended Bible School each year and Kathryn helped with this also. Jim and Kathryn have both been Board members and Kathryn has been on the Communion Stewardship Committee for several years. The fall

smorgasbords have been one of their church activities also for several years. "We enjoy our church very much!"

DILLON, DELISA Ann, born August 19, 1969 at Bellingham, Washington. Graduated in 1987 from Lakeland High School, Went to North Idaho College for two years and received her Associate of Arts degree. She graduated December, 1991 from University of Idaho with a degree in business. She has always liked music. Delisa started Sunday School at Spokane Valley Methodist. The family moved to Rathdrum when she was in the third grade. She was faithful in attending Sunday School and Bible School, helped teach VBS for a few summers. Went to Esther Camp Spaulding or Twinlow for eight years. Dalisa played paino for the church for about two years. While attending U of I she has been active in Campus Christian Fellowship and church work for the Living Faith Fellowship in Pullman, Washington.

DILLON, SHARON, born March 29, 1938 in Wichita, Kansas. From birth to five years, she lived in Kansas, Oklaahome, Texas, Colorado and Iowa as her father was a plumber/steamfitter who helped build defense plants. She attended school in Wichita until her junior year when they moved to Colorado Springs. She worked for two banks there as an IBM proof operator. March 4, 1961 Sharon married George Dwayne Dillon in Colorado Springs at the First Presbyterian Church. They returned to Washington where he worked at Coulee Dam from 1971-73, then they moved to Spokane. During the years 1966-69 two children came into their lives: Dennis Craig was born July 24, '66 and Delisa Ann was born August 19, '69. In July of '77 they "planted theirselves" in Rathdrum. Dennis is now in the US Marines, married and the couple presented the Dillons with their first grandchild, Craig James Dillon. Lisa is planning to be married soon. Church membership/service: Sharon started Sunday School at the age of two at First Presbyterian of Wichita. She was active from the beginning in all youth activities, and always sang in the choir. Taught her first Bible School at 14 at Colorado Springs Presbyterian. One summer she taught at three different churches! In 1969 she started attending Spokane Valley Methodist where she taught Sunday School, headed up Bible School, and was one of the first drivers for the "Meals on Wheels" program. The family started in October '77 at Rathdrum and continue here at the present time (1992). Here she taught Sunday School and Bible School for several years, has been active in raising money for summer camperships to Twinlow, has sung in choir occasionally, and has helped with the Kootenai County Food Bank.

FOSTER, LELAND C. Foster, Born April 2, 1991 in Post Falls, died January 27, 1981

FOSTER, LETA (SYMMS) (BACON) May 10, 1901 - January 26, 1988. (Photos on file) Born in Valeda, Kansas to Richard A. and Eva (Lockwood) Symms. She married Robert Bacon on August 29, 1921, in Caldwell. In 1953 they moved to the Lower Twin Lakes area. Robert died in 1966. She married Leland Foster in March of 1968. He died in January of 1981. Her children are: Gene Bacon born August 17, 1922; Vance Bacon born May 15, 1925; Roberta Bacon Hansen born December 21, 1933, and Roger Bacon, born April 18, 1937. Leta received Jesus Christ as her personal Saviour in 1942 while in southern Idaho. She then took her younger children to the Community Church there for Sunday School and Church services. She taught Sunday School classes in the Millwood Alliance Church in Spokane Valley and also in the Community Methodist Church here in Rathdrum. She remembers that as a child, the family had a dairy. "...and I helped milk and herd cows -- so I was with my 'Papa" more than with Mama. The last event of a summer's day was for Papa and I to walk hand in hand down through the dark woods to get a fresh pail of cool spring water. I would clutch his hand very tightly, for I was afraid of the dark, tho' the Lord had fireflies trying to light our path. I think that is the way with death-- Our loving Heavely Father wants us to go along through life with our hand in His and when we get there, it will be like good, cool, fresh spring water and much, much more! He sent Jesus for our hand-holder through life, so we need to clutch to Him tightly and never let go." Favorite Bible passages: Psalms 1.

HANSEN, SARAH, born March 25, 1904 in Rathdrum, died February 18, 1982. Sarah was married to Murrel Hansen, who died in 1965. They had five daughters. She was a teller and a bookkeeper for the Rathdrum State Bank, a member of Easter Star and the United Methodist Church. Pastor McCallum officiated at the services.

HOLCOMB, ELIZABETH (BETH) (Photo on file) Born May 28, 1938 in Baltimore, Maryland, grew up in Maryland until age 12. then moved to Pocatello, Idaho, and then California. She was married March 3, 1961 and they have two sons and one foster son. The Holcombs moved to North Idaho on September 1, 1988 and joined the church two months later in the following November. Beth has sung in the choir since she joined church, and serves(1992) as assistant choir director and music secretary. She has also been active in CHristian Education and other areas. George has also helped in the maintenance and other areas, as well, especially with sourdough biscuits and pancakes!

HORNER, ROSE (RAMBUR) born February 9, 1919 in Mandan, North Dakota, sixth child in a family of nine children. She was raised a Catholic and liked going to church. Rose met Hallie Horner in Helena, Montana, when she was working there at the Veterans' Hospital. They were marrried November 4,

1942. They have one child, Barbara. Hallie passed away at Bonners Ferry. Rose then sold the place in Montana and Ron, Barbara, April and she bought the present place near Rathdrum and moved here in August 1977. Rose joined the Rathdrum Methodist Church in April of 1982.

HOUSE, CONSTANCE (CONNIE) (OLTHOFF), born July 26, 1929 in Webster City, Iowa. (Photo on file) Was the youngest of the family of four siblings, three sisters and one brother. Married to Richard D. (Don) House and they have three sons: John House, principal at Lakes Middle School; Dan House, pilot for American Airlines; Mike House, Yukon Territory Transportation Department, Whitehorse, Yukon. Hobbies are: sports, music, quilting, writing. Have four German Shepherd dogs and five acres, fenced in, for them to play in. "Although my father's family were very strict German Amish/Mennonite, my sisters, brother, and I found our way to the Methodist Church where we felt happy and loved. I attended Sunday School regularly as a child, was baptized Baptist (immersed) at about age 18, but soon went back to the Methodist faith, where I raised my sons, and have been happy ever since. However, I am very ecumenical in my thinking. During my entire life, I have been active in Christian education and music. Favorite Bible verse: have no single one. Seem to rely on Lord's Prayer, Apostle's Creed, Beatitudes, 23rd Psalm."

HOWARD, NORA (ANDERSON), born Lost Creek, Oregon, August 11, 1919, had a twin who died at the age of four. In the spring of 1929 she, along with her twin half-brothers Myron and Marvin Hawk came to Rathdrum to be raised by Fred and Cora Bradbury, a great aunt and uncle. Their home was the west side of Rathdrum city park. When Nora was in the third grade her first teacher here was Miss Gibson, a very special lady. Harold Evans was the 7th and 8th grade teacher and principal of the school. Nora was baptized into the Catholic Church by Father Zuer on May 24, 1947. She also lived with Berna and Frank Rath part of the time when she was going to high school. Berna was Cora Bradbury's daughter. Betty, her daughter, and Nora were classmates. They married brothers. When she married Ellsworth W. Howard on December 1937 she left the church. The Howards had five children - Bessie Jean, Gladys Iva, Wayne Ellsworth, Thelma Nora, and David William. Nora states that Leta Foster and Rev. and Mrs. Fred Owen were active in her getting to church and accepting the Lord in the 1970's. She has worked in Vacation Bible School, helped teach Sunday School classes and has sung in the choir. She helps with smorgasbords. When the manse was cleaned, she helped with the painting. She is (September, 1992) a member of UMW and our Bible study group which has been going since the early 70's. She raises violets, grandkids, sews recycled quilts for the needy and for firemen to give out to those who burn out (with the help

of the UMW gals). She has 19 grandkids, 4 great grandkids "that I know of".

JAQUISH, DEL MAR AND BEVERLY JO EBBERS JAQUISH "Del" was born on May 18, 1929 and Beverly was born December 7, 1937. Their children are: Karen Denis Jaquish 8/19/55, Nancy Lee Suttles 1/9/58, Michael Roy Jaquish 1/20/60, Suzanne Annette Jaquish 1/13/62, and Kathryn Jane Zimmerman 2/22/64. Beverly was baptized and raised in the Baptist Church. She joined the Rathdrum Community UMC in 1985, and now(1992) serves as a communion steward. Del was baptized in the Methodist Church. Joined the Methodist Church in 1951 at First Methodist Church, Moscow, Idaho. He joined the Rathdrum Community UMC in 1985. DelMar serves as chair of the Administrative Board and member of the Board of Trustees. He renewed his lay speaker's license in 1986 and has served as Lay Leader in 1986-1990.

KRUSE family - Ron, Barbara, and April. Ron was born November 26, 1943 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Barbara was born August 17, 1943 in Newport, Washington. They were married December 1, 1964 at Moffit Field just south of San Francisco, California, when Ron was still in the navy. He served in the US Navy for four years and four months. April Rose was born on April 29, 1974, and was adopted by Ron and Barbara on the same day. Ron and Barbara both love the out-of-doors, and are hunters, fisherman, hunter safety instructors for the state of Idaho. A very interesting additional activity in which they are involved is the Coeur d'Alene Muzzle Loaders Club, an organization of people who shoot black powder rifles and try to re-enact the pre 1840's when the trappers first came to the Northwest. April is now (1992) a senior at Lakeland High School and she has recently become a fully qualified firefighter for the RRFD. Barbara joined the church as an adult in '78 or '79. Sharon Dillon had been bringing April to Sunday School. They came to services just before Christmas Eve and felt as if "they were home". They then started attending regularly. Barbara has since then taught Sunday School, sung in choir, and has been in UMW since they joined the church. She also started and serves as Head of the Rathdrum branch of the Kootenai County Food Bank. Her favorite Bible verse is Romans 8:28.

KUGLER, HORTENSE B., born June 5, 1906 in Rathdrum, Idaho and died August 11, 1988 in Coeur d'Alene. Rev. McCallum officiated at her funeral.

NEWCOMB family - Loyd Leon Newcomb and Hazel Anne Malson Newcomb. They met at a Church of God revival meeting in Oklahoma. Soon they started going together and were married the following June, 1927. Children are Loyd Leo Newcomb born April 15, 1925; Dorothy Grace Newcomb born August 9, 1930; Pauline Elizabeth Newcomb born January 8, 1933; Leonard Ray Newcomb born May 11, 1935; and Ruth Marie



Newcomb born August 7, 1938. The family moved to Fresno, California in 1935 and then to Madera, California. In 1975 they moved to Rathdrum where Hazel still resides. (1992)

NEWCOMB, HAZEL ANNE (MOLSON) born February 17, 1909. Her first school was a two room country school, then the family moved to Clinton, Oklahoma where she finished high school. Her mother, two sisters, and Hazel joined the Baptist Church when she was very young. Since her mother enjoyed going to revival meetings in all the different churches, they ended up at the Church of God where she met Loyd when she was 17 years old. Hazel joined the church here on August 4, 1982. She says she has been "privileged to attend the Ladies Bible Study for many years." She also served on the nominating committee from 1988-90. "God has been so good to me and my family!"

NEWCOMB, LOYD, April 30, 1905 - July 5, 1981. Born on a farm five miles northeast of Clinton, Oklahoma in Custer County. He went to school in a two room school near his parents' farm. His parents were members of the Church of God. When Loyd, his wife Hazel, and children moved to Rathdrum in 1975, he helped with janitor work at this church, and then later served on the Board. He died on August 4, 1982, after going to Sunday School.

POLESON family: (Photo can be obtained from John Carlson) W. A. and Gertrude Poleson had four children: Zola Poleson Welch, born August 30, 1919; Evelyn Poleson Carlson, born March 12, 1921, Martin Poleson, born March 1, 1922 who passed away in 1989, and Arthur Poleson, born September 3, 1924. This Methodist church is the only church these children knew until they grew up and moved away. At that time the Sunday School classes were large, probably 200 students total enrollment. The youth organization in which they were involved in 1934-38 was the largest in the area. There were at least 30 young people in Epworth League. The family was very musical. Zola and Evelyn both sang in choir. Mrs. Peavey played piano for the choir and special music.

POLESON, GERTRUDE born May 1, 1900 in Ohio. When she was three years old the family moved to Spokane. They had a ranch in the Pleasant View area across from the river south from McGuire Road. There were seven children in the family. Gertrude with her family attended the Methodist Church on the hill and then attended services in the present (1992) building on McCartney Street. When she was a very young girl she won a piano for selling the most newspaper subscriptions. Her father bought an organ when Gertrude was very young, and she learned to play it by taking a few lessons and then learning more by herself. She married W. A. (Ace) Poleson in 1917. They moved into the house where she still resides on Highway 41 in the town of Rathdrum.

Gertrude was the church accompaniest for 62 years (started at age 16), was church board secretary, church janitor, Sunday School superintendent, officer and faithful member of UMW, and worked in any capacity to serve during the same time, although she never did become a member. She now lives in the house bought by her grandmother Barnes. It was built in 1895. Gertrude remembers that the division between the sanctuary and the Sanders room was one large piece of wood that could be lowered from the ceiling. The carpet was purchased and donated by her in honor of her mother. She states that most people think the sloping floor is unique and beautiful. She thinks this has been an exciting church.

POWER family, Charles W. Power, March 12, 1915; Marianne C. Power, December 13, 1917; Donald C. Power, April 10, 1940; Gary D. Power, August 3, 1944; "Augie" Power, stillborn August 1952; William M. Power, April 6, 1954. Don is now in Battle Ground, Washington Methodist Church. He was Youth Lay Leader. He and Gary were active in MYF - all four were part of the choir. It was a wonderful group at the time. By the time Bill finished Sunday School there were not as many young people. He later became part of a Rathdrum Gospel group called The Boarding House Reach, and now attends Friends Church in Post Falls.

POWER, MARIANNE C. born December 13, 1917 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Started going to Rathdrum Methodist Church in 1949, became a member by transfer in 1974. She helped in church whenever she could: taught pre-kindergarten, later fourth grade, adult Bible Study (now they take turns teaching), works with the smorgasbords. She remembers a January 1950 blizzard where their car stalled near the cemetary east of town. A trucker was behind them and Reverend Lees behind that. They all got in the truck to try to wait it out. They were there for about eight hours, then about midnight walked to the parsonage. Marianne has served on various committees: Christian Education, Membership, Worship, PPRPC. She remembers that the year Pastors Fred and Sophie Owen were here the ladies served nine smorgasbords to raise the finances to keep the church going. She states that her Lord, her faith, her family, her church family are her joy, help and sustainer. "I'm thankful for all of you." Her favorite Bible verse is Philippians 4:6,7 (RSV).

RUNYON, EUGENE (Photo on file) Date of birth: September 18, 1909, Place of birth: Rathdrum, ID. Eugene attended the Rathdrum schools along with his five sisters. Later he worked in logging camps for the Ohio Match Company. He was employed at Kaiser Aluminum plant at Trentwood for 22 years as an inspector until his retirement in 1971 due to failing health. Eugene recalled many times as a young man how he helped Pastor Mark Freeman clear the land which later became know as "Twinlow", the Methodist Church Camp. Eugene

attended the Rathdrum Community Methodist Church for many years, and served in a number of capacities: Chairman of the Administrative Board several times, layman, trustee, and custodian. His wife Lillian thinks he liked best to greet and make feel welcome all who came through the doors of the church. He always said, "Whatever I do is unto the Lord." Eugene went to be with the Lord, whom he loved and served, on June 9, 1989.

RUNYON, LILLIAN (Photo on file) Date of birth: October 25, 1914, Place of birth: Echo, Oregon. Lillian Archer and Eugene Runyon were married at the Methodist parsonage at Twinlow by Pastor Erling Bergan on June 12, 1948. They moved directly to their home on the Main Street of Rathdrum. Lillian was born in Echo, Oregon, one of eight children: seven girls and one boy. Graduated from Pendleton, Oregon High School in 1933, and the same year entered nurse's training at St. Luke's Hospital in Spokane, WA. Was previously married to Wayne Archer and had two children: daughter Peggy and son Gary. My daughter lives in Chewelah, WA and presently employed at NorthWest Alloys, a magnesium plant. Her son Gary was drowned in Spirit Lake in 1954 at age 16. She, too, has acted on many committees in UMW and church: Membership, Nominating Committee, Pastor Relations, etc. Lillian states, "I recall in 1950 having gone to Pendleton to care for my mother during her last illness. Upon arriving home was informed I had been elected Financial Secretary of our church in which capacity I am still serving in 1991. I, too, love the Lord to the best of my ability." PRAYER: O, Lord, over the centuries others have worked so we today can know you. Help us to work and spread the good news that others will benefit likewise. In Jesus' name. Amen.

SANDERS, MILDRED - Son Burton - a very respectable family, much looked up to in the church. Mr. Sanders had a big cart pulled by horses and every so often would take the Epworth League, after their meeting, to their rural home on Hayden Avenue for chili and hot chocolate. The Sanders room is named after the family.

SCARCELLO, MILRED BRICKE, Born July 27, 1922 at Cantril, Iowa. Lived in southern Iowa until nine years old and then moved to Douglas, Wyoming until high graduation in 1940. Moved to Sandpoint, Idaho in 1940 and worked for Farmers Home Administration, Attorney O. J. Bandelin, Butler Construction Company (which build Farragut Naval Training Station), and for the US Navy at Farragut until the station was decommissioned in 1945. Then was employed by the Bonner County Abstract & Title Insurance Company until married in 1954. Later helped out there and also for Panhandle Title Company in Coeur d'Alene. On December 12, 1954 married to Arthur G. Scarcello in St. Stanislaus Catholic Church in Rathdrum. We have resided on the Scarcello Ranch since that

time. The Scarcellos have two sons, Kevin and Laurin. Both are married and have children. Member of the Board of Trustees of the Lakeland School District from April 1966 until September 1972. Attended North Idaho College - took several courses over a period of years. Worked as a clerk in the Rathdrum Post Office from April 1972 until retirement July 31, 1987. Mildred became a member of the Rathdrum Community Methodist Church when Rev. Dibble served the church when it was a mission of the Greenacres Methodist Church. She was a teacher for elementary classes, Superintendent of Sunday School, sang in the choir for a number of years, and is now (1992) moderator of the adult Sunday School class. She is also a member of the Wednesday morning Bible study class and an alternate on the Twinlow Camping Commission. With others she has worked on numerous fund raising projects.

STEELE, HOMER AND BERNICE. The couple came to Rathdrum from Morrowville, Kansas in 1934, where they were members of the Morrowville Methodist Church and had been baptized. Since 1934 they have been active in the survival and growth of the Rathdrum Community Methodist Church, and then transferred their membership to Rathdrum. They have always been regular Sunday morning worship attendees, rarely missing a Sunday. In addition, they have remained active in all the church functions, including teaching Sunday School classes. In the 1950's Mrs. Steele, with the help of other mothers, helped organize a summer Vacation Bible School which was held every summer for a number of years and has as many as 125 children attending. The Steeles raised their three children in the church: H. Eugene Steele, Joseph R. Steele, Margaret Steele Jersa. In the years before the children left home they were active in all the church activities including youth groups and Twinlow church camp. Mrs. and Mrs. Steele have participated in the management of the church by representing the Rathdrum church at District Conferences and other District activities. They have lived at Upper Twin Lakes for 58 years.

SYLTE, ALFRED, Born October 5, 1883 in Milan, Minnesota, and died December 20, 1972 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

SYLTE, CHESTER, born June 6, 1918 in Shelby, Montana, raised in Loyalton, South Dakota, and died in Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane. He was a foreman at Kaiser Aluminum and had also been a foreman with the Milwaukee Road. He was active in the operation of the Sylte Ranch in Rathdrum. Rev. McCallum officiated.

SYLTE, GINA, Born June 29, 1886 in Zumbrota, Minnesota and died January 31, 1979 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. The former Gina Nelson married Alfred T. Sylte. They lived in Minnesota; Zillah, Washington; Loyalton, South Dakota, and Shelby, Montana. In 1936 they moved to the Rathdrum area

where they established the Sylte Ranch, where they had lived ever since. Alfred preceded Gina in death in 1972. Gina Sylte is survived by five sons: John, Orville, Chester, and Vernon, all of Rathdrum, and Elvin of Loyalton, South Dakota. Gina was a member of the Rathdrum United Methodist Church and the United Methodist Women.

SYLTE, JOHN, born February 7, 1908 in Milan, Minnesota and died June 12, 1986 in Deer Lodge, Montana. Rev. McCallum, Father Michael Scarcello, and C. R. Roberts officiated at the funeral. Special music was provided by the Sylte family members.

SYLTE, VIOLA, Born July 1, 1911 in Garden Prairie, S.D. died April 14, 1983, in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. She married Orville Sylte in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Viola was a member of the church, was in UMW, taught Sunday School and Bible School, and helped with other church activities. She and Orville had a son Glen, daughters Karen and Marjorie.

WALTON family. (Photo on file) Charles Alanson Walton, September 29, 1911; wife Fern, born January 29, 1921; sons Dale Alanson Walton, born August 31, 1924; Clifford Charles Walton, born October 24, 1943; and Roger Guy Walton, born December 31, 1945. The family moved to the Rathdrum area in October 1951 with no church affiliation. A few months after arriving the boys and their mother Fern started attending church and Sunday School. Clifford and Fern were baptized in 1962 and joined the church at that time. As the boys grew up they were active in MYF. Dale and Clifford both sang in the choir, also both served as a choir director. Fern taught Bible School, now (1992) serves on the church board in many capacities, sings in choir, belongs to UMW and served as its president several years, served on the Lakeland Parish Council for four years as the treasurer. She says she has also served as "janitress and girl-Friday".

WEBER family - Donald R. Weber born September 19, 1951 in Chicago, Illinois; Virginia Ann Whited Weber, born August 22, 1956; Jill Weber, born September 25, 1979, and Joel Weber born October 25, 1984.

WILLADSEN, Frances L., Born July 10, 1904, died April 19, 1989 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

Church Membership/Family -  
Summer, 1992

Alworth, Steven\* & Julie\*  
Diane Stebbins  
PO Box 1175  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
773-3242

Arnold, Hiram  
CDA Convalescent Ctr  
Coeur d'alene, ID 83814

Axtell, Frank & Vanessa\*  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2006

Bain, Doug  
PO Box 622  
Rathdrum, ID 83858-0622  
687-2637

Basenberg, Debra  
Tommy & Dougie  
1461 Arbor St  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0574

Battles, Lynne  
PO Box 182  
831 Post  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0913

Belanger, Gail (Douglas)  
JC & Aimee  
E 2401 Lakeview Ct  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2381

Black, Doris  
364 E. Idaho St.  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0062

Burns, Max & Wilma (Wright)  
E 224 Wright St  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0925

Burroughs, Josephine  
PO Box 173  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0552

Cappell, Norma\*  
753 Pine St #1  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0091

Carlson, John  
PO Box 158  
823 5th St  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0255

Caswell, David & Marcia  
Dory, Chris, Jason  
1469 N. Syringa  
Post Falls, ID 83854

Caswell, James\* & Kathryn\*  
Summer: W 2420 Lake Forest  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0348

Winter: 1615 N. Delaware  
Apache Junction, AZ 85220  
602-983-3843

Chase, Pete & Laura Bayless  
Paul & Joe  
5295 N Cochran Lane  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2478

Cramer, Charles & Tamora  
Brock  
Box 568  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2555

Cox, Christopher  
1250 Spring Creek Rd  
Rathdrum, Id 83858  
687-1523

Crowder, Stephen & Nancy  
Lena & Shawn  
1250 Spring Creek Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1523

Darlas, John & Nancy\*  
3907 Belmont Rd  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
664-8822

Darlas, Stan & Christy  
Brett  
4401 Spiers  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
765-8932

Darlas, Steve & Wendy  
Becky Jo & Chad  
1213 Fernwood Court  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
765-0847

Dillon, George & Sharon\*  
Dennis & Delisa  
N 1300 Trails End Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0482

Dixon, Harriet  
825 Gingham  
PO Box 449  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1291

Drew, Larry\* & Toby\*  
Bobby & Danny  
N 850 Circle S. Trail  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0429

Duhrkoff, Josephine  
PO Box 182  
Omak, WA 98841

Echelberger, James\* & Jacquie\*  
James & Jon\*  
255 Singer Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1452

Faubien, Robert & Joann  
763 Ohio  
PO Box 125  
Rathdrum, Id 83858  
687-0053

Fritsche, Dale & Becky  
Lisa & Amanda  
1315 Coeur d'Alene  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0493

Goodrich, Sue  
E 10321 Main

Spokane, WA 99206  
509-926-4238

Gustin, Edward R\* .&  
Shepherd-Gustin, Mary\*  
N 150 Reservoir Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2377

Harbaugh, Blaine & Maxine  
Summer: 6575 N Lake View Dr  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0937

Winter: N3214 Sipple Rd  
Spokane, WA 99212  
509-926-8042

Henley, Nadine\*  
255 Singer Rd  
PO Box 849  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1452

Holcomb, George & Beth\*  
PO Box 496  
Rathdrum, ID ;83858  
687-1068

Horner, Rose\*  
N 750 Trails End Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1372

House, Don & Connie  
5075 E Hwy 53  
PO Box 433  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2330

Howard, David & Renee  
Alex & Dru  
1515 Coeur d'Alene W  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1387

Howard, Nora\*  
1560 Stevens  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0755

Jaquish, Delmar\* & Beverly\*  
1126 N. Wildrose  
Post Falls, ID 83854

773-0892

Kruse, Ron\* & Barbara\*  
 April  
 N 750 Trails End Rd  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-1372

Kugler, Walter\*  
 2105 N 12th  
 Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
 687-0028

Lane, Louis  
 Roger  
 1331 State St  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687 2658

Louthan, Frances  
 PO Box 126  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0522

Marks, James & Frances\*  
 PO Box 5013 Rt 4  
 2860 Village Blvd  
 Twin Lakes, ID 83858  
 687-1879

Marotta, Allison\* (Guy)  
 Brittany  
 955 N Trails End Rd  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-1247

Maryott, Bill  
 RR 4 Box 815  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-1379

McMillan, Russell & Dorene\*  
 E 2125 Hwy 53  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 664-9051 or 687-0350

Neas, Paul & Anna  
 RR 4 Box 815  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-1379

Moltke, Russ & Mary  
 Heidi & Heather  
 Twin Lakes, ID

687-0573

Moore, Maimie  
 Krista  
 7205 N Marilyn Rd  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0867

Newcomb, Hazel\*  
 456 S. Post  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0914

Oates, William & Mickie  
 PO Box 768  
 1131 Twin Echo Rd  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-2337

Phelps, Perry & Joy  
 W 2805 Upper Twin Lakes Dr  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0328

Phillips, Richard & Margaret  
 PO Box 223  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0612

Poleson, Gertrude  
 PO Box 1  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0932

Poston, Lois\*  
 PO Box 374  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0112

Power, Charles & Marianne\*  
 N 6300 Hwy 41  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-1160

Prator, Richard & Juanita  
 5125 E Ohio Match  
 Hayden Lake, ID 83835  
 772-3897

Rounds, Jack & Sunne\*\*  
 Jennifer  
 1324 S Arbor  
 Rathdrum, ID 83858  
 687-0681



Roth, Gus\* & Bonnie\*  
W 1190 Twin Lakes Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0378

Runyon, Lillian\*  
794 Main St  
PO Box 104  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0770

Satchwell, Emily\*  
S 4815 Hwy 41  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
678-1115

Scarcello, Mildred\*(Arthur)  
6280 N Scarcello Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1340

Schultz, Hank & Iona  
759 Pine  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-2217

Simms, Lori  
PO Box 1504  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
773-7457

Simon, Margaret  
1290 Twin Lakes Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0376

Simpson, Pete & DeeAnn  
PO Box G  
Indianola, WA 98342  
206-297-2223

Snook, Richard & Charlene  
PO Box 35  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0952

Steele, Homer\* & Bernice\*  
W 635 Twin Lakes Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0586

Steele, Margaret  
Jirsa, Chris, Kara

301 110th St  
Kenosha, WI 53140

Stokes, Roy & Julie\*  
Christina  
5725 N Chase Rd  
Post Falls, ID 83854  
773-7262

Sweitzer, LaVina  
6545 N Lakeview Av  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0845

Sylte, Evelyn\*  
RR 4 Box 854  
Rathdrum, ID d 83858  
687-1202

Sylte, Gordon\*  
Jon 667-4041  
RR 4 Box 854  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1213

Taylor, Roy & Marcia\*  
E 3455 Ohio Match Rd  
Hayden Lake, ID 83858  
772-4460

Thompson, Tara  
Josh & Jess  
713 Pine St  
Rathdrum, Id 83858  
687-2789

Tyler, Edwin & Beth  
Geana & Wes  
1156 E Manchester  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0097

Wagenius, Kenneth & Marilyn  
216 W. Hilgren St.  
Hayden, ID 83835  
771-0893

Walton, Charles & Fern\*  
N 450 Wilkinson Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1048

Watkins, Brenda (Mike)  
Jed, Amy, & Sara

W 530 Twin Lakes Rd  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0487

Weber, Don & Virginia  
Jill & Joel  
E. 2625 Pine Lane #4  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-0179

Williams, Lesley  
N26101 Ramsey Rd  
Athol, ID 83801  
687-0605

Young, Edward\* & Beverly\*  
Richard, Grant, Damon, Troy  
PO Box 378  
Rathdrum, ID 83858  
687-1814

## MUSIC

*And he spake three thousand proverbs; and his songs were a thousand and five. The Bible, 1 Kings 4:32*

There was always a choir in the early days of the church, according to the notes of Jane Post Andrews' mother. An organ was used, also. Miss Dorothea L. Walker was the organist, and Mrs. E. W. McIntuff the soloist.

Not much is known about the music from the 1930's through the '60's; however, it is known that Gertrude Poleson was the church accompanist for over 60 years, having started at the age of 16 and retiring in the late 1980's.

There was an exceptionally bright spot in the music history in the church. It occurred in the summers of 1962 and '63 when Blaine Harbaugh, "conned" by the young people into leading a choir they had already organized, took over briefly. According to Harbaugh, "The die was cast!" He also stated, "They were the most naturally talented group of youngsters I ever worked with, and although they ranged in age from 12 to 20 they got along very well and sounded great. Furnishing the center of the group were my own two daughters, Kris and Lynn and two groups of young men who sounded like the Kingston Trio. The boys: Bruce and Barry Simons, Bob Larsen and Gordon Sylte."

"Friendships were made that grew with strength through the years. In fact, along with the names listed above plus Chat Parks and Brian Hess, they still have reunited every year for the past 30 years." Mrs. Harbaugh said in closing, "I'm proud to say these young people are still our dearest friends. We count ourselves very lucky people to have known them."

Members of this young group, to the best of the recollection of Blain and Maxine Harbaugh are: Gayle Bronson, Mary Ellen Bronson, Diane Cappell, Vernon Ellsworth, Kristen Harbaugh, Lynn Harbaugh, Brian Hess, Robert Larsen, Chester Parks, Delores Parks, Janet Ponsness, Gary Power, Eugene Rearick, Linda Rearick, Bruce Simon, Barry Simon, Carol Simon, Gordon Sylte, Sharon Sylte, Vickie Sylte, Cliff Walton, and Dale Walton.

After these brief years in the early 60's, there are no records of the church music held for the next two decades. It is believed that there was no choir at all during much of this time, and that special music was rare.

In the middle 80's, choir was again started by Barbara Kruse, Fern Walton, Mildred Scarcello, and Nora Howard. They were soon joined by Connie House, who also acted as choir director from 1987 - 1992. Other members at the

present time (1992) are: Accompaniest La Vina Sweitzer, Assistant Director and Music Librarian Beth Holcomb, Ed Gustin and Mary Gustin-Shepherd, Doug Bain, Bev Young, Sharon Dillon, Jacquie Echelberger, and Bev Jacquish.

In the fall of 1991 a youth choir was begun by Julie Alsworth and Gail Belanger.

## PASTORS

*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. The Bible, Acts 3:42*

1900 T. G. Hodgson  
1901 No record  
1902 C. T. Cook  
1904 J. H. Martin  
1906 J. S. Bell  
1909 A. T. Warner  
1910 T. H. Fertig and C. W. Monson  
1911 A. W. Luce  
1913 N. S. Hawk  
1915 H. S. Randall  
1917 J. G. Carrick  
1919 G. E. James  
1920 J. C. Harvey  
1923 D. L. Clark  
1924 W. B. Eakin  
1925 Loyd Burke  
1926 Carl B. Madsen (S)  
1928 Roy Jenkins  
1929 John Hoffman  
1932 Wm. Gornall  
1936 R. B. Shaw (S)  
1937 TBS  
1938 Harry L. Slick  
1939 Mark Freeman

1941 Louis McConnell (S)  
 1943 Erling Bergan  
 1948 TBS  
 1948 George Lees (S)  
 1952 Raymond Gouldin (S)  
 1953 TBS  
 1954 Clarence R. Pierce  
 1955 Fred G. Cronkhite (S)  
 1960 Richard H. N. Yost (Methodist Church Pacific N.W.  
 Annual Conference Journal, 1990)  
 1962 J. Robert Dibble  
 1965 - 1967 Paul G. Perkins  
 (Above information except for Pastor Yost's appointment is  
 from Howell, Methodism in the Northwest, Parthenon Press,  
 1965)  
 1967 - 1971 Robert L. Drew  
 1972 - 1974 Fred and Sophie Owen  
 1975 - 1976 Ernest Smith (Presbyterian)  
 1976 - 1978 Larry Warren  
 1978 - 1980 William Anderson  
 1980 - 1988 Malcolm McCallum  
 1988 - Don Weber

Note: more detailed information on pastors listed in  
 chronological order of their service in this church.

PERKINS, PASTOR PAUL (1965-67)

PO Box 671  
Goldbar WA 98251

(photo on file)

Perkins was a part-time pastor in 1965-67 while living and pastoring in Greenacres, Washington. Things were at a very low ebb in Rathdrum, at that time, according to Pastor Perkins. He would be interested to know how things are going now. He asks, *Is the big old buiding still used? Is anyone who remembers us still around?*

*I remember a few personalities whose names I can't recall. The names I remember are: Homer and Bernice Steel, Eugene and Lillian Runyon, Perly Dale Smith, Sylte (and son Gordon, who was hurt by falling off a horse just before my first Sunday as pastor). My first pastoral call was at the Sylte ranch.*

Paul G. Perkins

WARREN, PASTOR LARRY M. (1976-78)

423 S. "K" Street Tacoma, WA 98405  
phone 206 627 0129

(photo on file)

Pastor Warren's family is his wife: Reverend Bonnie Chandler-Warren. They have five children: Samantha Chandler, a recent graduate of Evergreen State College; John Warren, Sophomore at University of Washington, Abigail Chandler, Sophomore at Pacific Lutheran University, Anne Warren, Freshman at Evergreen State; and Meredith Warren, a freshman at Stadium High School at Tacoma.

*John and Anne have fond memories of attending the Head Start classes at the school near the church in Spirit Lake, where the parsonage was located. I remember how faithful people of all three churches on the circuit at that time were to weekly Bible studies.*

*My favorite Old Testament story is the Prophet Hosea, which shows how much God can forgive us. In the New Testament, the 8th chapter of Romans is one of my favorites. I can remember classes on both of these passages while I was at Rathdrum.*

*Since this was my first appointment, I learned a great deal about people, the church, and myself. You gave me a great start in the ministry of the PNW Conference. I spent many summer weeks at Twinlow, even after I had moved into Spokane, it is a wonderful place. I served Rathdrum from the summer of '76, when I moved out from Seminary in Kansas City, until the summer of '78, when I moved to Audubon Park in Spokane. I am currently Pastor of UMC, Tacoma, and Bonnie is Pastor of Spanaway UMC.*

Larry W. Warren, 11/29/91



ANDERSON, PASTOR BILL (1978-80)

2031 Giselman St. #26  
Lakeport, CA 95453

On June 25, 1992, after he had received an invitation from this church to attend the "Breaking of the Yoke" dedication service, Pastor Anderson sent the following response:

*All of you -*

*It's all such a wonderful tribute to you and your way of life that I just had to tell you. God must be very proud of you. We are! For the future - move in the spirit - be constant in prayer. We celebrate your ministry with your full-time pastor.*

*Thank you for your remembering us. We think of you (all) often and hold you in our prayers.*

*I have retired from the pastorate, and Margaret and I are managing a senior housing complex. Still have time to visit shut-ins, however. One long vacation we hope to drop by for a visit.*

*Love in Christ,*

*Margaret and Bill A.*

## MC CALLUM, PASTOR MALCOMB (1980-88)

801 Lincoln St.  
Sitka, AK 99835

Pastor McCallum was raised in a pastor's family, served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, educated at University of Oregon and Pacific School of Religion in Berkely, California. Served at First Christian Church, Bakersfield, California, in Egypt as a Presbyterian missionary to Palestinian Arab refugees, where he "sympathized with their pain and their cause", served several churches in Fresno, Butte City, and Eugene, Oregon where his father and grandfather had served before him! Was pastor of the Wilbur, Washington Presbyterian Church, Lakeland Parish churches, and is now serving in Sitka, Alaska.

"Mac" met his wife Faith Hamilton in Egypt where she was a Presbyterian missionary. They have four sons, John, Stephen, Mark, and Christopher; each born in a different city, showing that they are truly a mobile minister's family. Faith always has been and still is involved in church music. She says, "It has been a good life!"

Pastor McCallum states that his favorite Bible passage is Luke 15, the parables of the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the father with two lost sons. The common message and outcome was the unlimited extent to which the owner was prepared to go in search of what/whom was lost. In each case that was topped by the owner's joy in finding and saving the lost. That owner, whether as shepherd, wife, or father, is a parable of our God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, and "we had best not ever forget it!"

WEBER, PASTOR DONALD R. (1988- )

E. 2625 Pine Lane #4  
Rathdrum, ID 83858

(Photo on file)

Pastor Weber was born on September 19, 1951 in Chicago, Illinois. His father has no church denomination/affiliation and his mother is an active member of the St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church in Prospect Heights, Illinois.

Was on staff with Campus Crusade for Christ from September, 1973 to June 1978 in high school and college campuses in San Bernardino, California, Bellevue, Washington, and Spokane, Washington. Served as full-time chaplain at a residential program/home for mentally handicapped/developmentally disabled adults in Minneapolis, Minnesota from June 1981 to June 1986.

Don served as pastor of the Lakeland Parish - Spirit Lake Presbyterian and Rathdrum Community United Methodist from September 1, 1988 to July 1, 1992. He is now serving as the pastor of Rathdrum Church with a full-time appointment as of July 1, 1992.

## TRUSTEES

*By whom we have received grace and apostleship, for obedience to the faith among all nations, for His name. The Bible, Romans 1:5*

The first record of trustees is from Jane Post Andrews' mother's "cookbook". It lists the church officers for 1906 as Minister Eugene A. Walker, Ruling Elders Adolph W. Post, Charles Heitman, Robert S. McCrea, and Charles Wickertcheimer; Trustees Adolph W. Post, Frank Wenz M.D., and Henry C. Dennis.

A personal note is that Miss Tacie Bartleson, the first secretary, became the wife of John Post, son of A. W. and Mary Post. Personal notes also show the concern of the church members for the community, as Tacie Bartleson was also the secretary of the "Idaho and Oregon Homefinding Society". In 1907 members of this society were President Mrs. Martin, Vice-president Mrs. Egbers, Secretary Tacie Bartleson, Treasurer Mrs. Geo. Dyer, and members of the Board are listed as Mrs. Martin, Mrs. McBee, Mrs. Egbers, Mrs. Geo. Dyer, Mrs. Jacobs, Mrs. Remes (sp?), and Bartleson. Post-Andrews' mother's personal notes also reveal that during 1907 she (and her husband?) paid \$1 a month to the Internation Reform Bureau, to be used in Idaho, contributed 50cents a month the the Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho Sunday School Association, and paid payments that totaled \$64 to the International Correspondence School for a complete course in commerical law. These were in addition to \$10 a month that was pledged and paid to the church building fund.

In the middle 1900's, among the trustees were Loyd Newcomb and Eugene Runyon.

In 1992, the church boards and committees are as follows:  
 Administrative Board Chairperson: Del Jaquish, Vice-Chair: Larry Drew, Lay Leader: Del Jaquish, Secretary: Mildred Scarcello, Treasurer: Lillian Runyon, Deputy Treasurer: Sharon Dillon, Lay Member to Annual Conference: Virginia Weber with Alternate Beth Holcomb, Christian Education: Julie Alworth, Sunday School: Gail Belanger, Worship and Music: Fern Walton and LaVina Sweitzer, Evangelism and Membership: Ed Gustin, Pastor-Parish Relations: Steve Crowder, Church History: Connie House, Trustees Chair: Larry Drew, UMW President : Fern Walton, UMM President: Steve Alworth, Twinlow Chair: Bernice Steele, Food Bank: Barbara Kruse, Youth Members: Richard Young and April Kruse, Vision 2000: Steve Alworth and Gail Belanger, Advertising and Promotions: Steve Crowder.

Nominated boards and committees are as follows: Board of Trustees: '92 Barbara Kruse and Jim Caswell, '93 Larry Drew, (Chair) and Doris Black, '94 Ed Gustin and Beth Holcomb. Pastor-Parish Committee: '92 Mary Shepherd-Gustin and Nora Howard, '93 Julie Alworth and Steve Crowder (Chair), '94 David Christianson and Rose Horner. Nominations Committee: Pastor (Chair), '92 Barbara Kruse and Gail Belanger, '93 Fern Walton and Nora Howard, '94 Steve Alworth and Christopher Cox. Site Search Committee: Ed Gustin (Chair), Homer Steele, Sharon Dillon, Beth Holcomb, Gordon Sylte, Jim Caswell.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

*And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women. The Bible, Acts 5:14*

There were Ladies Aid Societies in the Northwest in the late 1880's for the purpose of promoting missionary work, helping the needy and helping raise money for the local churches. However, they were not mentioned by name at the Annual Conference until well into the twentieth century. Superintendent Rev. Thomas E. Elliott of the Vancouver District said in 1919, "The best work on this district is being done by the Woman's Home and Foreign Missionary Societies and the Ladies Aid." It wasn't until 1929 that the Pacific Northwest Conference recognized the importance of the Ladies Aid Societies by including their financial report in the statistical tables of the journal. (*Methodism in the Northwest, Howell, 1966*)

There is some confusion about the Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) and its role in Methodism. Since Colonial Days many large groups of people felt there was a threat to society in "that ole demon rum". Many "temperance" (usually meaning abstinence) societies were organized at that time. Most colonial businessmen opposed these societies, as rum was very important commercially to the early colonists. A Boston clergyman, Reverend Justin Edwards and Reverend Nathaniel Hewitt of Fairfield, Connecticut crusaded from the pulpits against the evils of alcohol and within eight years more than six thousand affiliated temperance societies were functioning. National governing councils of the Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Baptist and other Protestant churches of the late 1800's endorsed and encouraged their work. (*Severn, The End of the Roaring Twenties, 1969*)

As many WCTU meetings were held in local church buildings, and in addition to their temperance work the women of the churches were also involved in missionary work and local fund raising, and had the support of the governing bodies; even though this organization was not an official part of the Methodist church, there was some confusion on that point.

Some of the earliest records of our Rathdrum church show that the WCTU (Women's Christian Temperance Union) was the accepted name for the women's group of the time. In addition to the work of supporting temperance, missions, the needy, and the local church, they also were a center for other activities. They had several programs in the early 1900's. According to her mother's notes, Jane Post (later Andrews), the WCTU had several programs in which she "gave poems, at first short ones, then rather long ones. The

auditorium would be full. My sister younger than I had and still has a very nice voice for music. I didn't have such a talent but was talked into singing a duet with her. I'll never forget the high notes. I wouldn't sing alto."

Over the years, the women's societies of the church have had many different names with similar but not identical purposes: Ladies Aid, Women's Foreign Missionary Society, and Women's Home Missionary Society. In 1939, following the Methodist union, these forces were organized into one: the Women's Society of Christian Service. A few years after the Methodist merger with the Evangelical United Brethren (EUB) the name of the women's group became United Methodist Women, or UMW.

Smorgasbord dinners have been the main fund raiser for the local Rathdrum UMW. In the early years, it is said that nine dinners were put on by the UMW in one year to raise money to pay some church expenses. The number of dinners varies, but usually three are given, and these are in the fall. Each UMW member and others in the church family bring some item of food, and members of the congregation and others then attend, purchasing the dinner.

Some humorous events have happened at these "Smorgies". Marianne Power remembers that in the 50's and early 60's they used a wood stove that wouldn't draw well. If the wind was from a certain direction it created a problem with smoke coming out of the stove. Once when she and Bernice were working at the stove, the wind blew back down the chimney and created so much smoke, the whole church was filled with it!

Another time the large electric coffee pot was put in the little east kindergarten Sunday School room, and the current blew all the circuits out! The church was in darkness and without electric power until Homer Steele fixed it. On his advice, the women then moved the coffee pot to the corner of the main dining room, where it still is used, and functions well.

Fern Walton is the present President of the United Methodist Women. (1992)

## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

*Remember now thy Creator in the days of they youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them. The Bible, Ecclesiastes 12:1*

Prior to 1890 Methodist youth work, outside the Sunday School, was carried on by various independent organizations, differing in name and plan throughout the denomination. When the Epworth League, named after John Wesley's birthplace in England, came into existence in 1889 as the official organization for Methodist youth, Northwest leaders welcomed the new movement. In 1906 the first such organization was founded in the area, by 1907 there were three, and in 1908 there were six.

It is interesting to note that the following year the Columbia River Conference Committee expressed regret at the presence of too many old persons in the League. The belief was voiced that persons over thirty should be in the league only to give advice and encouragement, and should not take much time in the meetings. It was emphatically stated that the League was for young persons under 25. It was further urged that an institute be held in or near Spokane in 1910. (Howell, *Methodism in the Northwest*, 1966)

In 1941 the name was changed to MYF (Methodist Youth Fellowship). The purposes remain the same: to help young people deepen their faith, to build Christian character, to train youth in churchmanship and leadership, to give youth an opportunity for creative self expression, to develop friendships, and to help develop a Christian social order.

Around the time Fred Cronkhite served our church in the 1950's, MYF was functioning regularly with about 35 young people attending.

The organization lapsed for many years, presumably from a lack of adult leadership, until Julie Alworth began MYF activities again in the fall of 1989.



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