

HISTORY OF PARK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

In a new suburban community in the south of Toledo, the need for a medium to serve the religious inclinations of the inhabitants was felt. This desire was the nucleus for the present Park Church, and it was materialized with the help of a mother church and the earnestness and devotion of the people of this community.

On February 28, 1909, an organization by the name of the Walbridge Park Sunday school was formed. The meeting place was in the E.H. Close Realty office located on Broadway between Yale and Princeton Drives. Twenty-nine people were present. This organization was the result of a canvass of the Harvard Terrace community at the suggestion of Dr. Ernest Bournor Allen, Pastor of Washington Congregational Church. J.R. Bertsch, Rev. George B. Candee, E.M. Beard, Lou Baer, and Rev. M.B. Soughgate (District Secretary of the Congregational Sunday school and Publishing Society) were the active workers. The first officers were: Superintendent, J.R. Bertsch; Secretary, Harold Schultz; Assistant Secretary, Londa Van Hellen; Treasurer, Mrs. George Vrooman; Organist, Mrs. F.B. DeFreese. Through the kindness of Mrs. J. Girkins, the newly formed Sunday school was loaned an organ.

On March 7, 1909, a Committee was appointed to find a larger meeting place. Mr. and Mrs. Henry D. Van Hellen gave the use of a building on their property at 131 Amherst Drive. Their interest and efforts were largely responsible for the existence of Park Congregational Church. While the pastor and some of the members of the Washington Street Church took an active part in the work of the Sunday school, it was maintained as an independent organization. However, in the spring of 1910, it was thought that the Walbridge Park School should affiliate itself with the Washington Street Church to adopt the work as part of their activities. Records of the Washington Congregational Church, written in 1910, show a request of Dr. Allen to his congregation: "To appoint a strong committee to look after the Walbridge Park Branch, which we have developed and adopted. There is opportunity there to secure before long a self-supporting church. Years ago we were helped on our feet by the First Church. We can pass on that help today."

On March 1, 1910, in the Van Hellen Building, an organization was effected which was by motion called "The Working Band". Mrs. Cutler called the meeting to order. Mrs. George Vrooman and Mrs. L.O.F. Austin were appointed Temporary Chairmen. Officers elected were: President, Miss Carrie Miller; Vice President, Mrs. A.L. Saviers; Secretary, Mrs. Emma Donahue; Treasurer, Mrs. Inez Lownsbury. Added to the Executive Board were the names of Mrs. Hattie Held and Mrs. Jacob Schutz. Nine ladies were present; eight become members. The object of this organization was "to make money in every possible way for establishment of a church in this vicinity."

June 18, 1911, a meeting was held in the Van Hellen building at which the plan for a branch church was presented by Dr. Allen. The proposal was accepted, and the people adopted the covenant and confession of faith of the Washington Congregational Church. The charter members of this branch were: Mrs. L.A. Alexander, Mrs. Emma Donahue, Mrs. John Laycock,

Mrs. Marilla Webb, Mr & Mrs. F.A. Briggs, Mrs. William Cowell, Mrs. L.O. F. Austin, Mr & Mrs. A.J. Salm, and Mrs. Sterling Beeson. Mr. F.A. Briggs was elected clerk.

With twenty-five people present on June 25, 1911, the first communion was conducted by Dr. Allen assisted by Deacon E.L. Briggs and C.H. Briggs of Washington Congregational Church.

In a report to the officers of Washington Congregational Church, October 2, 1913, Dr. Allen reported the loss of thirty members who were dismissed to organize the new Walbridge Park Church. This document authenticates the date of the establishment of the church. The thirty members included: Mrs. L.L. Alexander, Mr & Mrs. L.R. Austin, Mrs. L.L.F. Austin, Mr & Mrs. Sterling Beeson, Mr. Frederick Briggs, Mr & Mrs. J. Weir Coover, Mrs. William Cowell, Mrs. F.F. DeFrees, Mrs. Emma Donahue, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney A. Keller, Mrs. John Laycock, Mrs. C.C. McCrea, Miss Beatrice Miller, Mrs. George Miller, Mr & Mrs. Arthur Salm, Mrs. David Skeldon, Mrs. John R. Webb, Mr and Mrs. Joseph A. Wissler, Mrs. E. Worthington, Mrs. Samuel Stitt and Mrs. Abbie L. Saviers.

With the organization of the church now permanently begun and separated from the mother church, Mr. Bertach withdrew his guidance. For four years he had given his energy, spiritual guidance, and inspiration to the development of a community church destined to figure in the lives of many people. Although it is not a part of history to eulogize the men who make it, it seems fitting to give praise to the man whose unlimited efforts formed the nucleus of the present Park Church.

Following the action of the thirty members, a meeting was called May 18, 1913, and they voted to organize an independent Congregational Church in this district. A committee was appointed to prepare a Constitution and Confession of Faith. Numerous meetings terminated in a "Call for Recognition Council" for the 23rd day of June; letters and invitations were provided and sent to all Congregational Churches in Toledo and vicinity. Five names were considered: Harvard, Olivette, South, Park and Princeton. Park Congregational Church was chosen. The new organization should henceforth be known by that name.

According to the minutes of the registrar, on November 11, 1913, Park Church became a member of the Toledo Association of Congregational Churches (now the Northwestern Ohio Association of Congregational Christian Churches) by a unanimous vote of that body in session at Wauseon, Ohio.

Organization activities followed, the most important of which was the invitation extended on October 11, 1913, to the Rev. Albert B. Eby of Kalamazoo, Michigan, to come to the field to study the local situation with a view to accepting the pastorate. On the 23rd of the same month, Rec. Eby's letter of acceptance was received stating that he would take up his duties November 1st 1913.

Gradually the small but energetic group of thirty-one members took up the task of establishing more church-like surroundings. They still occupied the Van Hellen building. Mr and Mrs. J.E.T. Nicks donated a pulpit. Mr. Henry Horn provided a stove, and electric lights were installed.

In the minutes of the Cabinet meeting of December 11, 1913, recorded by J. Weir Coover, Clerk, activities of an important nature were made. A proposition was suggested and later accepted that land be purchased at Princeton and City Boulevard (now Harvard Blvd.) for a sum of \$831.00, which should be used for the site of a future church building. When the need for a permanent church edifice began to be felt, the first suggestion was that a bungalow be erected to be used as a church, but the idea did not seem feasible, and the partial church building was thought to be the better plan.

A committee was instructed to formulate plans for such a structure to cost \$6,000, and on July 19, 1914, was authorized to plan to mortgage the lot and borrow money to the extent of \$2,000 for a building. The treasury then showed a balance of \$4,100.

The Rev. Mr. Eby's early days of pastorate in the Park Church field were accomplished without the presence of his family, but in the fall of 1914, after a leave of absence caused by his son's illness, he established his family in Toledo.

To the committee working on plans for a permanent structure to be erected at Princeton and City Boulevard, a proposal which would enable the church to purchase a desirable property in the same vicinity came as a welcome solution. This proposal, which came in October 1914, as a result of negotiations conducted by J.E.T. Nicks, led to the exchange of the recently purchased lot for the property of Mrs. George Vrooman at the corner of Glendale and City Boulevard. This property was valued at \$10,000 and the lot at \$4,100. The balance due on the property was to be paid in semi-annual installments of \$500.00 each. It was to this location that Rev. Eby brought his family October 4, 1914, the second floor having been made habitable as a parsonage.

On October 18, 1914, the new home of Park Congregational Church was dedicated. Those participating in the service were: The Rev. Dr. E.B. Allen, Rev. L.J. Leuthi, Rev. Allen Stockdale, Rev. Benjamine Weld, and the Rev. Edgar S. Rothrock, Supt of the Ohio Conference of Congregational Churches. By the end of the year, the church had advanced to considerable proportions. The Annual Meeting held January 31, 1915, showed the acquisition of a new church home and pastor's quarters. The members now numbered 81, (a gain of 40 members). The Sunday school enrollment was listed as 118 (doubling that of the previous years), and the total receipts showed a balance of \$4,099.60 carried over from 1913.

Rev. Eby concluded his pastorate at Park Church October 15, 1917. Under his guidance the secure foundation of the church, its place in the community life, and the gradual improvements were made. The church had been loaned, rent-free with only a small charge for heat and light, so that a kindergarten could be conducted in the community. Also in co-operation with the Board of Education the church was opened for weekday religious school classes. The budget of 1917 providing for the salary of the instructor.

To fill the vacancy caused by Rev. Eby's resignation after a four-year pastorate, an invitation was sent to the Rev. Charles E. Ward of Marblehead, Ohio, to undertake the guidance of Park Church. He accepted the call and began his duties November 1, 1917.

The major material even of Rev. Ward's pastorate was the erection of the present church building. Also in 1919, on January 8, the City Missionary Society relinquished its yearly financial support, heretofore provided, thereby making this church self-supporting.

With the growth of the church and Sunday school and its place in the community as a center for neighborhood activities, the need of a larger and more substantial building was evident. In accordance with this necessity, a group was named consisting of a small appointed committee, augmented by the officers of the Working Band and the officials of the church which was to act in the capacity of a committee for the establishment of a New Church Building Fund.

The Easter offering of the congregation and a gift of \$100.00 from Mrs. Mary Nearing of First Congregational Church fully covered the church debt. The mortgage was burned on May 2, 1919.

With the freeing of the church property from all indebtedness, the Building Fund committee was given power to negotiate plans for a new church structure to cost approximately \$60,000. A financial promoter was selected to inaugurate and conduct a drive over a period of three weeks for the raising of \$40,000. The campaign terminating November 11, 1919, netted pledges amounting to \$55,339.

Following the efforts of the pledge committee, a New Church Building Group was named August 1, 1920, which was given authority to proceed with the building project. Serving on this committee were C.E. Taylor, J.W. Coover, W.N. Bayless, A.J. Salm, Mrs., Annie Trotter, H.W. Duvendack, Albert Trotter, L.C. Reddish, and Mrs. H.D. Van Hellen. The diligence of this committee was rewarded on October 31, 1920, with the laying of the cornerstone in the new building. The ceremony, held at 3:30PM was opened with the song "How Firm a Foundation". The scripture was read by the Rev. H.F. Loomis. Greetings were extended from the Congregational churches of the city, and the Rev. E.S. Rothrock gave the address. The contents of the copper box, made by Frank Gregory, deacon, included a brief historical sketch of the church, pictures of former meeting places, copies of the Park Church Weekly, a list of the charter members, a list of the present members and officers, a list of the deceased, a list of the donors to the building fund, and a copy of the program. The even concluded by a prayer offered by the Rev. H.A. Arnold and a song by the congregation, "The Church's One Foundation".

Not quite one year later, on September 18, 1921, the new church was dedicated at a morning service. The scripture lesson was read by the Rec. Albery Eby, first pastor of Park Congregational Church; greetings were extended by the Rev. E.S. Rothrock. The choir sang anthems and solos. The Rev. James Robert Smith, D.D., gave the dedication sermon, and the Act of Dedication was performed by the pastor and congregation. At an evening service the Rev. Loomis gave the invocation. The Rev. Rothrock read the scripture. The Rev. Allen Stockdale delivered the address "Why Have a Church?" The Rev. H.A. Arnold spoke on "The House and the Tenant".

On February 18, 1922, a letter of resignation, read by H.W. Duvendack, Clerk, and tendered by Rev. Ward, was presented to the congregation. The pastor asked that his services be terminated at Park Church March 31, 1922, as he wished to accept a call to the First Congregational Church of Ashtabula, Ohio. His resignation was accepted with reluctance and marked the completion of

four and one-half years of helpful service to the community and especially to the young people of the church.

To supply the vacancy caused by the departure of Rev. Ward, Mr. Orville C. Jones of Oberlin, Ohio, was asked June 3, 1922, to accept the pastorate of Park Church. The invitation was accepted June 22, and Mr. Jones began his pastorate, although his ordination and installation did not occur until October 5, 1922.

At the Annual Meeting of the church on January 9, 1924, a new Constitution was read and adopted. On Sept. 20, 1925, the David Trotter Memorial organ was dedicated. The principal donors were Mrs. Annie Trotter and Albert Trotter. An appropriate musical program and dedicatory service was conducted and an organ recital was presented.

Two years later, November 4, 1927, Rev. Jones tendered his resignation to take effect December 6. Rev. Jones had completed six successful years with Park Church, his first pastorate. While at the head of the congregation, there was a marked growth in membership. At the Easter Commemoration Service on April 10, 1927, 81 members were received into the fellowship. This was the largest in the history of the church. He was particularly diligent in organizing the departments and systematic in his duties. At the time of Rev. Jones' departure, Recorder Duvendack's records show a total of 490 members having been placed on the rolls since the 31 had organized.

The Rev. Jasper Howell filled the pulpit in the interim between the resignation of Rev. Jones and the acceptance of the Rec. Chester F. Dunyam who came to occupy the pulpit from Wahpeton, North Dakota

Rev. Dunham began his pastorate February 4, 1928, a service which lasted through nine years. The years of Rev. Dunham's office were preeminent because of the fellowship and encouragement given during a period of financial insecurity felt by both the church and individuals. Evening services, which had been voted discontinued, were successful and the women's societies thrived under the feeling of fellowship that marked the decade. The church became more than ever a community center, true to the motive under which it had originally been conceived.

In 1936, under the persistence of Rev. Dunyam, an appreciable reduction of the church was made through the timely purchase of bank claims. At the same time, arrangements were made whereby the mortgage held by the Commerce Guardian Bank was taken over by the Congregational Building Society of New York. On February 1, 1937, Rev. tendered his resignation which was accepted by the church body. From March 1 until October 1, 1937, Rev. John Claxton, president of Defiance College, served as Interim Pastor. It was October 1, 1937, that the Rev. Stanley B. Hopper accepted the invitation to assume ministerial duties in Park Church, coming from Boscobel, Wisconsin.

The last year had seen Park substantially repaired and improved in its heating facilities and its kitchen equipment. The interior was completely redecorated. With its remaining indebtedness in the hands of a kindly and sympathetic Congregational Board, Park Church found security and comfort to spur its members on to further accomplishments. The Rev. Hopper was an energetic,

sincere young man in his profession. The Sunday school under Superintendent J.B. Fenner, was active. Christian Endeavor, a second choir, Sunday school orchestra, summer conference, and successful basketball and softball teams offered opportunities for Christian expression. Missionary horizons and denominational responsibilities were widened. The union services of twelve south-side churches on Sunday evenings was inaugurated. Meetings were held in the Highland Park Shelter House during the summer. Revival hymns were sung and a mutual religious feeling was expressed in these gatherings.

The first church edifice was voted to be demolished, and in the September 10, 1939, bulletin this item appeared:

“This morning our thoughts turned in retrospect to the first church edifice, known as the Parish House, which is now a memory for it has been removed, and its site will become a part of our beautiful church lawn. This house, built many years ago, served first as a farm residence on the present church site, then as the first church building following the organization of the church in 1913 under Rev. A.B. Eby, It was moved to its second location to make way for the construction of our present church edifice. The cornerstone of which was laid in 1920, and was used as the home of the pastor and for church school purposes at intervals since then. Having outgrown its usefulness, it has been dismantled, and we are reminded of the sacrifices that were made that brought this building into being as a place of worship and the memories of day gone by which made this a sacred place to many. It is our duty to carry on in the task of the church in these days.”

The church was completely redecorated, and Mr. Hopper and the men of the congregation did most of the work due to a lack of funds. The ultra-conservative pastorate of Rev. Hopper was terminated on November 1, 1939, and her and his family moved to Illinois.

On November 5, Mr. John Claxton of Defiance College filled the pulpit. November 12, Rev. Orville Jones, former minister, preached.

A call was extended to the Rev. Ivan R. Smith of Easton, Ohio, and he preached his first sermon on November 19. A church supper was given on November 28th by the Ladies Working Band and Dorcas Society to welcome Mr. Smith, his wife and mother to Sough Toledo and Park Church. A men's organization, church membership club, visitation teams, and a church cabinet consisting of one member from each organization was formed to voice opinions of each age group in making the policies of this congregational religious group. A most active regime was started at Park. The membership grew with unbelievable rapidity. Gifts of a baptismal font, candelabra bronze pulpit lamp, walnut hymn board, additions to community service, vestments and religious pictures were added to enhance surroundings and services. Additional Sunday Schoolrooms were a necessity and the balcony in the main auditorium was enclosed. A church paper, The Informer, was started. Pageants, bazaars, get-togethers, potluck suppers with educational movies, book reviews, and speakers were constantly on the agenda. A monthly financial report was given the membership. Mother and Daughter Banquets and Senior Recognition Day were inaugurated, and a very active Pilgrim Fellowship Circle for young people was formed.

The membership now numbered 600. The Smiths were untiring in their efforts, and the church plant was in use day and night. The parsonage was the scene of meetings, and hospitality was extended to all groups as a constant reminder to all of our ministry. Hosts and Hostesses greeted people on Sunday. Training classes for young folks and First Aid classes came into being.

The war years gave impetus to a Red Cross Society. One hundred names were listed on our Honor Roll, and letters and gifts on holidays were dispatched to the men and women in the service. Four gold stars were placed on the flag:

Seaman Jack DeFreese	died August 8, 1942
Lt. Robert Craig	July 11, 1943
Jerry Andrews	December 27, 1944
Capt. Robert Conant	March 19, 1949

A Married Couples' Club thrived, and an Assistant was hired to help the young peoples' work. Also, a basketball coach was added to the staff. The membership was 700 in 1946.

Here is an interesting quotation from a December 8, 1946, bulletin:

“Coal shortage. We will save the coal we have on hand for Sunday school and church services. Therefore, our organizations and groups are kindly asked not to plan any meetings here at the church until conditions are better. Beginning tomorrow, the church will not be heated during the week until Saturday for Sunday services.”

The Rev. Smith tendered his resignation in January, 1948, to accept a position as Co-Pastor at First Community Church, Columbus, Ohio. His contribution to the development of Park could never be enumerated in so small a space. His family and he were tireless in their efforts.

Dr. Chester F. Dunham was invited by the Pulpit Committee to serve as Interim Pastor, and three weeks later he submitted his name as a pulpit candidate. A call to the pastorate was extended by the Congregational Meeting on February 22, 1948. Dr. Dunham had been the pastor of our church from February 4, 1928, until February 1, 1937. The older members remember these years as the lean years. The struggle to keep our present church property from default in their indebtedness will never be realized by the present generation. Through the struggle, a religious and friendly relationship grew between Dr. Dunham, his family, and the former members. With his acceptance to again be our spiritual advisor and teacher, the heartfelt thanks and rejoicing could be but shown in the clasping of hands and tear-filled eyes.

The church continued its activities with extensive home and hospital visitations. A Park Brotherhood and Colonial Parish system of calling were instituted. Services at Libbey High School Commencement and Baccalaureate were conducted. Our Twenty-fifth Anniversary was celebrated. Sermons were published. The monthly paper was renamed The Park Colonial, and tentative plans were drawn for an additional plant. Athletics, instructive movies and stressing our facilities as a community church were in effect. The Adult Choir was robed, a most successful project due to the talent of Zula Moorehead, who had served as Minister of Music from 1929 to 1949 when she tendered her resignation. Mrs. Moorehead's services had been of the best. She was a truly fine musician, both as an organist, director and soloist. The choir

contributed immensely to the church services and was a nucleus for drawing people of like talents in being an active adjunct to the Congregational service.

Payments on the building indebtedness were stressed during these days. The front of the church was floodlighted. A lending library was inaugurated. The Parkettes (young women) reorganized. The Mass Chimes were added to our organ by Mrs. Dunham in memory of her mother Mrs. Hannah Andrus Gray. The kitchen was remodeled with funds from the budget, supplemented by gifts from Dorcas and individuals. A home department for “shut-ins” and an art class was started. The Sunday school numbered 340 on June 2, 1949.

In memory of John H. Baertschi, who lost his life at Iwo Jima, Mr. & Mrs. Baerschi installed amplification to the chimes. Gifts of pianos were given by Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Hankinson and Mr. & Mrs. Hugh MacPhie. An insurance policy was left to the church by William Davis, who was for many years a Trustee.

Under the leadership of the new Minister of Music Mrs. DeRuth Wright the choirs increased. Adult, boys, girls, and third grade units thrived under her guidance, and the Junior Choir Mothers became active in making robes.

By a vote of 134 to 11, members approved a plan to conduct a fund-raising campaign to retire present debt and erect an addition to the present church plant. Richard Weter headed the campaign, and the amount needed was \$100,000.00. The building will contain 11 classrooms, Youth Center, Parlor, Chapel, auditorium with stage. The drive started November, 1950, and Mr. Curtis R. Schumaker from New York office of the Congregational Board of Home Missions was engaged to conduct it.

The Expansion Program got under way with

General Chairman	Richard M. Weter
Vice Chairman	Leslie C. Reddish
Secretary	Francis E. Ball
Treasurer	Bert Mallory
Minister (Ex-off)	Chester F. Dunham

Technical Plans and Construction: C. Coulter, T. Fleming, H. Geh, Mrs. O. Dunlap and Floyd Findley.

Finance: J.B. Fenner, H. Jorris, Wayne Kakela

Equipment: W. Trotter, Mrs. H. J. Rogers

Religious Education: Philip Harris and Mrs. E.B. Walters

Legal: E.C. Schatz

Dedication: H. Huhn

One hundred men were asked to serve on Solicitation of Funds Board. The every-member canvass for current expenses and financial project visitation were combined and work was covered in one week, November 13-19. Many meetings were held by the Building Committee, reviewing needs, plans and engineering the campaign for funds. Floyd Findley prepared a brochure which was printed and donated by the Gray Printing Company of Fostoria, Ohio. Scott Lilly, a lawyer and poet, wrote the words to a hymn for his church entitled “Our Meeting

House". Mrs. Wright, our Minister of Music, wrote the harmony, and it was dedicated on December 10, at a Sunday Church service.

The mortgage on the church property was burned December 17, 1950.

Dedication of the picture "The Sistine Madonna" by Raphael, in memory of William F. Dunham II was made December 24, 1950.

The Building Committee called a special meeting on the 9th of September, 1951, to explain the difficulty met with the adjoining residential property in planning the new addition. It was necessary to acquire this property in order to proceed with building the new plant, and a motion was made to purchase the home as a future parsonage and use \$20,000.00 of our building fund to pay for it. The plans and drawings were practically completed and the architects ready for bids.

Dr. Chester F. Dunham, due to ill health, tendered his resignation on July 31, 1952, and with deepest concern and regret, it was accepted. Dr. Dunham had served from 1928 to 1937 and again from 1948 to 1952. Our prayers and thanks for the years of spiritual, moral and educational guidance were expressed with a program honoring our leader of many years and his wife.

The Pulpit Committee selected the Rev. James C. Mead of First Congregational Church Jackson, Michigan, on August 10, 1952. His wife and three daughters moved to Toledo and occupied the recently acquired parsonage. August 17, Rev. Mead preached his first sermon. A reception for the Meads was given on September 21, and after attending meetings of the various committees, organizations, and acquainting himself with other members, he was ready to carry on an ambitious program in effect at that time. Patience, self control and stamina were necessary to step into an enormous building program, settle his family, and learn his way around a strange city. An installation program was held on October 6, by the Northwest Association.

The Building Financial Program had reached a comfortable amount of the desired quota, and on November 23, 1952, Dr. Chester F. Dunham and J.F. Fenner broke ground for the new addition.

The Rev. Mead instituted registering attendance on specific Sundays, donating flowers for church services, extending greetings to one's neighbors, Good Friday Services with other South side Ministers assisting, a Family Life Committee, and a Vacation Bible School. A Minister of Youth was engaged whose talents would be available on weekends. Unified Services were voted by the congregation. A coffee and fellowship period started. Thanksgiving morning devotions were started and, during Advent, an organ recital preceded the regular worship service. During the Christmas holidays, the young people caroled at the home of shut-ins and the hospitals.

On January 24, 1954, the new Parish House was dedicated. The services took place at 3:30PM, with Rev. James Mead and Dr. Chester Dunham officiating. Fraternal greetings were extended by Victor M. Mittlefehldt of the Ohio Conference of Congregational Christian Churches, Alexander S. Carlson of the Northwest Association of Congregational Christian Churches, Melvin R. Bergman of the Toledo Union, and C. Cleark Shedd of the Toledo Council of

Churches. Richard Weter and Leslie Reddish presented records, memorials, blueprints and keys to the membership.

The memorials included:

The Chapel - in memory of Neil Johnson was given by Mr. & Mrs. Sherman Johnson
Youth Room - for Willard Leigh Bunting by Mrs. Elizabeth Bunting
Primary Room - for William Forrester Dunham II by Chester F. Dunham & family.

This was a wonderful addition to a church that started with such a humble beginning, a monument to those who worked so diligently to establish a house of worship and a place for community service.

With the enlarged facilities a Nursery Service was started, and Chapel Services on Thursdays. During vacation months, Sunday Chapel Services were held at 8:00 in the morning for the convenience of members who wished to worship before leaving for other activities. A Layman's Sunday - whereby members took an active part in regular worship - was innovated.

Mrs. DeRuth Sage Wright, Minister of Music, played for the services for the last time on September 11, 1955. Due to the transfer of her husband to Indianapolis, Indiana, her resignation was accepted. A farewell reception honoring Mrs. Wright and her family was held September 18. Miss Sall Huenefeld was appointed organist, and Mr. R. Oscar Clymer was hired as Minister of Music.

Meetings were planned for prospective members to acquaint them with their membership obligations and the functioning of a Congregational Church.

The constant increase in membership and organizational work made it imperative to have the services of a full time Assistant Minister. A meeting of the membership was called and vote taken to search for such a person and raise funds with a goal of an additional \$2,000.00, as the budget did not include this expense. On September 8, 1957, The Rev. J. Kyle Bigham was appointed and introduced to the members at a supper.

To facilitate reaching the 1958 Budget, a series of dinners were planned and freewill offerings taken. The results were successful.

Christmas Eve services were held December 24.

At the beginning of 1958, the membership was 1036.

The church began the New Year with a seemingly smooth running organization. Then Rec. Bigham asked to be relieved of his duties as assistant because he wished to accept a teaching position. The housing problem had made it necessary for him to commute. The Rev. Lester Vining accepted the Youth Ministry on January 26, 1958.

During Brotherhood Week, Dr. Morton Goldbert, Rabbi of B'nai Israel Synagogue and Rev. Mead exchanged pulpits. Park members were guests of Dr. Goldberg's church, and we extended the same courtesy to members of the Jewish faith.

Beginning February 19, the most extensive observation of Lent was planned by officials. For six successive Wednesday evenings a three-part program was conducted:

1. Fellowship dinner
2. Illustrated lectures on The World's Great Religions
3. Guest Preacher.

April 13, 1958, new pews were purchased, installed and dedicated through the generosity of Mr. & Mrs. Lelsie C. Reddish with the words "In respectful and loving memory of the donors".

On September 28, a guest speaker Dr. Stanley U. North of New York will help us commemorate our forty-fifth anniversary. A dinner with the remaining charter members as guests (including Mrs. John Laycock, Mrs. Arthur Salm, and Mrs. Effie Coover,) a published history, and entertainment will bring realization to all that after forty-five years. A great deal has been accomplished, but a challenge to the future is still with us.

(Forty-five years with Park Congregational Church as we view it -
Florence C. Miley and Mildred A. Cowell)

HISTORY - 1959-1988

This is a continuance of the history of Park Congregational Church, the United Church of Christ, which was written for the years 1909-1958 by Florence Miley and Mildred Cowell. We are indebted to them for a classic account of the founding of the church in 1913 and its early years during when it became a significant factor in the religious, social and cultural life of the community.

There were many changes at Park Church in 1959. Welton C. Chamberlain accepted a call to become Assistant Minister and shortly thereafter was ordained in Pinckney, Michigan. Rev. James C. Bead, who had been pastor since 1952, resigned August 24, to accept a call as pastor of First Congregational Church, Mansfield, Ohio. During Mr. Mead's pastorate the number of members increased for 715 to 1,050, the budget from \$21,734 to \$58,059, and benevolence from \$1,750 to \$7,339. Rev. Chamberlain resigned September 1, to accept a position s instructor at the Howell, Michigan High School, and Rev. Kenneth Babcock, pastor of Plymouth Congregational Church, Buffalo, accepted a call to become Senior Minister on November 5, Reginald Jackson was Moderator.

Kenneth Martin was elected Moderator in 1960 and served two years. During 1960 the adjacent Cotter property at 1810 Glendale Ave. was purchased for \$15,000 to be renovated and rented for income. There were 982 members and a budget of \$58,670.

Members voted against adoption of new constitution in May, 1961. If approved, it would have made Park a part of the United Church of Christ, a merger of Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed churches.

The Rev. Marilyn Stavenger, a graduate of the Yale Divinity School, accepted a call on July 1, 1961, to be responsible for religious education and youth work. This was the beginning of an association that was to continue for more than 26 years. Also during 1951, payment was completed for the Cotter property and improvements were made to the church building including new writing and relegating of the Sanctuary and the choir loft. There were 1,004 Members and a budget of \$75,979.

In 1962, Richard Weter, a member of Park since 1927, was elected Moderator. There was a budget of \$67,885, and there were 984 members. William S. Hazzard was appointed Minister of Music in 1963 to succeed R. Oscar Clymer who had passed away after eight years of outstanding and devoted service.

The kitchen and gymnasium were renovated and sidewalks repaired. Park was designated as a shelter with a capacity of 70 persons. There were 984 members and a budget of \$67,885. Ted Harbaugh served as Moderator in 1963 and 1964.

Mr. Hazzard resigned as Minister of Music in 1964 to go to Ashland Avenue Baptist Church in a similar position. He was succeeded by Dr. Lloyd Sunderman, of the University of Toledo faculty. The church building was appraised at \$33,000, the Manse was painted, and the roof of the church repaired. Bert Mallory resigned as Treasurer after serving 26 years.

Don Stamm was elected Moderator and served in 1965 and 1966. The Sanctuary was painted, and a major part of the Manse was improved with plaster, wallpaper and paint at a cost of \$60,980, in 1965. In the same year, Norma Sherman Kelling was appointed organist to succeed Effie Sue Lechner.

In June, 1986, Park Church voted to join the United Church of Christ, the result of a merger of Congregational Christian and Evangelical & Reformed churches. At the start of the year, there were 1,015 members, but principally as a result of the merger, this number was reduced to 943 at the end of the year. The budget was \$61,280, and the Men's Brotherhood was reestablished.

In 1967 the congregation voted to retain the name Park Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ. Rev. Babcock accepted a call as Senior Minister at the Mariemont Community Church in suburban Cincinnati, and in the interim Associate Minister Stavenger and the Rev. William Beausay, of Bowling Green State University, provided excellent services. The budget was \$60,925, and there were 952 members.

The Rev. Paul Baumer accepted a call to become Senior Minister in August, 1968. Homer Lange served as Moderator in 1967 and 1968. In 1969, Ralph Bragg served as Moderator. There was a budget of \$69,345, and 914 members.

Robert Stoner was elected Moderator in 1970 and also served the following year. The Confirmation Program was extended in 1970, and the number of Cabinet members was reduced to seven. There were 945 members and a budget of \$73,412.

In 1971, the Interparish Ministry of South Toledo, or the Beverly Cluster of Churches (as it is now known) was formed consisting of Holy Trinity Lutheran, Zion United Methodist, Our Lady of Perpetual Help Roman Catholic Church and Park. Rev. Baumer resigned to accept a position with the Ohio Conference and Stewardship Council of the United Church of Christ in Columbus.

During 1972, David Osborn was Moderator and the Rev. Robert C. Snyder accepted a call as Senior Minister. He was installed on November 12. Dr. Robert Hohn was appointed Choir Director. A new roof was installed on the church building at a cost of \$5,100. The budget was \$74,617, and there were 904 members.

Marvin Wade was elected Moderator and served in 1973 and 1974. Oliver Chamberlain was appointed Choir Director in September 1973. The budget was \$84,168. There were 870 members.

In 1974, David Willey, a prospective minister, was a student volunteer during the summer. The sum of \$48,000 was pledged to a newly established Restoration '79 Fund to be used for improvements to the church building. The budget was \$85,000. There were 837 members.

Jean Thomas was elected Moderator in 1975 and also served the following year. The St. Andrews Task Force was formed for parish visitation in 1975, and the ministers formulated a plan of calling upon those members and friends who had not been visited for some time. The budget was \$92,200. There were 751 members.

In 1976, the Trustees projected a five-year replacement and capital improvements program. This included a secretary's typewriter, \$500; copying machine, \$1,200; floor buffer, \$600; painting the Sanctuary, \$4,000; exterior painting of the building \$7,000; roof repair, \$2,000; window shades in the Sanctuary, \$300; carpet for the nursery, \$300; painting the annex, \$1,500; repair of the front steps and walk, \$2,000 and kitchen repairs, \$1,500 - for a total of \$20,900.

Also in 1976, a study leave of 16 weeks at Eden Theological Seminary, St. Louis, was approved for Marilyn Stavenger, and the Rev. Joy Skeel, a member of Park, was appointed Interim Associate Minister for the period.

During 1977, Trustees began consideration of adding an elevator to the west end of the church building as part of a barrier-free program. Improvements were made to the kitchen and furnace room, new shelving was installed in the music room and 84 mail box slots were added to the hallway outside the secretary's office for officers, board and committee members, and a security buzzer was installed at the side door. Kenneth McGill was Moderator. There was a budget of \$104,200 and 763 members.

Rev. Snyder resigned in June, 1978, and in September, the congregation voted unanimously to accept Marilyn Stavenger as Senior Minister and to thank her for dedicated service to Park since July 1, 1961. Marcia Frank served as Moderator in 1978 and 1979.

Park instituted a program in cooperation with Eden Seminary in 1979, Jeffrey Hipsher was the first Seminary Intern, serving from September 1979 to September 1980. The Trustees reported

the rental properties on Glendale Avenue and on Harvard Boulevard had begun to provide new income. After 25 years of unequalled dedication to Park Church, Hazel Schluter resigned and her duties as Secretary and Office Manager were assumed by Lois Radde, who later filled in as organist now and then.

Also in 1979, Barbara Oliver was appointed Church School Coordinator, and, for the first time, Park Church fulfilled the General Synod's recommendation to give at least 25% of its current expense budget for mission support. The budget was \$113, 928, and there were 761 members.

Edward Kelling was Moderator in 1981, and Jeff Hipsher - after graduation from Eden accepted a call as Associate Minister. Doug Lander was the Seminary Intern. There was a budget of \$136,077 and 771 members.

Oliver Chamberlain resigned as Choir Director in 1982 and was succeeded by Robert Baggs. Barbara Oliver's title was changed to Director of Christian Education. Mercie Normand was elected Moderator and also served in 1983.

Also in 1982, through memorial contributions the church acquired a new communion service, four flowering crab trees along Harvard Boulevard, and a new amplification and recording system for the Sanctuary with speakers in the Parlor and Chapel. Dale Susan Edmonds was the Seminary Intern. There was a budget of \$157,000, and 799 members.

Glenn Kimball accepted a call to become Associated Minister on September, 24, 1984, and Shirley Wagenknecht was appointed Secretary and Office Manager. A Stephen Ministries program was established to minister to the needs of members and friends. Robert Seyfang was elected Moderator in 1984 and re-elected in 1985.

In 1984 with a generous and anonymous gift was presented to Park for purchase of an elevator, with the proviso the church bear the cost of installation-- a major step toward a barrier-free building.

Also in 1984, eight members, all retirees, formed a group (aptly named the Alley Oops by Seminary Intern Mills) to perform each Wednesday needed work and repairs to the building. Coordinated by Custodian Al Beach, to date they have spread 175 gallons of paint in completely covering the interior walls of the church, installed storm windows, refinished the floor of the Sanctuary, pruned trees and shrubs, constructed a barrier free lavatory in the basement, and accomplished innumerable other tasks. The Alley Oops, so named because of the Als involved are: Paul Bivens, Al Franks, Walter Harmack, Al Huber, Edward Lemke, Virgil McNamee, John Purcell, Jr. and Bill Taylor. Park is grateful to the Alley Oops for the hundreds of hours spent on church projects.

The elevator was installed in 1985 to service all floors. Roger Pancost was the Seminary Intern.

In 1986, members and friends shared in a celebration of Marilyn Stavenger's 25th year of ordination and 25 years at Park with "two days of nostalgia, humor, and recollection culminating in a beautiful morning worship" with Marilyn's preaching professor at Yale, Dr. David Browne

Barr, traveling from California to deliver the sermon. A scholarship was established at Eden Seminary in Marilyn's honor. Frederick Wilson was appointed Director of Choral Music on October 13, 1986. Barbara Eikost was Moderator in 1986 and 1987. The budget in 1986 was \$186,987; and there were 804 members. Rebecca Johnston was the Seminary Intern.

Margie Osborn resigned as Treasurer in 1987, after 13 years of devoted service in that position. The budget was \$220,950, and there were 785 members in that year.

On August 27, 1987, Marilyn Stavenger accepted a call to become Associate Professor in the Practice of Ministry at Eden Seminary effective February 1, 1988, thus ending an association with Park of 26 ½ years. The announcement was unexpected and came as a surprise to members and friends. Moderator Eikost spoke for the congregation when she said: "Marilyn's announcement was met with a mixture of sadness and joy. After 26 ½ years, the 'letting go' is painful for all of us. However, what a gift to Eden Seminary! There is much happiness in seeing a remarkably successful career in parish ministry culminate in an exciting new opportunity for someone so beloved as Marilyn. She has left an indelible mark on our church. We are 'retiring her number'. She cannot be replaced."

Dr. David Eridsen was elected Moderator for 1988. Glenn Kimball assumed full pastoral duties. An advisory Committee was appointed, from which a Pulpit Committee was selected to begin the search for a Senior Minister. Dave Beckwith was Chairman.

EDITORIAL NOTE

In the writing of a history, one cannot include everything that happened, and the names of persons who served, even if they were readily available. For example, there are hundreds of persons who have contributed significantly to the life and progress of Park Church. All we can do is thank them for their efforts.

Finally, we again pay tribute to Florence Miley and Mildred Cowell for the History of the Church from before its beginning in 1913 through 1958 - written with grace and attention to detail such as does not seem possible today. This is important source material, which should remain, in its present form a permanent part of the History of Park Church.

Reginald S. Jackson, Sr.
September, 1988

In 1988, Advisory & Search Committees were instituted to replace Marilyn. A 75th anniversary celebration was held. Nancy Jo Kemper was called as Senior Minister working with Glenn Kimball as Associate Minister. Music Director Fred Wilson resigned & Sue Nagy served as Interim. The continual process of updating and redecorating continues.

There were 785 members with a budget of \$209,655. David Eriksen was Moderator.

In 1989, Nancy Jo Kemper was installed April 9, and dove in, working with boards, committees, staff, VBS, Stephens Ministers, city, state and area organizations.

Debrah Lensenn was hired as Music Director.

The Samaritan Project was Aurora House, a transitional residential program for women who are committed to changing their lives. Different Park groups and members have offered their time and talents to helping this worth while program.

The Moderator was Dave Eriksen with a budget of \$218,958.

In 1990, after 23 months as Senior Minister, Nancy Jo Kemper resigned. Glenn Kimball was asked to remain as Interim for 18 months with an option for call if the Search Committee and congregation so recommended.

\$10,000 was spent on fiberglassing and painting the pillars and the outside of the church. The cement "carriage" walkway was replaced with grass because of the shifting of the cement. Barbara Mauntler was Moderator.

1991 was a year of radical changes both for Park Church and the world we live in. The Soviet Union disintegrated and Park began on its second search process in 3 years. The Search Committee decided Glenn Kimball would not be among their final choice. A great deal of turmoil ensued. Barbara Oliver retired as Christian Education Director after 12 years and after 2 years of driving from Ada, Ohio twice weekly, Debrah Lensenn resigned as Choir Director. Leland Tetz was hired and has provided a continued fine music traditon.

Our Samaritan Project was Habitat for Humanity.

Gary Batts was Moderator and the budget was \$195,107.

1993 was a challenging year for Park. We were challenged to: Move Forward, Survive, Live our Beliefs and Expand. This resulted in an increase in membership and a significant increase in the budget. Lay liturgists became a regular part of the service. George Gusses was moderator, the budget was \$251,101 and there were 668 members

In 1994 we hired Kathleen Gladieux for the position of Director of Christian Education. She worked on many spiritual, entertaining, social, community and educational program for the

congregation. Major repairs were made to the kitchen and roof. A new sound system, updated bathrooms, all outside trims painted and a new sump pump were the maintenance projects.

We instituted the Samaritan Project Committee to oversee the management of the two Park Church rental properties and to be the stewards of an annual mission project funded by the proceeds of the rental properties after expenses. This program donated \$5000. (The 1993 profits) to the One Step Up transitional housing program located in the Hillcrest Hotel. George Gusses was moderator, the proposed budget was \$212,700. And there were 664 members.

1995 was quite a year. 1994 netted a shortfall of approximately \$20,000 of expected revenue. To fulfill our mission ministries for 1995, the congregation undertook the goal of raising \$21,000. We raised almost \$15,000. Handicapped parking signs were installed on Harvard and Men's breakfasts were started. After four years, Leland Tetz, Director of Music resigned. The Samaritan Project gave \$5,000 to the Sparrow's nest. The budget was \$190,087. With Reginald Jackson, Jr. as Moderator, we numbered 679.

In 1996 a Personnel Committee was established. The Cabinet began to evaluate the needs of the church on a long-term basis to determine what goals & objectives are being met and what we must do for the future.

The Samaritan Mission Project in the amount of \$5,000 was David's House, a residential facility for those with AIDS. Jason Jacobs was hired as the new Choir Director. His youth and enthusiasm will inspire us. Reginald Jackson, Jr. was moderator and we had 517 members. The budget was \$249,710.

Joycelyn Degner was called in 1997 to be our new Associate Minister. New hymnals were dedicated, the worship schedule was changed, the parlor renovated and we held our 1st garage sale. We participated in a "Live Nativity" program with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church with live animals from the Zoo. We established broadly defined goals for each of our five church boards and undertook a new approach to Confirmation. After five years of study, member, Terry Kohanski completed her Lay Ministry program. We also had a parking crisis with the city of Toledo (which resulted in new brick parking spaces). The budget was \$265,321 with Linda Smith as Moderator. The membership was 514.

In 1998, we hired Amy Korn as Youth Co-Ordinator and instituted the first women's spiritual retreat and a Long-Range Planning Committee to look at where Park will be in the future. A new roof was put on the educational wing and a new copier and printer were purchased. After 16 years, custodian Al Beach retired. John Hoskins was hired to be our new custodian. The Moderator was Linda Smith and the membership was 515 with a budget of \$267,322.

Starting 1999 we had two full time clergy and a Long-Range Planning Committee laying out visions for the future. By the middle of '99 both Pastors had resigned. We were blessed with the leadership of our Lay Minister, Terry Kohanski and interim Rev. Keith DuVernay. In spite of this we collected 99% of our pledged amount for the year. In the latter part of the year, Terry took over preaching responsibilities in Findlay and could no longer serve us as she had in the past.

A Parish Nurse program was initiated. Beverly Dalton promoted good health through all sorts of media. Jason Jacobs attended a national convention and returned inspired for the coming year. Redecoration of the Parlor was completed. Rev. Laurie Hill who has training and experience in helping churches through difficult times was hired for the year 2000. With David Beckwith as Moderator and a membership of 525, the budget was \$231,9

In 2000, Laurie encouraged us to “do our homework” to help attract God’s permanent Pastor for Park. At the Lenten programs, after delicious potlucks, she helped us re-discover Park Church’s past & formulate the direction for the future. We selected an Advisory Committee, that selected the Search Committee who will implement the search process.

After four years, Choir Director, Jason Jacobs resigned to pursue his nursing career. We were fortunate to hire Peg Faulmann (wife of member Erv) to fill this position. She brings extensive experience and talents to the choir. She presented a program that retains our ties to ‘traditional’ Music and adds spiritually uplifting ‘contemporary’ music to our worship.

An 18% increase in pledges was realized after hearing William Swasey, a lay leader with a background in helping churches increase their annual pledge percentages.

Several high priced maintenance items were undertaken: New lighting and doors were installed at the foot of the stairs at the Harvard entrance, and much-needed sidewalk repairs were made plus the kitchen was redecorated.

The Parish Nurse program flourished under the very competent leadership of Beverly Dalton.

Our C.E., Mission & Lay Life, Trustees & Diaconate boards continue to lead Park forward while our men’s breakfasts, Women’s Fellowship, Sr. Center & Parknickers provide us with community. Tom Dean was Moderator with 504 members.

2001 was a year of triumphs and difficulties for Park. The difficulties included continued unrest caused by the separation of our former pastor. We wish all those who left success.

Laurie Hill was the Interim pastor and the membership was 497. Experienced 18% increase in pledges.

We initiated a tutoring program at Harvard School, started an adult education “focus” series.

The congregation voted for off street parking and named a task force to utilize our two existing properties and acquire a third to accomplish this.

Repairs were made to the front of the church and the pillars were covered in aluminum.

Dinner was served to St. Paul’s Community Center; there was an all-church work party at St. Paul’s and Grace Community Center. Participation in the Crop Walk and Salvation Army’s Bell ringing projects.

Supplemental hymnals were purchased and the music program is in the “blended” style.

The Sunday School adopted the Rotation Model. Bev. Dalton continues as the Parish Nurse

2002 found us with a membership of 422, Gary Batts as Moderator.

Rev. Wayne Brass was called as Sr. Minister.

The outside of the church was painted.

We hired Ed Sniedecki as custodian

Two new refrigerators were purchased; office equipment and a lawn mower were purchased.

The choir room and nursery were moved and redecorated as part of the new parking lot.

The two properties we owned were demolished and the land prepared for a parking lot.

We formed a Vision Committee to chart the future.

The Personnel Committee created job descriptions.

In 2003, the Moderator was Jim Willey and the membership was 336 with a budget of \$208,244.00. We are committed to the building at the corner of Harvard and Glendale. The parking lot and new entrance were made more possible by generous memorials from Bill Taylor and Kay Harbaugh.

A Mardi Gras public dinner fundraiser was held along with a pig roast for Rally Day and of course the long standing Spaghetti Dinner. These fundraisers made a difference but money is an issue.

Metropolitan Toledo Churches United became Toledo Area Council of Churches.

We worked on obtaining new members.

We committed to Love Inc. and gave them room for storage. The Y is using the building for a meeting site. The parking lot is completed and the Vision Team is progressing. Family Nites, Disaster clean up kits were prepared, Arts & Activities, and flu shots kept the building humming.

Maggie Maher was hired as Youth Director increasing all youth attendance.

We adopted a Vision Statement: We exist to Worship the Lord, Serve others joyfully and to expand the circle of faith.

New sound equipment was purchased.

The membership of Park on January 1, 2004 was 300 and the budget was approved at \$213,035.19 with Jim Willey as Moderator.

A new copier, room air-conditioners and dehumidifiers were purchased along with computer operated video system and new Christmas decorations.

The Music committed joined the Worship Team and communion was offered to Sunday School teachers and students.

Love Inc, the Spaghetti Dinner, a pork & sauerkraut dinner, Feed Your Neighbor, Vacation Bible School, Arts and Activities, work with LaPosada, Partners for Innovation, a Spiritual Gifts Seminar lead by Rosemary Mills, retirement planning & expanding the youth program to add a Jr. Hi. Group.

A task force to evaluate the kitchen, dining room and gym was formed. Talk of energy efficient windows, central air conditioning, three phase electrical service & wiring, upgraded telephone and heating systems and new rear entry door were proposed.

With Cathy Kusnier as Moderator and an accepted budget of \$211,571.52 and a membership of 334, we hired Roland Brown as custodian in 2005.

It was a year of joys and concerns. The joys were that we reorganized our old structure, which required a larger number of people to operate it. Under the new structure we have four ministries: Worship, Service, Growth and Administrative.

The youth program is growing; Knitting for Love was started along with an association with the Interfaith Hospitality Network. Several members participated in the U.C.C. Flight School, FYN.

Salvation Army, Bell Ringing, St. Paul's dinner, Grace Community Center Christmas Giving Tree, Back Bay Mission, Love Inc. Nu Vision, Arts and Crafts, Jr & Sr. Hi Youth and Explorers for 3rd through 6th graders and a Youth Mission trip kept Park very busy.

Our struggles were reduced membership; an older congregation and we're in debt to ourselves.

The rear entry door was replaced, the roof repaired, furnaces inspected, cleaned and repaired. Synchronized the thermostats and plastic windows in the sanctuary.

2006 started off with Cathy Kusnier as Moderator, a membership of 351 and a budget of \$211,571.52.

It was a year of transition. We went from an outdated system of operating to a Mission Driven Leadership. The new ministry leaders are:

Worship – Linda Smith

Service – Mary Riddle

Growth – Gary Bats

Administration – John Censer

Rev. Wayne Brass resigned for Chaplaincy employment at a Cleveland hospital.

An Advisory Committee was instituted

Interim pastor Rev. Dave Plant, our U.C.C. coach from Flight School helped us learn to function effectively. He challenged us to examine our worship service as a newcomer would.

Music Director Peg Faulmann resigned to relocate to Seattle, WA.

Renovations to the gym, kitchen and dining room were funded through special gifts; two sanctuary pews were shortened for wheelchair use. FYN, Love Inc, Nu Vision, Sunshine Home, Interfaith Hospitality Network and Park beautification made for a full year. We also instituted a Web page.

2007

Kay Corello started as Secretary in

October 1, 2007, brought Pastor Edwin Heilman to the Senior Pastorate at Park.