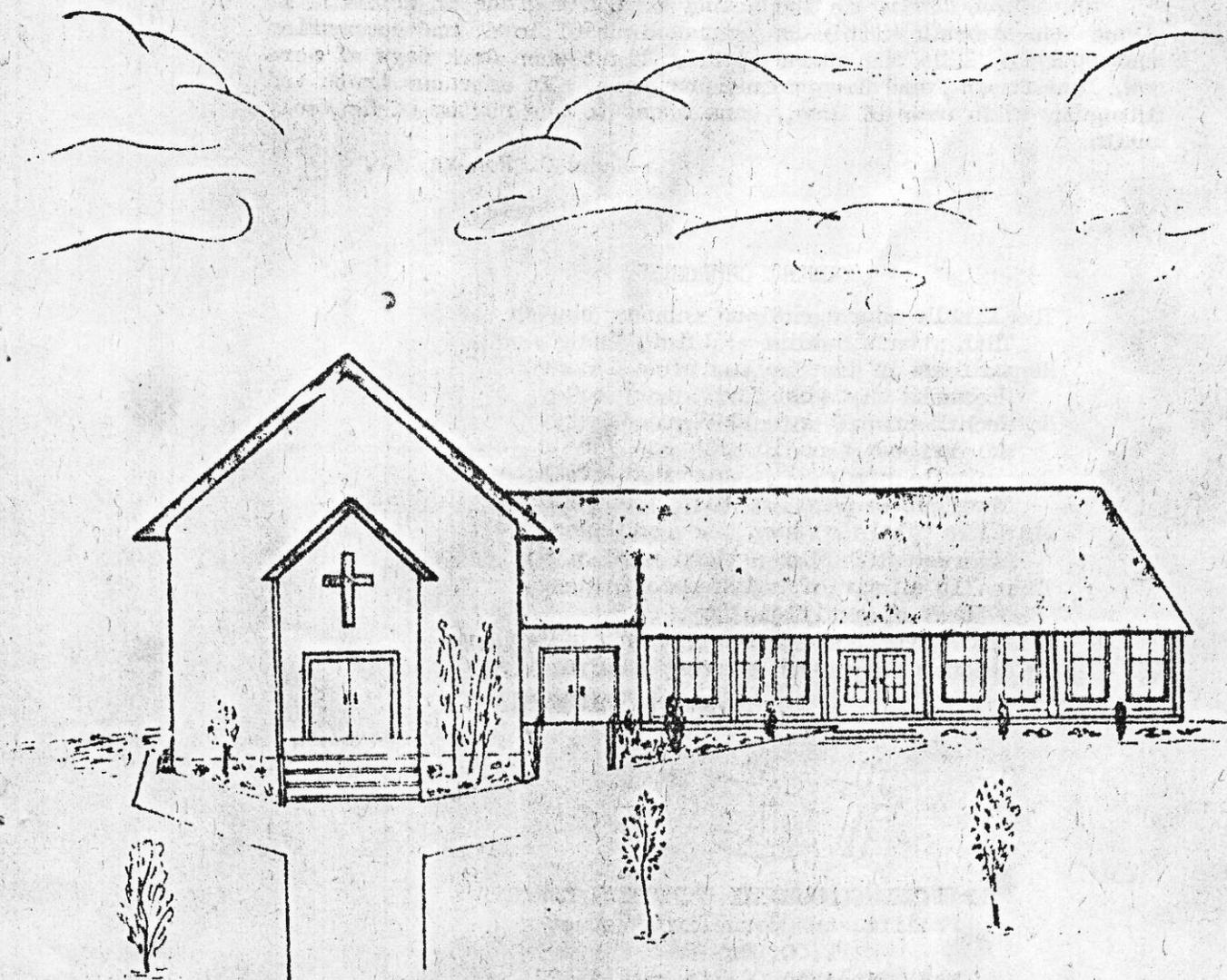


**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**



1883 - 1983

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

“As for us, we have this large crowd of witnesses around us. So then, let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and of the sin which holds on to us so tightly, and let us run with determination the race that lies before us. Let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, on whom our faith depends from beginning to end...”

(Hebrews 12:1-21, Good News)

Christian living is the beauty of God’s grace in action. It gives the eternal within us expressions of love and compassion that sparkle like the stars of Holy light when dark days of sorrow, loneliness, and disappointments come. It embraces truth and integrity with arms of love, and steps to the rhythm of Heavenly music.

--John C. Rogers, Sr.

COUNTRY CHURCHES

The little unpretentious country church
That stands beside a quiet dusty road,
Regardless of how far and wide I search
Presents the most invitatory code
No architectural splendor graces it,
No obvious kinship with cathedrals are great.
One simple room, with pews that are bit
Straight-backed and hard, but yet seem intimate.
An altar plainly hewn, its comeliness
Adorned with flowers and word of His decree.
There is an air of naïve peacefulness,
A lack of artificiality.
I like quaint churches built on country sod
Because they seem so very near to God.
--Maysie Tuley Klein



FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
Pacific and Cornelius Avenues
P.O. Box 98
East Nicolaus, California 95622

H. Edwin Burke, Pastor

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

PREFACE

Dear Friends,

When we ride in a car, bus, train or airplane we sit face forward in order to see where we are going.

Occasionally, however, it is not a bad idea to sit looking backward in order to see where we have been. This booklet is essentially a look backward.

Many hours of painstaking research and writing have gone into its compilation. It is an honest historical account. No attempt has been made to pretend that the record of progress and achievement. Several times it was doubtful the church would continue at all. The fact that it has is somewhat of a miracle. But, of course, miracles are a tradition of our Christian faith.

As you finish reading these pages may I suggest you offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the heritage that is ours.

Then, turn around in your seat, face forward, and be a participant in the unfolding of the next 100 years of life and service of the Fairview Community Christian Church.

See you in church,

H. Edwin Burke,
Pastor

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

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Sanctuary flowers and flowers at the Celebration dinner have been given in memory of early day members,

our grandparents, Henry and Mary Corliss

by children of

Cora Beilby

Pruda Smith

Amos Corliss

Willoughby Corliss

Maggie Arnold

Sanctuary flowers arranged by Gene Taresh.

Table flowers arranged by Esther Walker

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

**Constitution and By-laws
as of June 27, 1963**

PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Fairview Community Christian Church, a congregationally governed body, in order to promote the work of the Church in the spirit of Christ, and thus advance His Kingdom, do hereby adopt this constitution.

ARTICLE I Name and Purpose

Section A Name

The name of this organization shall be the Fairview Community Christian Church, affiliated with the brotherhood known as the Disciples of Christ, known also as Christian Churches, or Churches of Christ.

Section B Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be as revealed in the New Testament, to win people to faith in Jesus Christ and commit them actively to the church, to help them grow in the grace and knowledge of Christ, that increasingly they may know and do His will, and to work for the unity of all Christians and with them engage in the common task of building the Kingdom of God.

ARTICLE II Membership

The membership of this church shall consist of those who are identified now as members of the congregation and those who shall unite with by baptism, or by transfer from any Evangelical Protestant Church, or by profession of faith. Those who wish to be baptized and so unite with the church may have their choice as to mode of baptism.

The Preamble and first two Articles of the Constitution of the Fairview Community Christian Church seem a fitting way to begin the story of you first 100 years.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

“OUR OTHER FAMILY”

Text: I Corinthians, chapters 12 and 13

This scripture reading is one that no church can ever hear too often. It tells us that when we accept Christ, when we are baptized, when we become a part of the church, we become a member of another family.

If our first family consists of those to whom we are related by blood ties, then our second family consists of those to whom we are related through the blood of Christ.

In the church we have a common and mutual commitment to Jesus Christ. Together we accept his life and death and resurrection as fact. For each of us and all of us, HE IS LORD! This means that in the church we are tied together like a family – the church is OUR OTHER FAMILY!

We gather here each Sunday like a family reunion, not only because we find it uplifting and inspiring and just plain fun to do so, but because we are serious about finding out just what it means to be a part of this other family. This is where the scripture of the morning is so helpful.

I am sure you noticed in the reading that its author, the Apostle Paul, says nothing about the necessity of liking each other. The church, by its very nature, is made up of all kinds of people from diverse backgrounds – and often one of the only things they have in common is a commitment to Jesus Christ as Lord.

In the church it is not necessary or even desirable that we be all alike. This may mean that it will be harder for us to be a good member of the church family than it will be to be a good member of our personal family. We don't have to like one another in our church family – we need to LOVE ONE ANOTHER!

This is the point of what the Apostle Paul is saying. “You are all different”, he says, “you have different interests and abilities and positions in the church – but together you are the BODY OF CHRIST on earth today. “Each one of you”, he says, “is like some part of an actual human body – the parts are not all alike, they are different, but they are all necessary and have a place and function to perform”.

If this is true – and it is – then no one looks down on another – no one feels isolated. All find a way to work together for the mutual benefit of all. And LOVE is the glue that holds us together! And, we LOVE each other because Christ first loved us all.

The kind of LOVE we are talking about here is similar to, but not quite the same kind of love, that we have in our personal families. The love we have for one another in the church could be called, INTELLIGENT GOOD WILL!

We can have INTELLIGENT GOOD WILL for one another whether we are compatible or not. This why, at times, it may be harder for us to be a good member of our church family than for our personal family. It is a real challenge.

Our common commitment to Christ means that we will have a compassionate and intelligent concern for one another 24 hours a day, seven days a week – whether we feel like it or not.

Our common commitment to Christ means that we will have a sense of responsibility for one another – whether we feel like it or not.

Our common commitment to Christ means that we will go out of our way to get to know one another better whether we have the same background and interests or not.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

Our common commitment to Christ means that we are all for one and one for all – and it means we will have a WORLD-WIDE CONCERN.

As we grow in our ability to do these kinds of things within our church family, then we will be in a better position to relate to all kinds of people outside our personal family and our church family.

The church can only be a saving force in the world to the extent that we who are in the church grow in our ability to relate constructively and helpfully to one another.

As we do this, we will come to know the truth of the Bible passage that says:

“God so loved the world that he sent his only son – not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him”.

John 3:16 and 17

(Adapted from a sermon preached by Rev. H. Edwin Burke at the Fairview Community Christian Church on Sunday, July 11, 1983.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

THE FIRST FIFTY YEARS

In the 1850's, there were nine elementary schools in the Fairview Community. In 1857 or 1858, Elder J. P. Rose began preaching in different school houses. The first organization of the Church of Christ was in a school house near Kempton Crossing in 1858.

The congregation moved to the Fairview School in 1866. Elder Rose was pastor until his death in 1870. Elder Price succeeded him.

In the early 1880's, an evangelistic meeting was held at Brown's School. The evangelist was Alexander Johnston. There were many converts (20-30). They were baptized in Coon Creek east of the town of Trowbridge. It is possible that Mr. Johnston may have stayed on as a minister for a time. The larger group of worshipers felt a need for its own building.

They circulated a petition. It read:

"For and in consideration of the advancement of Religion and Morals, we, the undersigned Citizens of the Brown, Fairview and neighboring School Districts agree to pay to a building committee or Trustees appointed by the Christian Church, alias, The Church of Disciples of Christ, the sums of money opposite our respective names for the purpose of building a place of worship or meeting house, on the N. and S. road about the Dooley's corners. Such building shall be owned by said Christian Church and shall be known as 'The Christian Chapel'.

"It is hereby expressly agreed that when said meeting-house is not occupied by the Christian Church, other religious denominations shall have the right to use it".

Many people appeared willing to subscribe to this building project. The congregation held a business meeting and selected a Building Committee: A. L. Chandler, Frank Morehead, and Cornelius Stolp.

Rufus and Campbell Berry donated the ground with the understanding that if ever the church ceased to use it for religious worship, the "deeded property" would revert to the original property.

They started the building on July 28, 1883. Some of the lumber came to Nicolaus by river steamer, and the father of Earl Graves (grandfather of Genevieve Hawley) loaned the team to haul material to the building site.

When the bills were all in, the members of the building committee discovered that they needed several hundred dollars more, so each of the three double his subscription. They were still short, so they went to see Mose Hopkins and asked if he would like to help. Mose asked how much was needed and wrote a check for the \$300.00. He made one request with his gift – that a canvass of the community raise money for the church and not by taking Sunday offerings.

In those days, the deacons used their hats for collections, and Mr. Hopkins said he didn't like to have a dirty old hat stuck in his face every Sunday when he came to worship. So, for many years, the offering was omitted from church services. (Rev. Charles Jopson introduced the offering envelope system when he was pastor in the 1920's).

The sanctuary was completed, furnished and paid for by October 15, 1883. The total cash outlay was \$3,631.25. There were some donations of materials and labor in addition to this.

The Rev. R. N. Davis of Watsonville, California, and the Rev. H. F. Tandy, pastor of the Fairview and Wheatland congregations performed the Dedicatory Services. The date of the dedication was October 21, 1883.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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No person has a right to lead such a life of contemplation as to forget in his own ease the service due to his neighbor; nor has any person a right to be so immersed in active life as to neglect the contemplation of God.

--St. Augustine

RECORD OF THE BUILDING COMMITTEE
WHO WERE APPOINTED TO BUILD THE "CHRISTIAN CHAPEL"

The Committee were F. F. Morehead, C. Stolp, and A. L. Chandler.

Work was commenced on the 25th of July 1883. And the building completed and furnished the 15th of October 1883. The Dedicatory services were performed on the 21st of October 1883, by the Rev. R. N. Davis, then of Watsonville, Santa Cruz Co., Cal., and the Rev. H. F. Tandy the then Pastor of this and the Wheatland Christian Churches.

BILLS PAID IN ERECTING THE "CHRISTIAN CHAPEL" – 1883

July 25	For 15 joints tubing for well	\$15.00
	Cash to Brick Masons	30.00
	E & H bill, for 1415 lbs. lime	12.38
	B. F. Noyes for lumber and freight	1,218.26
	N. L. Drew for lumber and freight	150.00
	Huntington & Hopkins for Nails, etc.	60.00
	Whittier & Fuller for paints	62.90
	Earl Potter & Co. for Gutters and Tinning	85.50
	Telegraph Hill Co for Mill work	373.00
	Gladding McBean for Brick & pipe	44.60
	John Peffer for seats & brackets	217.00
	White Cooley & Cutts for Tank &c	32.60
	Johnson & Jones for Iron work	16.20
	George Guilling for work	103.50
	Charles Leber for work	92.50
	Charles Leber for work	18.00
	Mr. Monson for work	110.00
	O. B. Pease for work	52.20
	P. A. Anderson for work	256.00
	Freight bills to Steamer	37.00
	James Finigan for Plastering	212.50
	Frank Comstock for Painting	115.00
	Strap hinges & screws	1.40
	Expenses to Sacramento, Marysville, Wheatland, & Lincoln	18.00
	Telegraphing & freight to Stage, lumber &c	15.75
	Expenses to Marysville, & Mouldings	2.00
	Red wood boards	3.84
	6 Oregon plank & 3 scantling	5.84
	100 fence boards 800 ft	24.00
	Whittier & Fuller for paints	20.50
	Locke & Lavenson for Carpet	34.85
	2 days work on fence by Ferguson	4.00
	White, Cooley & Cutts for stove & pipe, chandeliers, side lights, Hose &c	90.93
	Center table, of Shafer	6.00
	Lamp filter, Hooks & screws	1.00

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Pump, & board of men to Stolp
Total Cash Paid out

89.00
\$3,631.25

ERECTING THE "CHRISTIAN CHAPEL"

Donated by

Arans & Bevan, Nails &c	16.00
James Finigan work on foundation	12.00
Charles Bray work on fence	10.00
John Jopson work on fence	10.00
T. G. H. Jones work on transom	1.75
J. K. Hicks 1300 bricks	13.00

C. P. & R. C. Berry – one acre of ground

C. Stolp, Bray Bro., C. B. Harris, F. F. Morehead, A. C. Moorhead, Gulling & Graves, W. H. Smith and a few others are entitled to credit for doing most of the Hauling.

MONEY PAID TOWARDS ERECTING THE "CHRISTIAN CHAPEL"

Anderson, Peter	Emmerman, Dick	Minden, Mrs. W.
Arfstein, Antone	Engasser, Chas.	Mott, John
Baty, Mrs. Ann	Ferguson, John	Mott, T. S.
Baty, R. L.	Frye, George R.	Morehead, A. C.
Beilby, C. W.	Gallagher, Chas.	Morehead, F. F.
Berry, C. P.	Gardner, James	Morehead, R. L.
Berry, R. C.	Gerrets, Henry	Nichols, J. B.
Bray, C. L.	Glen, John	Noyes, Fred B.
Bray, Frank	Graves, Wm. A.	Oakley, Mr.
Briggs, Cyrus	Greenwald, J. J.	Parker, David
Briggs, W. A.	Gulling & Graves	Parker, Wm.
Brock, I. N.	Harris, C. B.	Peaslee, Chas. L.
Carroll, Patrick	Hicks, J. K.	Peppitt, Mr.
Cass, C. J.	Hopkins, Moses	Peppitt, Mrs.
Chinaman, Moon	Johnson, Gabrel	Peter, John A.
Christian, John	Johnson & Co., J. K.	Peters, Clous
Christiansen, J. C.	Jones, J. L.	Redfield, D. R.
Chandler, A. L.	Jones, T. G. H.	Rhinehart, W. R.
Comstock, Frank	Jopson, John T.	Richmond, B. M.
Comstock, L. B.	Jopson, Mrs.	Smith, W. H.
Corliss, H. B.	Jopson, Wm.	Storm, Clous
Cox, Mrs. Sarah	Kreig, B.	Storm, John
Cramer, David	Leary, James T.	Striplin, Lifus
Crossman, Dr. L. C.	Lee, Levi	Stolp, Cornelius
Curtis, Wm.	Leet, Geo. L.	Thalls, Chas. H.
David, Chas.	Libby, Geo.	Thomas, T. H.
Dick, Eli	Limening, Henry	Thomas, W>
Dooley, Chas	Lipp, W. P.	Tilton, Arthur
Dooley, Geo. E.	Mariner, J. L.	Tilton, D. G.
Dorr, E. Nash	Michel, Frank	Tilton, John

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Tilton, H. W.
Waltz, D. J.

Whitlock, D. F.
Whitlock, Lee

Wilson, H. H.
Woodworth, W.

The Fairview Christian Church was dedicated on October 21, 1883.

The next years saw hardships and changes. Although many records are lost or incomplete, a picture has been put together which indicates that the early church had many struggles. At times, Fairview shared a minister with Wheatland Christian Church, from time to time it may have been a "circuit-riding preacher", and at times there was no church service:

December 27, 1931. No Sunday school but the papers were passed out to the ten who were there. There was no church, so all returned home. There was 28¢ collection taken.

The Sunday School met quite regularly during some of the hard times, but there were not always regular church services.

From a list of ministers some person made in "about 1904", we know that the church held services. No records of any kind from 1907-1911.

Then in 1912, the church called a minister who later became very well known in the Christian Church – Hugh Vernon White. Mr. White was pastor until mid-1915.

During the 1950's, Rev. White was a teacher at the Pacific School of Religion. He was also a prominent leader in the Congregational-Christian Church and ecumenical movement.

There is an interview with Dr. Hugh Vernon White in the August 1983 issue of the P. S. R. bulletin. In the interview, the interviewer asked Dr. White, age 94, "Why did you decide to become a minister?" Here is his answer in part...

"My mother had a friend living Orangevale, a fruit-raising community near Folsom, where there were two churches that were both closed. My mother said to her friend, 'Vernon wants to be a preacher'. And her friend turned to me and said, 'Is that so? If you become a preacher, come out and preach for us. So, I began to preach in two different places. One was a church up in Sutter County at Fairview and the other was at Orangevale. Each one of the churches paid me thirty-seven and a half dollars per month. Before I went down to Berkeley, I established this form of making a living and practicing my trade as it were".

Dr. White lives in Claremont with his wife, Ruby. He is in good health and loves to read.

From 1916 to August of 1920, there were no church services or Sunday School at Fairview – the members cooperated with the Pleasant Grove Church.

The church called Charles W. Jopson as pastor in August 1920, and church resumed monthly – later, around 1924, on a weekly basis. Rev. Jopson introduced the offering envelope at Fairview. The church held several evangelistic meetings during his ministry. Following one such meeting during Mary of 1924, the following people made a confession of faith: Lester Driver, Alton Harris, Robert Corliss, Evlyn Harris, Elsie Davis, Elvan English, May Lemm, Fay Lemm, Mrs. Lyda Lemm, Margret Watt, Mary Osrite, and Willard Yerkes. Mrs. Daisy Corliss was secretary during most of the '20s.

The church was still having its struggles – March 4, 1928 – pastor's salary in arrears \$190.00. Mr. Jopson remained at Fairview until early in 1929.

About this time (minutes of Feb. 12, 1928) we read: "Letter read by Ruth Corliss from Mr. Hogle about the possibility of moving the Pleasant Grove Christian Church. Mrs. Daisy Corliss

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

and Mr. Frank McLain were appointed to find out something about the cost of such moving. If the members of Pleasant Grove decided to allow us to have the building”.

No further minutes are available, but from a newspaper clipping dated November 15, 1928, (Appeal-Democrat) we read:

“Unused for ten years, the old Christian Church edifice in Pleasant Grove has been torn down and the lumber has been hauled to Fairview, where it is being used in building an addition to the Fairview Church. The addition will be used for Sunday School and social purposes.

“The Fairview Church, located in a sparsely populated district, is really quite prosperous. It has services every Sunday, and there is a non-denominational Sunday school conducted in it. It is a community center for many activities of a social nature...

“Willard Yerkes of near Nicolaus tore down the old church, finding the lumber in good condition, although the church had been standing since 1895. It took some engineering skill to get the tall iron weather vane off the steeple and the heavy bell out of the belfry, but he managed both feats successfully. The bell is now for sale, as the Fairview Church has not need for it. It is a bargain for some school or church, or for some community that needs a fire bell for it is a large one.

“Under the pulpit of the old structure the baptismal pool was found to be in good condition”.

Well, apparently no one wanted to purchase the bell, but in another newspaper clipping, dated March 28, 1941 (and we thank Eleanor Corliss Harris for sifting through the family scrapbook to give us this information) we read:

“At the old Fairview Church near Trowbridge, the old church bell was hung Wednesday by a group of men of the community. This was the culmination of a long period of work.

“The Ladies Aid furnished the money and the men did the work. Carl Nelson, local builder, superintended the job of raising and setting the bell. This required the services of from three to eight men during the day.

“The bell was originally in the Pleasant Grove Christian Church... The bell weighs 750 pounds and those who heard it before say that it can be heard more than ten miles.

“R. M. Beard is pastor of the church”.

It soon became evident that the tower was not strong enough to hold the bell, for whenever the North wind blew hard, the tower heaved to the south, and when the South wind blew, it swayed to the north. It was quite dangerous, so while refinishing the interior of the sanctuary in the spring of 1945, they took the bell down, the tower removed and remodeled to the way it is today, Mr. Fred Phinney did the remodeling. There is no record of who helped him to remove the heavy bell.

Later, the church constructed and erected a steel tower for the bell, donated by Rodney Vertres. We still hear the bell on Sunday.

After Rev. Jopson left the Fairview Church, there were several supply ministers, and then E. Guy Newman preached for a time. Two typewritten records differ on the dates he was at Fairview. It appears however that from November 1930 to February 1931, supply ministers (from Wheatland) came, and in January, Milo J. Smith, State Secretary for the Christian Churches of Northern California brought the Sunday morning messages.

Rev. J. W. Babcock of Sacramento became the pastor in February 1931 and was the minister at the Fairview Christian Church as they were preparing to celebrate their fiftieth anniversary in October of 1933.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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FAIRVIEW MINISTERS OVER THE YEARS

Records are not available for some years – and for some, complete names were not recorded.

1857 to 1870 – Elder J. P. Rose. Elder Rose died in Jun 1870.

1870 to ? – Elder Price

-- Rev. Frank Tandy

1879 – Brother Wilmot

1880 – Alexander Johnson

1883 – 1886 – J. P. Stewart

1887 – Rev. F. Allen, Methodist Episcopal, also served in Wheatland.

1888 – J. M. Ferguson, H. O. Edwon, James Kelsey, and Brother Frank Tandy

1889 – J. M. Ferguson and James W. Kelsey

1890 – 1892 – James Kelsey

1893 – H. W. Laye, H. E. Neimeyer, H. C. Brown

1894 – ___ Burnett, ___ Brunk, Brother E. B. Ware, and W. B. Berry

1895 – W. B. Berry

1896 – W. B. Berry, C. P. Pann, H. C. Neimeyer

1897 to July 1899 – H. C. Neimeyer

July 1899 to Dec. 1899 – ___ Brown, J. M. Dunning

1900 – 1901 – J. M. Dunning

1902 – B. C. Stephens

1903 – B. C. Stephens and J. D. Brown

January to July 1904 – J. B. Askey

August 1904 – 1906 – T. P. Reid

During this period, the following also served as supply preachers:

R. N. Davis	L. R. McHatton	C. W. Jopson
W. A. Melone	Father Tandy, Sr.	B. B. Burton
James N. Tennison	J. N. Pendergast	A. A. Gardner
B. O. Hinman	Father James Kelsey	Phillip Burton
J. A. Brown	Elder George Lucas	

(Several of the above were evangelists – their names appear in the Historical brochure which was prepared for the Centennial State Convention of the Christian Churches of Northern California, May 18-22, 1995, in Stockton)

1907 – 1911 – No records, although Hugh Vernon White preached occasionally

1912 – 1914 – Hugh Vernon White

1915 – ___ Matzen for part of the year

1916 – 1920 – No church or Sunday school. Cooperated with Christian Church in Pleasant Grove

August 1920 – 1928 – Charles W. Jopson. Church resumed on a monthly basis, later on a weekly basis to early 1929. Several evangelistic meetings were held during Rev. Jopson's ministry. O. V. Wilkinson and D. Loyd Morgan led two of these.

September 1929 to November 1930 – E. Guy Newman

January 1931 – Milo J. Smith (State Secretary)

February 1931 to October 1933 – J. W. Babcock

November 1933 – No church.

December 1933 – February 1934 – Milo J. Smith and R. W. Smith

March 1934 – October 1936 – No regular church, Rev. Cecil Bever, pastor of Wheatland Christian Church, did occasional preaching. Also, a Rev. Moon from Gridley.

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November 8, 1936 – March 1940 – Rev. Frank H. Gower. The Gowers lived in the church annex

April 1940 – October 1940 – Rev. Carlos Brown

November-December 1940 – Milford Pribble, Rev. Ray Lucas of Chico, and Rev. Williams of Watsonville

January 1941 – July 1943 – Robert N. Beard

August-September 1943 – Revs. Chambers and DeWelt, Church of Christ, Yuba City

October 1943 – January 1944 – Frank H. Gower

February 1944 – October 1947 – Mrs. Esther Phinney, Assembly of God

1947 – 1950 – Raymond Graber

1951 – 1975 – T. Hoffman Hurley

January – March 1976 – Supply Ministers

March-June 1976 – Dr. Henry Searle, interim minister

July 4, 1976 to present, H. Edwin Burke

During this period, 1912 to 1983, a partial list of supply ministers and interim ministers include:

Atchison, Kenneth

Bennett, R. H.

Blake, J. H.

Bonifozi, Conrad

Bradley, Preston

Carey, Ernest B.

Cole, Nelson

Davison, Dr. F. E.

Drake, Charles

Dunn, J. M.

Girdner, Mrs. Walter

Hagberg, Phillip

Hogue, Harlan

Holman, Glen

Howard, Jewel

Hunter, Dr. Henry

Immel, Wilder

Martin, Ellis

Moy, John

Metcalf, Ed

Metcalf, I. E.

Miner, Kenneth

Neal, Robert

Pappas, Thomas

Pasanen, John

Pollard, Mary

Reeves, Harold

Riddell, Glenn

Rose, Galen Lee

Rowland, Ben

Schade, Sigmund C.

Shades, L. P.

Titus, D. B.

Wilson, Josh

There may be more. Also, During a sabbatical of Pastor T. Hoffman Hurley, several members of the congregation brought the Sunday morning message.

9/4/83 – Lela Smith found these notes in the journal (day book) of Ed Smith: "A minister, Linville, preached at Fairview two or three times a month until July 12. Brother Whit, first Sunday, July 17. The year was 1910.

During the time the minister, T. Hoffman Hurley was on sabbatical leave, members of the congregation often brought the morning message. The dates were November 1969 to May 1970.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Charter Members Lists

We find a list of the membership of the church in 1883, another list when the church “reorganized” in 1923, and finally the list of Charter Members at the time the church reorganized as a Community Church in 1947.

Fairview Christian Church

1883

Membership list copied from material handed me by Rev. Charles Jopson.

(Signed) Daisy Corliss

Algeo, Maggie	Edson, Mrs. H. O.	Lipp, Minnie
Algeo, Walter	Edson, Kittie, E.	McKenzey, Rod
Bayles, Mrs. Anna	Garner, James	Mills, Mrs. Jane
Beilby, C. W.	Gardner, Mrs. Jas.	Monroe, W. W.
Beilby, Mrs. C. W.	Glenn, Mrs. J. P. Glenn	Monroe, Mrs. W. W.
Beilby, Mrs. Joe	Glenn, Sammie	Morehead, Albert
Beilby, Mary	Gonerman, Bert	Morehead, Carrie
Beilby, Mattie	Gorde, D. B.	Morehead, F. F.
Beilby, Oce	Graves, Mrs. Wm.	Morehead, Mrs. F. F.
Beilby, Ralph	Hall, Eliza	Morehead, Robert
Berry, Mrs. R. A.	Hall, Nicholas	Morehead, Wesley
Berry, W. B. and wife	Hall, Rufus	Mott, John
Bray, Frank	Harris, C. B.	Mott, Mrs. John
Bray, George	Harris, Charley	Palmer, Walter
Bray, Thomas	Harris, George	Peaslee, Charley
Bray, Mrs. Thomas	Hemphill, John	Peaslee, Mrs. Charley
Bray, Mrs. W. H.	Hicks, Mrs. Ann	Pierce, Mrs. Ruby
Bray, William	Hicks, Fred	Porter, C. E.
Bray, Mrs. Wm.	Hutchins, Mrs. T.	Rampkey, Christina
Briggs, Cyrus	Irwin, Alice M.	Rambkey ² , Grace
Briggs, Mrs. Cyrus	Irwin, Mason	Reinheart, Wm.
Chandler, Lizzy	Johnson, Jean	Roberts, Mrs. R.
Chandler, Mamie A.	Johnson, Mrs. Mollie	Roberts, V. G.
Corliss, Alice	Jopson, Alonso	Roberts, W. E.
Corliss, Mary J	Jopson, J. T.	Rose, Mrs. Rebecca
Corliss, Prudence ¹	Jopson, Mrs. J. T.	Rose, W. P.
Crowler, J. M.	Jopson, Mrs. Sabina	Rose, Mrs. W. P.
Curtis, Fred	Jopson, William	Ryan, Ed
Curtis, Mrs. Mabel	Jopson, Mrs. William	Salsbery, Mrs. Emma J.
Cute, Lillian	Laye, H. W.	Sankey, Idella
Cute, Mrs. Elizabeth	Laye, Mrs. H. W.	Sankey, Mrs. M. T.
Donaldson, Mrs. Mary E.	Laye, Hallie	Smith, G. W.
Dooley, Ellen	Leet, George	Smith, J. E.
Dooley, Emily	Leet, Mrs. George	Smith, John J.
Dooley, Nancy	Leet, Hattie	Smith, Lee Roy
Dooley, G. E.	Libby, Mrs. Louise	Smith, W. H.
Edson, H. O.	Lipp, Clara	Smith, Mrs. W. H.

¹ Prudence? – Larry Baird

² Rampkey? – Larry Baird

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Stahl, Y. A.	Tilton, D. Y.	Whitlock, Bertha
Stolp, Cornelius	Tilton, Mrs. D. Y.	Whitlock, David
Stolp, Mrs. C.	Tilton, E. G.	Whitlock, Mrs. D.
Stolp, Daisy	Tilton, H. W.	Wilson, H. H.
Striplin, Ed	Tilton, Mrs. H. W.	Wilson, Mrs. Nancy
Striplin, Mrs. Ed	Tilton, John	Womack, Hattie
Striplin, Lola	Tilton, Mrs. John	Woodworth, W. E.
Striplin, Mrs. Mary	Vestal, Mrs. Emily	Woodworth, Walter
Thalls, Charley	Watson, Dr.	Woodworth, Mrs. Walter
Tilton, A. D.	Watson, Mrs. Dr.	
Tilton, Mrs. A. D.	Watson, Roma	

Many of these names will be familiar to you. As you drive Striplin Road, Sankey Road, Berry Road, etc. – and you can still see some of the names on mailboxes in our community – Jopson, Beilby, Harris, Corliss...

1923

Fairview Christian Church

List of Members

Bray, George	Corliss, Mrs. Ruth	Kirkman, Dolly
Bray, Mrs. Hattie C.	Corliss, Mr. W. J.	Kirkman, Thelma
Butler, Earl	Dooley, Emily	Kirkman, Violet
Butler, Edna	Dooley, George	Kirksey, Mrs. Etta
Butler, Mrs. S. A.	Driver, Mrs. E. A.	Kirksey, Louise
Butler, Samuel	Glen, Mrs. J. P.	Kirksey, Margaret
Christy, James D.	Heany, Mrs. Cora V.	Kirksey, Mr. Will
Christy, Jennie B.	Jopson, A.	Klepser, Mrs. Stella
Christy, Samuel W.	Jopson, Mrs. A.	Pierce, Mrs. Margaret C.
Corliss, Mrs. Daisy	Jopson, Charley	Probst, Mrs. Barbara
Corliss, Eleanor	Jopson, Mrs. Della	Probst, Jacob
Corliss, Evelyn	Jopson, Leslie	Thornton, Mrs. Elva Alice
Corliss, Lela	Jopson, Oba	Thornton, Miss Eva
Corliss, Louise	Jopson, Wendell	Thornton, Mrs. Linn
Corliss, Mary	Kirkman, Agnes	Yerkes, Mrs. Flora M.

The above list being Charter Members closed on July 22, 1923.

The above list followed an evangelistic meeting led by Bros. Jopson and Thornton. Also, the members felt: "we could not own and operate property without a more formal manner of organization: that we would have to be incorporated under the laws of California. At this time, they elected officers:

Chairman – C. W. Jopson

Secretary – Mrs. Daisy Corliss

Present were:

J. D. Christy

S. W. Christy

Miss Jennie B. Christy

Mrs. R. L. Corliss

Mrs. D. Corliss

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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A. Jopson
E. L. Thornton

Pastor was Rev. C. W. Jopson and the evangelist Rev. C. L. Thornton.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
November 9, 1947³

Birka, Nettie
Bray, Hattie
Brown, Mae
Brown, Sarah D.
Butler, Earl
Butler, Edith W.
Butler, Elbert R.
Corliss, Cecil
Corliss, Hazel
Corliss, Hobart
Corliss, Ruthe
Corliss, W. J.

Crouch, Betty
Davis, Evelyn Harris
Derby, Anna B.
Derby, Betty
Derby, George
Derby, James
Finch, Edith
Finch, Walter
Jobson, Della
Jopson, Wendel W.
Lynn, Fred
Lynn, Leona

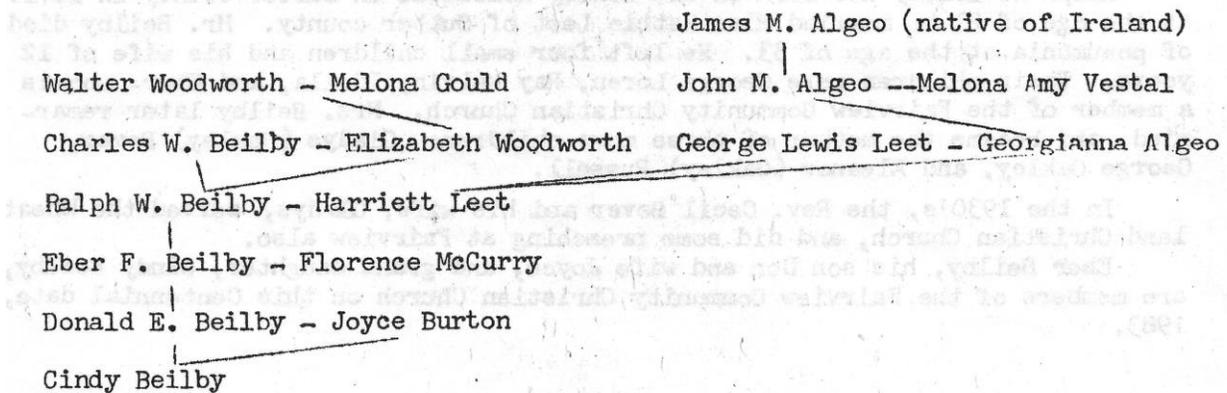
Lynn, Minnie
Mariner, Clarice
McQuiston, Albert
McQuiston, George
McQuiston, Lillian
Medlin, Louise
Paige, Clyde R.
Paige, Mary A.
Purcell, Enid Jopson
Thornton, Eva
Thrower, Pearl
Helen Goodwin

³ See section on reorganization.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Roots

SIX GENERATIONS WORSHIP AT FAIRVIEW



Walter Woodworth was born in 1815 in Essex County, New Jersey. He married Melona Gould in 1836, crossed the plains to California with his family in 1863 and soon afterwards united with the Christian Church. At his funeral in 1893, Rev. H. W. Laye said, "He leaves behind six children, all of whom are faithful Christians, and while sorrow fills their hearts on account of the loss, the hope of the Christian is theirs... Farewell, dear Brother, we shall miss you here. Your kind works, your grand life, but you are at rest in Christ. Rest until our life's labor is done and we will all meet again".

John M. Algeo, born near Steubenville, Ohio in 1824, had lived in Nicolaus area for 34 years at the time of his death. He was the Justice of the Peace – a job he held for many years.

Melona Amy Vestal came to California as a small child. She married John Algeo in 1853 and they settled on a farm south of Nicolaus. The couple had three sons and seven daughters. Mrs. Algeo died at Pacific Grove in 1903. The Fairview Church held funeral services with interment in the Berry (Fairview) Cemetery.

Melona Gould Woodworth was born in Vermont in 1811, died 1892. They held services at home because of Mr. Woodworth's ill health, and "the body was laid away in the Fairview Cemetery". "More than sixty years of her four score she spent in the Savior's service, and I can truthfully say that her 'life was hid with Christ in God'. The Fruit of the Spirit had developed in her life a beautifully rounded Christian character".

George Lewis Leet died in 1931 at the age of 87. "A native of New York, he came to California about 1862 on a sailing vessel around the Horn. After an inland trip to Napa and Marysville, he went to Honolulu on a sailing vessel and from there cruised the South Seas on the Pfiel, a ship which seceded the famous missionary vessel, the Morning Star. An indication of what early missionary work meant was given at Butara Tari, where some of the men of the party were captured by cannibals and did not return". His wife, Georgiana Algeo, was born at Nicolaus, California.

Charles W. Beilby was born in New York State in 1832. Elizabeth Woodworth was born in Illinois in 1839. They married in Iowa in 1857, and with two small children in arms, "they crossed the Great Plains in 1863, being members of a party with twenty wagons, including many of the pioneers of Yuba and Sutter Counties... The Indians proved friendly; and the adventure was of the type that makes the blood tingle with healthful excitement, especially as there were no deaths in the fairly large circle". The couple had nine children. Funeral services were at the Christian Church in Wheatland, with burial at the Fairview Cemetery.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

Ralph W. Beilby was born on the Beilby homestead in Sutter County in 1871. At the age of 21 he married Miss Hattie Leet of Sutter county. Mr. Beilby died of pneumonia at the age of 33. He left four small children and his wife of 12 years. Their children were George Loren, Ray Melvin, Idella, and Eber – who is a member of the Fairview Community Christian Church. Mrs. Beilby later remarried and became the mother of three more children: Gladys (Oakley) Bever, George Oakley, and Eleanor (Oakley) Russell.

In the 1930's, the Rev. Cecil Bever and his wife Gladys served the Wheatland Christian Church and did some preaching at Fairview also.

Eber Beilby, his son Don, his wife Joyce, and granddaughter Cindy Beilby are members of the Fairview Community Christian Church on this Centennial date, 1983.

MORE GENERATIONS OF BUILDERS

F. F. Morehead was a member of the building committee for the Fairview Chapel in 1883. He was born in Missouri in 1846 and at the age of 19 following the death of his parents, he came to California accompanied by his sister. Their wagons made up part of a train of 150 immigrant wagons, drawn by horses and mule and some oxen. Franklin Foley Morehead drove one of the wagons part of the time and acted as a guard part of the perilous journey. He helped pioneer in Sutter County where he farmed a section and a half of land.

Mr. Morehead was active in the Christian Church, where he was a deacon for many years. At his funeral, 1936, one grandson, Rev. Wesley Ford offered the prayer. Casket bearers were grandsons Wesley and Gerald Ford, Donald Morehead, Kenneth Onstott, Franklin Morehead and Robert Sullivan.

It was said of him, "Morehead was a friend of all, kindly, ever lending a helping hand, a man of honesty and integrity. In the church he was zealous and active, his attendance being regular until his last illness confined him to his home".

In 1874, Miss Hattie Lipp was married to F. F. Morehead. The couple had two sons and three daughters. Mrs. Morehead died in 1913. Her surviving children were Mrs. J. P. Onstott, Jr., Mrs. Roy Ford, Miss Mildred Morehead, Dr. Roy Morehead and Albert Morehead.

Mrs. Morehead had been a member of the Fairview Christian Church since she was 17 years of age, "and an earnest worker in church and temperance matters. None knew her but to love her and throughout her long illness every care and patience and confiding faith in what the future had in store for her. She will be sadly missed in the church where her influence was always deeply felt; in the community where she was always the good neighbor and friend, and the home circle will ever mourn the loving mother and devoted wife and fondly cherish her memory".

Both F. F. Morehead and Hattie Lipp Morehead are buried at the Fairview Cemetery.

The home of F. F. Morehead was the scene of a lovely wedding on April 8, 1905 when Irma Morehead became the bride of Roy M. Ford, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Ford, also of the Sutter County, Fairview District. They moved to Sacramento after their marriage. The couple had four sons, Elwyn, Wesley, Gerald and Lawrence.

As Miss Irma Morehead, she was very active in the Fairview Ladies Aid, in drama groups and taught school at Brown's School. Her church, the Fairview Christian Church, was an especially important part of her life.

Mrs. Ford died in Pasadena at the age of 81. She is buried at the Fairview Cemetery.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

Miss Carrie Morehead was married to J. P. Onstott, Jr. on November 16, 1905, at the home of her parents, F. F. and Hattie Morehead, of Yuba City. Both were residents of the Fairview District of Sutter County. Three children were born to them, Mildred Irma, Kenneth and Wendel.

Mrs. Onstott died in a Yuba City rest home at the age of 89. She was buried in Fairview Cemetery.

Eleanor Corliss Harris can list five generations of continuous, active workers in the Fairview Church until her daughter, Verna, moved to San Jose: James and Jane Mills, Mary and Henry Corliss, Will and Ruthe Corliss, Eleanor and Alton Harris, and Verna Rae Harris Hughes.

The Corliss family tree traces back to George Corliss who landed in America in 1639. He came as an indentured servant, and after a few years of labor he became a free man. He first settled at Newberry, Massachusetts, later moving to a place near Haverhill, and finally to Vermont.

Henry Corliss was born in East Corinth, Vermont in 1635. As an adventuresome young man, he went to Cuba, then to Panama where he crossed the Isthmus on foot (no canal then) and caught a boat for San Francisco arriving there in 1857. He moved to Sutter County in 1859 and worked for ten years on the farm of Senator Chandler before buying his own farm. Two of his grandchildren still reside on this farm, Eleanor Corliss Harris and Robert J. Corliss.

Henry Corliss married Mary Mills Ragsdale, a widow with a small daughter. Mary Mills had been born in Glasgow, Scotland in 1850 and came to Vermont with parents in 1852, then to Nicolaus on a river steamer in 1857 when Mary was seven years old. Mary had a sister who married Sam McKinnon and one who married Will Graves. Of Henry's family a bachelor brother is the only one who came west.

Eleanor's other grandparents – Thortons, had a short history in California and America. Thomas Thornton swam the St. Lawrence River along with his tool chest. He was a brightsmith⁴. It is suggested that he had deserted the Queen's Army. July 4, 1834, he married Ruth Cook Fox. Later they started West with several children. Thomas died in Salt Lake City the winter of 1855–56, as did also one infant. Charles Melvin Thornton was three at the time. A short time later, the rest of the family came to California.

In 1877, Charles Melvin married Elva Alice Moad (born in 1860). Her family goes back to Scotland, 1752. In America, the Hoods are traced from Tennessee, Missouri, Iowa, and eventually some headed west.

Both parents of Elva died near John Day River in Oregon, about one year apart. The children went to the home of relatives, and soon came to California.

Elva Alice Hood Thornton was a sister to Mrs. John P. Glenn, Sr. and Mrs. Frances Leary. The Leary residence is where the Regli's now live. The Thornton home where they raised ten children, five boys and five girls, was at the corner of Pleasant, Grove Road and Striplin Road.

⁴ A type of metal worker

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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Memories

Evlyn Corliss Hagerty remembers...

A Christmas tree and gifts. Once when a very small girl, Evlyn's name was the first called when Santa said, "I see a doll for Evlyn". Many, many years later she learned that Santa was her Uncle Will Corliss.

Della Jopson...

In the 1920's, bazaars and suppers were held in the church. Tables set along the north side of the church. Portable kerosene stove set up in the little rooms behind the organ and pulpit. Handwork on the side of the church – and a fish pond delighted the youngsters.

Eleanor Harris...

In the early 30's, a Christmas party was given for some children who didn't come to church and Sunday School. Whether there was a flood or just considered less fortunate – fun and games, oranges and candy were provided. This was done by Daisy Corliss and assisted by girls of her class or C. E.

Following the flood of 1955, the church was used as a shelter just for a few nights. Then a clothing center was set up in the upstairs room; Red Cross offices in the annex; and a laundry in the social hall – all of which lasted several weeks. A feeding program was run in the I.O.O.F. Hall, supervised by Dorothy Reeves.

Some families found temporary homes with relatives both here and in nearby towns while others brought travel trailers and located with local families.

Milking was an "almost around the clock deal" – as on Nicolaus family (Perozzi's) brought animals out to Schoners a Trowbridge.

Before Camp Far West, floods anywhere in the Bear River area were not uncommon.

The Fairview church was used for school classes following the fire at Brown's School. For several years it served this area for the Yuba-Sutter Health Department "Well Baby Clinic".

Around 1960, for one or two years, the church was the meeting place each month for the East Nicolaus 4-H.

During the late 1950's, a delegation went over to Butte City to tell them how we were functioning as a Community Church. Those who went were Hoff Hurley, George Derby, Wendell Jopson, and Eleanor Harris (me).

Christian Endeavor was active here from the late 1920's (or later). We gathered each Sunday evening for studies and devotions. We were part of Pacer District C. E. Placer District consisted of Wheatland, Roseville, Loomis, and Fairview. We won State recognition for registration and attendance at the convention held in Sacramento in 1931.

At one time, the Fairview Ladies Aid owned a five-gallon ice cream freezer and one or two smaller ones. Guess what good times they had!

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

Eleanor "Bill" Russell...

You asked about Fairview Church. The only thing I remember was Mom... or someone telling us that Grandma and Grandpa Leet were one of several couples meeting on Sundays for worship and study. Often a circuit rider preacher, usually Methodist, as I remember, came to preach. The group studied all the differed churches, beliefs, customs, etc. and decided they would like to be the Christian Church.

This may have been at the time Rollin was changing the U. C. C. church after studying and comparing the churches. But I thought it was quite unusual to intelligently study and choose a church on its merits. I remember going to Fairview with Mom a few times, but nothing significant.

Gladys Bever...

I can't remember much about going to Fairview except that Cecil id preach there some and baptized Elaine Jopson.

We attended the C. E. meetings there as young people, going to rallies with the Corlisses, anna and George Derby, etc.

Received from Eleanor Harris September 4, 1983

In a search for church connections with the pleasant Gove people, it was learned that Floyd Trevathan had a memory of the Dorcas Society coming to his mother's home shortly after the death of his father. They sat in the yard under the trees and patched grain sacks, so harvest could proceed. This was about 1906 – and is an example of the good works of the women's groups of both the Methodist and Christian Churches.

James Keyes wrote for his father, Charles Keyes, being in rather good health and with a very good memory for one 93 years of age. He worked most Sundays and stated he was not much of a church-goer, but he provided names of the active church families in the Pleasant Gove area: Families of the Algoes, Jabe Davis, Rod McRae, Henry Geenwald, George Rogers, and William Hogel. (Margaret Thornton Liesey gives the name as Milt Hogle, and he was a dear friend of the Thornton family.)

In the 1920's, movies were shown at the church, either once a week or every two weeks – a feature film and a comedy. A small loft was built in the entrance for the projector operators, Wendell Jopson, Willard Yerkes, and William Kirksey.

After oldest daughter, Evlyn, could drive in auto to take her sisters, Daisy Corliss picked up ladies and children from another direction. One morning she found the Catholic priest wandering around East Nicolaus looking for a ride. He came from Sacramento on the train. She took him to his church in Nicolaus – then picked up a carload for Sunday School. This became her regular habit from the mid-1920's to late 1930's. She became close friends with the priest, but the family cannot remember his name.

September 23, 1913 – Ruth Thornton and Will Corliss went to Berkeley on the Northern Electric train to be married by Hugh Vernon White. A part of the honeymoon included visits to sisters, Cora and Maggie, in Watsonville. On the way, their train was scorched and blistered by a fire in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Daisy Stolp Corliss has told her family and others about playing on the strings as the church was being built. The carpenters boarded at the Stolp home and Daisy came with her father to bring them lunch at noon. She was most faithful and devoted to the Fairview Church until moving away in 1945. She sometimes served as assistant superintendent, conducting the opening of Sunday School before going to classes. However, she much preferred teaching,

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

and always had a class of youngsters – and later, adults. Daisy was also a deaconess, church clerk, and board chairman. For years she baked the communion bread (same recipe we use now), and she prepared the communion every Sunday.

We also want to remember the Dooley family, Fred and Ethel and son Vinson and daughter Wilma, and bachelors George and John and sister, Emily. Louise Kirksey Dooley remembers the bazaars as nice community affairs as well as bringing money in for the church.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Hugh Vernon White Remembers

HUGH VERNON WHITE
639 Harrison Avenue
Claremont, California 91711

Friday, September 2, 1983

Dear Mr. Burke,

I hope you won't mind my answering your kind letter of recent date. Mr. White, at 94 years of age, finds difficulty expressing his thought on paper, but that dims in no way his enthusiastic receipt of your letter and all the news sheets that came with it. The very sight of the sketch of the old church brought up such memories that he was delighted.

I think perhaps your church people would enjoy hearing of his very first experience there. The church was standing vacant at the time, with just occasional use. Vernon was living in Sacramento, where he had a job and was supporting his mother and a sister and a brother. He had not even finished high school, let alone gone to college, for on the death of his father, there had had to leave their grape ranch and move into Sacramento. They were familiar with the Fairview Church, and one of the women connected with it was visiting his mother. Mrs. White said to her friend "Vernon's going to be a minister". "Fine", said the friend, "come out and preach for us some day". Vernon was about to leave the house, and called back, "That's OK with me if it is with you" and went off he went. Three days later came a postcard, asking him to preach on the next Sunday. He was still in his teens, of course. And so, he went, he preached, and he told everything he knew in twenty minutes!

You will realize all the years of education that followed, all the time supporting a family, which eventually became his own, with two small children. The final stretch was a Harvard Divinity School.

We also have enjoyed the P. S. R. Bulletin. The interview was taped at the Stockton church, which he served for eight years from 1923 to 1931, and where I was one of his parishioners. This past May there was a quite a gathering honoring him, at which Dr. David Stowe was the speaker.

Thank you very much for your kind invitation and we wish that we could attend. But your people might enjoy hearing the above story.

Wishing you continuing success, I am

Cordially,
Ruby M. White (signed)

So glad to have the good word from Fairview, H. V. W.

Postcard, dated September 6, 1983:

Dear Mr. Burke,

Just an additional word. If you use that story about Mr. White and his first sermon, it might be interesting to add that his text for the day was Joshua 24:15, "Choose

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

ye this day whom you will serve... but for me and my house we will serve the Lord”
...

Happy celebrating!

With you in thought, Ruby M. White

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Reorganization As Community Church

In the fall of 1947, the Board and Trustees of the Fairview Christian Church voted to join with a group of people who had been holding services at the Rio Oso Community Hall.

George Derby tells the story in his own words:

By 1947, the reorganization of the Fairview Church into a Protestant "community-type" church was an idea whose time had come.

Several families from various protestant backgrounds were looking for church homes and were ready to give their support to a local church that would accept their membership by transfer or confession of faith. Among the leaders in this group were George and Lillian McQuiston, newcomers in the community. They were responsible for organizing the Sunday School classes held for a short time in Rio Oso Hall.

Upon investigation it was determined that the Christian Churches of Northern California held comity (authority) in this area because of years of affiliation with Fairview. It was further determined that the State Office stood ready, at the invitation of the local Church, to render its help and support in the formation and organization of a community church, locally governed, but affiliated with the State Office for the broader church contacts.

Very soon the Fairview Church invited a delegation from the Rio Oso Hall group to meet with them following Sunday service.

The 'delegation' arrived at Fairview just before the close of the morning service. I think I am right in recalling that everyone present in the church remained for the meeting with our group. Almost immediately the congregation passed a motion to ask the State Office for help in reorganizing the church.

A Sunday afternoon, November 9, 1947, following a potluck dinner was chosen for the date of the reorganization. Dr. Galen Lee Rose, State Secretary, preached the morning sermon and remained to help with the meeting in the afternoon.

The text Dr. Rose chose for his sermon was significant. It was "An Adequate Faith". He told of being in Nazi Germany prior to the war and seeing the German youth brigades marching in lock-step and saluting Hitler – an example of misplaced faith.

During his remarks at the opening of the afternoon meeting, Dr. Rose told a joke about a preacher who went to a strange town and inquired of a service station attendant as to where he could find a Christian Church. The man responded, "Why, Sir! They're all Christian churches except the one around the corner yonder and that's the Campbellite Church". (Alexander Campbell was the founder of the Disciples of Christ.)

We named it the Fairview Community Christian Church of Trowbridge, California, and later incorporated it with the State of California as a non-profit corporation. Attorney William (Bill) Coats of Yuba City helped us file for incorporation. He donated his service.

Following the reorganization, the church formed visiting committees to canvas the community for charter members.

During the period before we could hire a permanent pastor, we had the services of several retired ministers from the Sacramento Area for pulpit supply.

About this time the church fell heir to a gift of \$1,000 from the bequest of Mrs. Koshman, the mother of Alex Koshman and Helen Herger. Her wish was that the money go towards the purchase of a bus to haul children to Sunday School. We got permission from her family to use the money as a down payment on a parsonage.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
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The place was the "Hudson" house south of the diagonal railroad crossing on Pacific Avenue. Velda Mayfield owned it and it included 35 acres which was much more land than the church wanted. John and Leona Wise, who owned the adjoining property on the South agreed to buy all the land not wanted by the church.

John Taresh (Jim's father) who was a retired civil engineer, helped by doing the required surveying and writing up the legal description for the separation of the property.

A few needed repairs were made to the plumbing and kitchen of the old house, after which we proceeded to call our first resident pastor.

Here is a copy of the action taken by members of the Fairview Christian Church:

In the interest of the meeting and severing of the religious needs of the whole community, the congregation of the Fairview Christian Church in a regular called business meeting on November 9, 1947, takes the following action.

Resolved, that we hereby vote to reorganize as the Fairview Community Christian Church, being a congregation affiliated with the religious body known as the Disciples of Christ and with the Convention of the Christian Churches of Northern California, but operating as a community church and receiving into its membership by letter and transfer members of the various Christian denominations;

Further, be it resolved to set a day on which the reorganization shall be consummated, when members of other bodies shall bring church letters and statement of membership and join with the present congregation of the Fairview Christian Church in forming the charter membership of the new Fairview Community Christ Church.

Further, be it resolved that the trustees of the Fairview Christian Church shall be, and hereby are, instructed to transfer, after the new Fairview Community Christian Church has been incorporated under the laws of the State of California, the title to the property owned by the Fairview Christian Church to be held in trust by the State Board of Christian Churches. Detail to be worked out by W. J. Corliss and W. W. Jopson with advice of Galen Lee Rose.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Women In The Church

LADIES AID AND CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

It is impossible to tell the story of the women's work over the years in this short article. There are ledgers containing minutes and financial figures as far back as 1911, and a few miscellaneous items earlier. How great it would be if someone would go through the many volumes and write a history of the women of Fairview. Perhaps it will happen as we go into our second 100 years.

A brochure invites everyone to a PLUM PUDDING SOCIAL given by the Ladies Aid Society of Fairview, Fairview Christian Church, Friday evening, August 21, 1903. This was an evening of singing, special music, and "drama".

In a Farce, "A Business Meeting", the cast of characters included Miss Ida Chandler, Miss Irma Morehead, Miss Alice Corliss, Mrs. C. A Graves, Miss Fern Marguerite Corliss. Others who shared in the festivities were Stella Graves, Mr. C. L. Blum, Mildred Morehead, and the pastor who gave the "closing remarks", Rev. J. A. Brown.

Minutes of the reorganization of the Ladies Aid in April 1920 read:

"The Fairview ladies met at the home of Mrs. W. F. Yerkes in Rio Oso on April 22, 1920, for the purpose of reorganizing the Fairview Ladies Aid Society which had suspended meetings on May 29, 1918 in order to join the Nicolaus Red Cross.

"There were 14 charter members present, and to show the remarkable growth of the Aid, at the end of the first year there were 44 members. The 14 charter members were Mrs. Daisy Corliss, Mrs. Flora Yerkes, Mrs. Hattie Bray, Mrs. Edna Glenn, Mrs. Ruth Corliss, Mrs. M. Herring, Mrs. Betts, Mrs. Maude Hull, Mrs. Walter Mylar, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Sutton, Miss Emily Dooley, Miss Eva Thornton, and Miss Nadine Ivans".

The first large undertaking of the members was the purchase of a piano for the church in September 1920. They made quilts, ties, needlework, and had socials to raise the money.

In August 1921, the Aid paid for the electrical wiring of the church – also purchased knives and forks, a kerosene stove, and shades for the windows. 1924 projects were painting and tinting the interior of the church. A raised platform was built for the choir and chairs for the choir purchases. When the Annex was built in 1929, the Aid donated \$250 towards the project.

There were other special projects during the 20's, including contributing towards the minister's salary.

In April 1930, the Dorcas Club of the Pleasant Grove Christian Church turned over \$155.49 to the Fairview women's group. Fairview Church purchased a table and two chairs as a memorial to the Dorcas Club and the Pleasant Grove Church. They also had the exterior of the annex painted.

During and after the 1955 flood, members made quilts, potholders, towels, and aprons for persons who had lost their possessions in the flood. For several years, they canned quantities of fruit for the California Christian Home each year.

For many years, each year the Christian Women's Fellowship has sponsored a Birthday Dinner in the spring and a Family Night in the summer.

The Birthday Dinner always features a potluck dinner, and a decorated cake each month of the year. The program varies but usually is beamed towards the outreach work of the church. A special offering at this dinner goes to the C. W. F. outreach budget.

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June is a Family Night time. A program of fun, gospel singing, and very often a travel slide shows featuring one of the travelers from the congregation. Homemade pie is the specialty on this night. In 1983, special guests were Dick and Doris Lauer, new Regional Minister for the Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada, and his wife. The program, in keeping with our Centennial Celebration, was about Africa. Rev. Harold Ranton of Sacramento "took us to Zaire and other Disciples' mission stations in Africa".

In addition to giving generously to the Basic Mission Finance of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) over the years, the church made contributions to the Community of the Great Commission (our retreat center near Forest Hill), and at present two special projects are the Twin Cities Rescue Mission and Casa De Esperanza (home for abused children, and battered women). Each year the C. W. F. sponsors a Farmers' Market and Community Christmas Card.

Over the years the C. W. F. has sponsored many things to improve and beautify the church building. During the past seven years, they have paid for new washbowls in the restrooms, a new sink and cupboard in the kitchen, painting kitchen and Annex, two new stoves and hood in the kitchen, floor covering for the Annex and kitchen, and a movable serving bar for the kitchen. (The C. W. F. paid for the materials for this last project, and Ted and Dorothy Barker paid for the work of having it built – to our own design.

Some names from the past mentioned a great deal for their work in the C. W. F. are Daisy Corliss, Ruthe Corliss, Edith Finch, Edith Butler, Elida Swanson, and in the past few years until her death this year, Madeline Sutter was one of our most active members.

Although many women never come to the meetings, study, and worship of the C. W. F., those who do are blessed by the fellowship, service, and learning.

The Christian Women's Fellowship meets the third Thursday of each month at 10 A.M. All women of the church are welcome.

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Sunday School Over The Years

A Sunday School record of 1888 shows 114 scholars registered with an average attendance of 60. The attendance for 1886 had been 48. The first Sunday School superintendent list was George Leet.

From 1894 to 1896 there was a decline and no Sunday School was held on many Sundays. The average attendance was 34. Shortly after this, Ed Smith became superintendent and continued until he moved from the community in 1915.

The church discontinued Sunday School in 1916 and many people from the Fairview area attended a church in Pleasant Grove. In 1920, many new families settled in the Rio Oso and Bear river areas and Sunday School began one again. A record of a Sunday School contest in 1921 gives 90 persons enrolled. Flora Yerkes became S. S. superintendent in 1923 and served until her death in June 1936.

Although the church was without a minister much of the time in the early '30's, Sunday School records show a good attendance: Average of 38 in 1930, 38 in 1931, and the last entry in the book, February 14, 1932, shows 36 present and offering \$1.99.

A typical morning at Sunday School during the years of 30 and 31 was: Songs 62 and 118 (possibly from Tabernacle Hymns No. 2, but I could not find a copy), prayer, song 37, reading of lesson. Occasionally we find "A speech about Dr. Dye by Walter Swetzer", "Reading of biography Isaac Watts by Evlyn Harris", "Blackboard talk by Mr. McLain", "Talks on fixing up the church", etc.

In 1931, a trio of young women, Anna Swanson, Rena Arnold, and Mary Corliss presented special music. Fred Swanson, Mrs. Daisy Corliss, Walter Swetzer, Doris Butler, Hobert Corliss, Alice Swetzer, Elvan English, Mrs. Ruthe Corliss, Mrs. Yerkes, Mr. Newman and Lela Corliss n gave morning prayers.

There were active Sunday School and youth groups during the 50's and into the early 60's. Lorriane Humiston acted as a camp nurse for many youth events, with pastor Hoffman Hurley serving as a camp counselor. 100 were enrolled in Sunday School in 1951, according to a note in church minutes. Attendance in the '60's declined, and financial problems also faced the church. Fairview decided in 1970 to have registration and a fee \$3.00 to help finance the Sunday School. Discontinued in two years.

The fall of 1976 there was one adult class and four classes for children and youth. This often resulted in "two churches" with many parents and children leaving following Sunday School, and not remaining for church. This continued until 1978.

At this time, summer church as moved to 10 A.M., and the following year, the decision was made to continue this the year round. Children's church was held at the same time as the worship service.

For the first three years, there were three separate classes, then it became possible to go to a one-room school type of Sunday School. This has worked very well.

Trudy Gilles Burke began her working career as a teacher in a one-room rural school in Montana, 14 miles from the nearest town. Those first two years' experience came in handy.

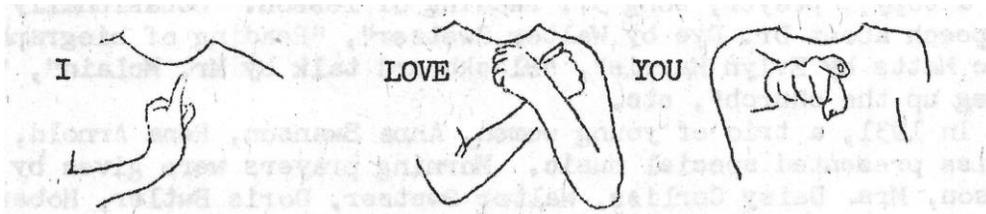
Children range in age from three through the 5th grade. Younger children go into the adjoining nursery, but some of these little ones (like Melissa Lauppe, age two) join the group later. Older children attend church with their parents. Debbie Lauppe and Sandy Jopson are helpers and substitute teachers, but Trudy is the regular teacher.

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The Sunday School roster for the first eight months of the year lists almost 50 names – including visitors. Attendance on Sunday ranges from three to 19, with one unforgettable day when there were 28.

Six children have missed only four or five times during 1983. They are Amy and Nellie Johnston, Elizabeth Jopson, Brice, Brad, and Melissa Lauppe. Children with only a few more absences are Mindy and Wendy Craine, Jeb and Benjamin Burton, Ricannia Frates, and Trey Gann.

A typical day begins with singing – upstairs if the temperature is not too hot or cold, occasionally sitting in a big circle on the floor of the nursery. We sing old favorite songs of years ago, plus many new songs learned each year in Vacation Bible School. We often sing “Jesus Loves Me” and “Jesus Loves The Little Children” and sign it. Even the little tots can say,



We share a story, take our offering with one of the children giving the prayer, have seat work, and crafts. On Communion Sunday, we talk about the meaning of Holy Communion, the Lord’s Supper, the Eucharist, and even four-year-olds know that this is a special time to remember Jesus and to thank him for his great love for us.

Sunday School always ends the same way. Music from the sanctuary become louder. That means church is over, the doors are opening, and soon Mr. Burke, our minister, will come in and join us. Then all of us in the Sunday School and nursery, the nursery attendant, Pastor Burke, Mrs. Burke, and any parents who drop in for their children, join hands in one big circle and say the Lord’s Prayer together. One of the most moving moments, I think, is when the minister walks in. Children finish the work they are doing, and then get up, take hold of hands and start this circle of love. After the prayer, they finish picking up their work and join Mom and Ada in the Annex for refreshments.

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History Can Be Exciting, If

The author copied much of this history from minutes of the board meetings of Fairview Church over the years. Again, it has made me realize how especially important names, dates, and details can be. Let me tell you...

Church minutes, August 15, 1951: "A family that was active in the life of the church in years past offered a beautiful plaque of the Lord's Supper to the church. Motion made and seconded it be accepted".

Now, that doesn't sound too exciting, but, with numerous phone calls, we learned that Wendell Onstott brought the plaque from the Philippines when he was flying in that area. Wendell is the son of Carrie Morehead Onstott, daughter of F. F. Morehead who was a member of the building committee when the Fairview Chapel was built 100 years ago.

The plaque hung in the church where the large wooden cross now hangs. Drapes behind the cross were a deep wine-red (died to match the choir robes). The Lord's Supper plaque was taken down only during Holy Week when the cross replaced it. This was the routine for many years.

In 1977, while cleaning out a storage closet under the stairs, Trudy Burke found it – crowded in with many other "collectibles". She cleaned it and hung it in the social hall Sunday School rooms.

During the 1981-82 Sanctuary Redecorating, interior director, Barbara Mackey was awestruck by this piece of religious art. She took it to galleries in Los Angeles and San Francisco but was unable to find the name of the artist or the date of the work. It is hanging again, this Centennial Sunday, September 18, 1983, for the first time in about 10 years. (An interesting Item – Christ's arm and hand holding the wafer is not a part of the plaque itself – but screwed on from the back of the sculpture.)

Isn't it beautiful!⁵

Church board minutes, September 2, 1973: "The heavy wood cross was hung in the chancel".

Because I knew Alice Spangler had done the "antique-painting" of the cross (Alice ran out of paint, but everyone liked the effect, so they left it as it is), I called her to find out who made it. She didn't know but said she would find out. The result of many phone calls gave her this story:

Joe Harreld built the cross especially for Easter in 1952. At the same time, he also built the outdoor bulletin board which still stands near the front of the church. (We learned that in 1954 Mr. Harreld also built the tall wooden candelabra for his and Lucille's daughter's wedding, and the manger used many times in Christmas programs.)

For many years, the cross hung only during Holy Week, and Father Walker usually decorated it. Alice Spangler particularly recalls the times when it was intertwined with ivy on Easter Sunday. After Easter, they took down the cross and "stored" it outside behind the church.

When new drapes were put across the back of the chancel in 1973, the cross was hung there permanently. This is when the Lord's Supper plaque headed for the storeroom.

I recall seeing the cross many ways other than it usually appears – rugged and bare. Draped in black on Good Friday (the chancel empty of everything save the cross); with the beautiful deordara cedar wreath at Christmas (the cones given by Fay Scheiber in memory of her

⁵ We have learned also that the church dedicated the plaque in October 1951, and that Wesley Ford, another grandson of F. F. Morehead, oversaw the service and brought the message.

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husband, and the wreath made by Esther Walker); partially obscured by the beautiful red Poinsettia tree the Sunday before Christmas; and with the beautiful basket-bouquet of pink dogwood at its base every Easter – also Esther’s work.

It would be our loss not to hear the story of Fairview’s cross.

I am sure there are many more stories hidden in brief minutes. It is my hope that if the readers of this booklet know some or know names of other people who should be mentioned, they will take the time to draft the story and send it to the church. It will enlarge and enrich our history.

What interesting story is hidden in the following words? I wonder... Written on a 5 ½ x 8 ½ piece of newsprint, the minutes, written in very dim pencil read: “October 27, 1945. Church met on above date. Discussion, paint job. Discussion on and motion made that we disregard dun for Washington. Moved and seconded we sell the chicken coops. Adjourned”. These minutes are not signed.

What do YOU remember???

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1933 To The Present

As I poured through old minutes, records, loose papers, etc., trying to piece together some of the history, I became increasingly aware of the need to put dates and names on papers. We will need them somewhere down the line. T. B.

A loose sheet of paper in a box of miscellaneous books reads:

“Meeting of the committee for the 50th anniversary of the church met at the church. Mrs. Daisy Corliss chairman. As the church was dedicated on October 11th⁶ the date for the anniversary celebration was set for Sunday Oct. 15th.

“Mrs. Bray was pointed to see Mrs. Hull and ask her to send a notice of the celebration to the Appeal and the Sutter Farmer.

“Various former church members and attendants’ names were given to committee so that they could be notified.

“Ask Ladies Aid to come and help us serve the dinner. Everyone hunt up old song books”. Unsigned.

Two letters are in the files. The first dated Oct. 10, 1933, Glendora, California. “Dear Sister Corliss and all the Fairview Church”. The letter expresses thanks for the invitation and regrets that they cannot come. It continues: “The memory of our friendship and association with you in Bible School and Church work is like the sweet odor always ascending from the altar of incense in the Temple. May you have a great day of rejoicing and fellowship and be richly blest for your consecration and faithfulness is the sincere wish of your friends and co-laborers in the cause of Christ”. S. W, J. C., and Jennie Christy signed the letter.

The second letter from J. A. Brown of Visalia, and a former minister of the church, reads: “Your invitation to be present and to preach the sermon at your fiftieth anniversary... just received. Nothing would give me more pleasure... but I feel it will not be possible for me to make the trip. Thank the church on my behalf for the invitation. I recall many of the families would be to mention the whole membership of the old day. My memory of the Fairview Church goes back to August 1890. This was seven years this side of the found of the church, but most of the charter members were living at the time. I am wondering if there is a single charter member left”. The letter was addressed to the pastor, J. W. Babcock.

After the 50th anniversary celebration the minister left for during November 1933 there were no services, and from December 1933 through October 1936 there were only supply preachers. During these years, Rev. Cecil Bever, pastor of the Wheatland Christian Church preached quite often at Fairview.

There is a record of an “annual meeting” January 21, 1934, where the minutes of the “last meeting, November 13, 1932, were read and approved and the officers elected”. Then no records until the 40’s. We do know that Frank H. Gower was minister from November 1936 to March of 1940.

Following Rev. Gower’s departure, Carlos Brown preached for seven months, then there were supply preachers until January 1941, When Robert Beard came as the minister. (During this period, the minister lived in the church building as there was no parsonage.)

There were more difficult years in the 40’s for the church, but the outreach work of the congregation continued. During the summer of 1943, the church canned 240 quarts of fruit for the Old People’s Home at San Gabriel. Although the total income of the church for that

⁶ All old clippings and the original ledger give the dedication date as October 21, 1883.

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year was only about \$900, the church supplied some financial support to missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Smith of Alaska, and Johnston Edward of India.

In 1942 the church purchased 42 folding primary chairs. The Sunday School still uses these chairs, and for the past three years, about half of them are in use at the Farm Valley Preschool. Directed by Mrs. Alan Lauppe, the Preschool is at the Marcum-Illinois School. Debbie is a deaconess in the Fairview Church, and is always a lead teacher in the annual Vacation Bible School.

A financial statement of July 1, 1943 – June 30, 1944, shows a total income of \$656.49 and expenditures of \$555.62. I think it is interesting how the church used this money: Educational, \$82.53; Convention delegate gift, \$20.00; Pastor and Evangelist, \$252.30; Benevolence and Missions, \$104.16; Supplies, upkeep and replacement \$96.53. The church had a balance of \$90.87 at the end of the year. (The evangelist was David Kratz.)

At this same July meeting, the minister resigned. In his final report he suggested that the important future projects should be the building of a parsonage, holding of monthly business meetings, and have prayer meetings.

Once again it was supply ministers.

Mrs. Esther Phinney, a minister for the Assembly of God, and resident of the area, came to the church in February 1944. Mr. Phinney did much work around the building. The roof was in bad condition and the windows badly rotted. Mr. Phinney also looked at the problem of the "shaking" bell tower. At the time they made other repairs, they removed the bell, and erected the tower as it is today. Also redone was the interior of the church. Repairs to the roof cost \$300, and celotex on the walls and ceiling cost \$305.39. (This brown paneled celotex, faded and stained, was still there at the time of our Sanctuary Redecorating Project, 1981-82.) Mrs. Phinney accepted very little money. She said her work was her gift to the church.

A typewritten article, unsigned, written in the mid-fifties, states that some of the parents were dissatisfied at the type of instruction their children received at the church and attendance dwindled. Mrs. Phinney left in October of 1947.

November 9, 1947, brought the reorganization of the Fairview Christian Church as a community church with a new name, "Fairview Community Christian Church". George Derby tells the complete story. See pages 25 and 26 under Reorganization.

The first pastor to occupy the newly purchased parsonage was the Rev. Raymond Graber. He came in 1957 and was the minister for three years.

During Rev. Graber's ministry there was an active adult choir and a children's choir. At one time Mrs. Graber, Eleanor Harris, and Louise Medlin journeyed weekly to Yuba College where they took classes in church music. At the conclusion of the course, there was a music meet at the college for church children's choirs. Fairview, Marysville, Yuba City and Sutter participated in this event.

In 1951, Mrs. Margaret Jopson expressed a wish to give the church a new baptistry. The church decided that it would be better to repair the old one, so she gave generously for this project.

T. Hoffman Hurley became pastor of the Fairview Community Christian Church in 1951 and remained for 25 years. During the early years of his ministry, in addition to pastoral work, he drove school bus and served as a Red Cross swimming instructor. Throughout his ministry he was always active in the community and served on numerous regional and state-wide committees.

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On Sunday, September 7, 1952, it was announced in church that the Albert Borgman's were giving all the material from their old home to the church – the building to be torn down and hauled away. This work began on September 9th with men, women and children helping with the dismantling. In November, Rodney Vertrees presented plans for the addition – the present social hall. The building committee consisted of James Taresch, Robert Goodwin, Wendell Jopson, Clayton Spangler, Robert Spangler, Madge Dunbar, Robert Johnson, and Edward Stover. Estimated cost of the addition, \$6,000.

Because the new structure would cover the well, a new one had to be drilled. Much gravel and sand were hauled in and the work proceeded rapidly. Mr. Carl Nelson was head carpenter, Razz Dorris helper, and many volunteers worked on the building. Walter Herger donated and installed the heater and Mr. Butler finished the cabinet work in the kitchen. Howard Dunbar and Frank Bentley did some work on the wiring, and Mr. Bentley cleaned drainage ditches around the church grounds and put in culverts. Others who helped were Hoffman Hurley, Nate Wise, Bill Spangler, Jim Spangler, Earl Graves, Hobert Corliss, Alton Harris, Bill Waegele, Denzil Sutter, Bob Derby, Jim Walker, Andy Sutter, Tom Watson, Leora Bennett, Anna Derby, Mary Nutgrass, Dorothy Schoner, Mary Paige, Mrs. Purbaugh, Ora Beale, Ada Waegele, Mary Kreuzscher, Mrs. Jopson, Elida Swanson, Mrs. George Joslin, Beatrice Trautman, Helen Goodwin, and Madeline Sutter. (This information from a report prepared by Church clerk Dorothy Reeves, October 12, 1953.)

The first event in the new building was a C. W. F. sponsored reception for all teachers in Brown, Marcum-Illinois, Pleasant Grove, Nicolaus, and East Nicolaus Union High School. They left the upstairs unfinished.

Minutes for December 18, 1952, state that the church was planning a drive to raise \$600 for the State Centennial Celebration New Church Fund (1955). "It was suggested that the collection in the Week of Compassion be designated to the Centennial Build Fund. The Week of Compassion should be held in another month than February. The last week in April was suggested. No definite action was taken".

The church observed the Week of Compassion in March 1955.

In June 1955, the church gave a five-year lease on 4 ½ acres of church land to the Trico Oil Company. (This is the only mention of this – no rich oil or gas strikes are reported!)

Beginning in 1955, the Brown School PTA used the social hall one day a week for a Well Baby Clinic. This continued until mid-1973, when a notation says the "Public Health Service" discontinued the clinic.

December 25, 1955 was a very difficult time for people in Fairview and surrounding communities. The flooding of the Feather and Bear Rivers cost many people their homes, as well as great damage to other homes. Fairview church was a distribution point for food, clothing bedding, etc., and a laundry room was also set up for use of the flood victims. Dorothy Reeves oversaw a Red Cross feeding station at the Odd Fellows Hall in East Nicolaus. Dorothy picked up all supplies and planned the big meal at noon. They fed people here who were homeless, as well as helpers from Beale Air Force Base and other areas. (The Red Cross supplied cots and turned the entire Lodge Hall into sleeping quarters. Dorothy's husband, Lee Reeves, operated his boat – hauling furniture, rugs, etc. to Four Corners to the big walnut drier. They turned the drier on and ran it constantly until everything was dried out.)

Women of the church made many quilts, dish towels, pot holders, aprons, etc. for gifts to those who had lost their belongings in the flood. The Fairview Church was indeed a sanctuary to many people of the community during this trying time.

Meyers Roofing of Marysville in the summer of 1956 installed brown-blend rigid asbestos siding on the church exterior. The cost, \$1,539.

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In May of 1956, Eleanor Harris, speaking for the women of the church, proposed lowering the ceiling and installing a light in the entrance hall, and a light over the cross outside, and they did this work. (They also suggested putting "windows in the rest rooms". Tsk! Tsk!) At this time, the upstairs classroom (over the social hall) was also completed. The parking area was improved. George Derby had six loads of gravel hauled in.

In July of 1956, the church, at the suggestion of George Derby, wrote to the Council of Churches that Fairview was interested in supporting them.

The Board approved new plans for the administration of church business in October. "On alternating months, various committees shall meet to make plans and recommendations which will be presented to the Board. On the other months, the chairman of each committee will meet with the Board and present their recommendations for the Board's action".

Ed Machado, Boy Scout Master, brought the Boy Scouts to the church and did a great job of cleaning up the entire church grounds in May of 1957.

At a fall meeting in 1957, members decided that it would be wise to sell the old, run-down parsonage and acreage and buy one acre, then build a new parsonage. They planned to consider this of a two-year period.

1958 was a special year in the life of the Fairview Community Christian Church. It was the 75th anniversary celebration of the church, and in March, the pastor, Hoffman Hurley, was selected National Rural Minister of the year. 282 people signed the register at church on Celebration Sunday. (See inside back cover.)

In May of 1959, Razz and Wilma Dorris donated one acre of ground directly east of the church building for a new parsonage. The church sold the old parsonage in 1960 and work began on the new one. Cecil Morrison donated casing for the well and Roy Osterli donated the pump and pressure system.

George Derby was chairman of the Church Board. Bob Spangler was chairman of the Parsonage Building Committee, with Mrs. H. L. (Dorothy) Reeves, Mrs. James (Gene) Tarash, Mrs. James (Mae) Brown, and Wendell W. Jopson as other members of the committee.

During 1961, Edith Butler was official delegate from Fairview to the International Convention of Churches of Christ in Kansas City, the church appointed Mr. Hurley president of the Christian Church Homes of Northern California and purchased new furniture for the pastor's study in the parsonage.

The church purchased a pulpit and two chairs in 1963. Clayton "Dude" Spangler flew Mr. Hurley and the Communion Table to a church furniture manufacturer in Modesto so that the new pieces could be made to match. These were dedicated at the annual meeting in October.

In 1966, the church planted a Memorial Garden in the names of Edith Finch and Maggie Arrild in the triangle north of the sanctuary entrance. The Garden Club provided camellias and used money from the Memorial Fund for the balance of the planting.

This same year, the church received a memorial gift of \$1,000 from the estate of Mrs. Evelyn Smith. They sent one half of this to the Community of the Great Commission, and the Building and Grounds Committee used the balance. The Church received a needed new roof in 1968.

Brown's School kindergarten and first grade held morning classes at the Fairview Church in the fall of 1969.

The '60's were hard times for the churches of America and the Fairview Church was no exception. Although attendance was quite good, giving was down and there were financial difficulties. During 1969, "Every person on the membership roll was contacted by the Stewardship Committee. The committee has decided to send a letter of strong plea, worded

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to make the people aware that the survival of the church is at stake". (The cost of legal-size mimeograph paper was \$1.56 per ream.)

The pastor, Hoffman Hurley asked the church for sabbatical leave. The church granted this, and Hoff and Fern Hurley were away from November 1, 1969 to May 1, 1970. Supply ministers filled the pulpit part of the time, with church members taking the responsibility of the morning message quite often.

During the month of November, a meeting with Ken Compton, Regional Minister, Scott Lathrop, chairman of Department of Resources, and Ed Peabody, revealed that giving through Unified Promotion of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) was down 12% across the nation, and down 35% in Northern California. Again, they noted that the Fairview Community Christian Church is the only truly rural community church in Northern California.

On World Outreach Sunday, September 1970, Danny Barker brought the morning message. In the same Board minutes, Evangelism-Membership Committee chairman, Shirley Perozzi's report included the following: "Put out questionnaire on whether to close the church. This was not wanted".

The Fairview Community Christian Church started the year 1971 with a series of sessions on prayer led by Rev. Harold Ranton, pastor as Eureka. Mr. Ranton is now pastor of the Freeport Boulevard Christian Church in Sacramento.

The church lost a dedicated and faithful worker with the death of the wife of the pastor. Fern had been ill for some months.

Windows on the south wall of the church had been badly damaged by the winter storms, and they installed new aluminum frames with tinted glass windows in the sanctuary in January 1971. Memorial funds paid for these. Also, in the spring, the church installed new carpeting in the sanctuary – paid for by the Christian Women's Fellowship. The church purchased a 16mm projector for community use – Memorial funds also paid this.

In December 1971, Hoff Hurley married Virginia Floyd.

Early in 1972 Brown's School burned down and they held daily classes in church. The 1972-73 budget was \$14,062.00

The church purchased new hymnals and a new pulpit robe in 1974 with Memorial funds. Beth Baltzell became church organist sometime during the year.

The church decided in May of 1975 to lock the doors of the sanctuary because of vandalism. (Someone sprayed fire extinguisher foam all over the church interior.) Up until this time the church had not been locked. However, the church placed no locks on the doors until 1978 when there were other instances of vandalism.

Hoffman Hurley retired at the end of 1975. He had been pastor of the church for 25 years. The church held a farewell reception, and many friends came to bid Hoff and Virginia "good retirement". They now live in Lincoln, CA.

Following Mr. Hurley's retirement, supply ministers occupied the pulpit until March 21, 1976, when Dr. Henry Searle came as interim. During the three and a half months Dr. Searle was interim, he made many calls in the community and at the time he left (end of June 1976), average Sunday attendance was 224.

Bi-Centennial Sunday, July 4, 1976, Rev. H. Edwin Burke came to the Fairview Church as Interim minister. 36 people were in the service morning, and at the conclusion they joined with people all over America in ringing the church bell to celebrate America's 200th birthday. Rodney Vertrees, who had constructed and donated the tower, was chief bell ringer. (Rodney died in October 1976).

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

Rev. Burke made many calls to members and friends in the community, and by September 1st, attendance was averaging 35. Another special thing happened in September. Algetha Brown, a friend of Ed and Trudy Burke, came to Fairview to present a sacred concert. ALGETHA is a soloist at the Garden Grove Community Church (now the Crystal Cathedral) and a staff soloist for the Robert Schuller Institute for Successful Church Leadership. This year, 1983, on September 11, ALGETHA presented her eighth concert, and she will be with us again on October 21, 1984. Pete Baker has been Algetha's accompanist except for one year when Verna Harris Hughes played for her.

The 1976-77 budget was \$14,950.64. Because it was not known at this time when a full-time minister would be obtained, this was the same budget as the prior year.

The church painted the exterior trim of the church and a new roof put on the parsonage in 1976.

In early 1977, Rev. Burke became part-time minister, and shortly thereafter, with approval of Regional Minister Dr. Karl Irvin, became the full-time pastor.

The Burkes gave carpeting and installed it in two bedrooms of the parsonage, with some left over for the Secretary's office. Swanson Carpets did the cleaning and installing – at no cost to the church.

January of 1978 began with two special lectures by Dr. Jack Finegan of Oakland, on the subject "Archaeology and the Bible". Sponsored by the Fairview church, the lectures were held at the East Nicolaus High School all purpose room.

In March, Jim Mills, president of pro-tem of the California State Senate, spoke to a breakfast group at the church about his new book, "The Gospel According to Pontius Pilate".

By the time of the Annual Meeting in October 1978, the church added 21 new members. The 1978-79 budget had increased to \$26,584.19.

Kathryn Lauppe, at the November 1978, board meeting, suggested that the church start a Poinsettia project. People could either give money or donate a poinsettia plant in memory of a loved one or friend. They would bring these to the church the Sunday before Christmas, and after the morning worship hour they would take them to the sick, shut-ins, where there had been a loss – wherever there was a need. That first year, the church delivered 36 poinsettias throughout the community. In 1983, the Poinsettia Ministry reached 73 homes in the area – from Sacramento to Marysville and from Woodland to Wheatland.

The church made another new beginning in January of 1979 with the decision to have Coffee Hour Fellowship following the morning worship service. Loretta Peacock and Alice Spangler oversaw that first Coffee Hour, and since that time, many members of the church have participated in this special ministry. Three years ago, the Christian Women's Fellowship made the decision to provide the Coffee Hour if there was no special hostess. Ella Jensen took the responsibility of being in charge, and since that time, Ella has been on hand to be a helper or hostess.

The church paneled the restrooms in Mary 1979, lowered the ceilings, and the Christian Women's Fellowship purchased new basins. George Derby, Walt Peacock, Alton Harris, Bernard Perozzi, and Leland Spangler did the work.

The 1979-80 budget increased to \$29,297.34.

Eldon and Eleanor Jopson present the church with a gift of a new pew cushions.

The pastor had become aware, since his arrival at the Fairview Church, of the lack of understanding in urban churches regarding farmers and the problems they face related to farm labor, costs, prices, etc. Though much communication with the Regional office of the

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Christian Church in Oakland, and Dr. Karl Irvin, Regional Minister, wheels were set in motion to start a Church and Family Farmer Task Force. The church sent information to all churches in the Region inviting them to the first meeting, December 9, 1979, at the Fairview Church. Churches in Sanger, Selma, Wheatland, Chico, Vacaville and Sacramento were represented, and from this group a Task Forces came into being. Members were Rev. H. Edwin Burke, Bill Spangler, and Dorothy Reeves of Fairview; Dale Bennett, Selma; George Wolf, Sanger; and Kenneth Stolp, Chico. (Kenneth's grandfather, Cornelius Stolp, was on the building committee for the Fairview Chapel, and the workers boarded the Stolp home).

In the months that followed, Rev. Burke traveled hundreds of miles speaking to church groups and other organizations from Corning to Visalia, and Sacramento to the Bay Area. The Rice Growers Association, through the efforts of Bill Spangler, donated eight-ounce packets of rice to present to the people who attended these special talks. Articles in the church's newsletter, the Fairview Christian; the Regional publication, Good News; and given to delegates at the Annual Assembly of the Christian Church of Northern California-Nevada at Asilomar, helped to educate fellow church people about the "family farmer". Fairview remains the only all-rural community church in the Region.

January through March 1980 brought a real "smelly" problem to the church – a skunk established living quarters under the building. Very often on Sunday morning it was necessary to open all the windows and doors until church time. Finally, they solved the problem through a series of "exit only" doors placed in air vents in the foundation. The unwelcome guests tired of digging under, around and over, and found quarters elsewhere.

The Sunday School children brightened the sanctuary. They designed and made colorful banners with messages of love, hope and faith. Since the redecorating of the sanctuary, these banners hang in the Annex and Social Hall.

Members of the Christian Women's Fellowship had a convenient and attractive serving bar build for the kitchen. Material for this was purchases by the group, and Ted and Dorothy donated the cost of have it made.

Pastor Ed Burke was away from the pulpit for about six weeks in May and June to get a new right hip. Back at work on crutches for a time, he had graduated to a cane by the time he and Trudy left for Hawaii in July 1980, as delegates from Fairview to the World Convention of Churches of Christ. Ed led one of the Bible Study groups at the Convention. This trip as made possible by the Continue Education fund provided by the church for the pastor, and a generous contribution from one church family who felt that the Fairview minister should have this opportunity.

Some of the members had been talking for a long time about brightening the interior of the sanctuary. In mid-1981, the church decided to proceed. Pastor Ed Burke contacted the Dean of Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Sacramento, the Rev. C. Howard Perry. (A newspaper article had told of some special redecorating they had been doing.) They referred Ed to Barbara Mackey, a member of the Trinity congregation who is also an interior decorator. Mrs. Mackey told Ed she would go out to look at the church. (She later told him that she really went to think of a nice gentle way to say she wasn't interested.) But Barbara looked at the church and fell in love with it. The pastor arranged for her to meet with Alice Spangler, chairman of the Sanctuary Redecorating Committee, and the rest is history.

Other members of the congregation who served on the Sanctuary Redecorating with Alice and Loretta Peacock, George Derby, Carl Hall, Joyce Beilby, Jim Taresh, and Janet Jopson.

After making the preliminary plans, Barbara recommended Cecil Daily, a young member of the Trinity congregation, to do this construction project. Cecil took over this work with skill and love. His great grandparents were the Algeos who were part of this church in its early

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years. (See page 17.) A sprayed acoustical ceiling; new all paneling and drapes in pale green; spotlights on pulpit and cross; new chandeliers (old ones were placed in Annex and social hall); fresh white paint on pews and wainscoting – Nick Georgalis did this work; reframing of the Lord's Supper etching given to the church by Bob Walker's mother many years ago, and the Lord's plaque given by members of the Morehead family, were included in this project. They put fluorescent light fixtures in the kitchen, and CWF paid for having a hood installed over the kitchen stoves.

They estimated the cost of the entire project at \$10,000 -- \$5,000 taken from savings and \$5,000 from a fund-raising drive. When the work was finished, total cost was \$10,944.00. Contributions were \$5,928. Someone read this in the church newsletter and sent a check for \$16.00 so the project was paid for as planned, with only \$5,000 from the church reserve fund. The church conducted dedication services on February 7, 1982. (This was also Pastor Ed's birthday.)

In the months that followed, Carl Hall built two additional book racks for each pew in the sanctuary. It was no longer necessary to stack hymnals and Bibles at the end of the pews.

Fairview Church had never had chancel flags. Following the completion of the sanctuary redecorating, Burton and Kathryn Lauppe presented a beautiful Christian flag and an American flag to the church. The church dedicated these on April 11, 1982.

The church built a ramp for handicapped persons at the entrance to the Annex in May of 1982. Funds given in memory of Elida Swanson, mother of Anna Derby, and Edith Butler mother of Louise and Doris Medlin paid for this. Although a contractor did the work, George Derby and Walt Peacock also donated many hours. The railings were pre-fabbed – this work donated by Spangler Brothers. (At the time that they were doing the work, the railings were leaning against the social hall pillars. The yard man, Burrell Goodnight, inquired of George Derby what they were for. George's reply was that "they were a fence to hold the sinners until the preacher got there".)

Nellie Hall represented the Christian Women's Fellowship at the International Christian Women's Fellowship Quadrennial held at Purdue in July. She carried with her the communion parament that Trudy Burke had made for Northern California's part in the closing communion service at Purdue. Nellie was one of the many hostesses at Purdue.

Dr. Karl Irvin, Regional Minister/President of CCNC-N retired, and Trudy Burke represented the Greater Sacramento Area on a Search Committee to find a new Regional Minister. From 59 nominations and applicants, the committee selected Dr. Richard Lee Lauer of Oregon. The church installed him and the CCNC-N Annual Assembly at Asilomar March 13, 1983. Dr. Lauer will deliver the morning message on Centennial Celebration Sunday 18, at the Fairview Community Christian Church.

Late in 1982 a committee for the Fairview Centennial Celebration came into being: Trudy Burke, coordinator selected a committee composed of Eleanor Harris (correspondence, pictures, displays, etc.); Dorothy Reeves (Centennial Pictorial Directory); George Derby (property improvement), and Jim Taresch. Janet Jopson oversees the potluck dinner.

A major part of the Centennial planning was a fund to provide money for needed repairs to the church property, and to help build a new church in Kinshasa, Zaire, Africa. The goal was \$2,000 for the local church and \$1,000 for Africa, a total of \$3,000. As of now, September 15, 1983, the total amount received is \$3,950.00. The church will present a check to Dick Lauer, Regional Minister, for the Division of Overseas Ministries in the amount of \$1,000 at the celebration on September 18.

The church has taken pictures for the Pictorial Directory and the directories will be available before Christmas.

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

George Derby, chairman of the trustees, and his helpers have accomplished much. The church checked the foundation and needed repairs made. The church hired Buford Davis to do the work, and one of his young helpers was Ricky White, a junior deacon in the Fairview Church. Workers brought out several artifacts from under the 100-year-old sanctuary during the earlier inspection and the repair of the foundation. These will be on display during the Centennial. The church built new cabinets in the social hall, and painted the walls

The most visible improvement has been the landscaping project. Under the guidance of Walt Peacock, with a plan drawn by a landscape architect, 16 new trees and many new plants and shrubs were planted on the church grounds. Walt was general supervisor and chief worker. Alan Lauppe helped Walt put in the drip system for the new plantings. Other volunteers were George Derby, Bill Spangler and crew, Don White, Alton Harris, and Gene Trautman. The generous gifts of friends to the Centennial Celebration Fund and Memorial Funds made this landscaping project possible.

To Trudy Burke fell the task of preparing a historical booklet. She did this from some of the available material. There was a very late start because a box of records taken to the archives at Pacific School of Religion could not be located. After several letters and several months delay, former pastor Hoff Hurley spent a day at PSR helping with the search. (He delivered the records there in 1962). The lost was finally found – not with the Christians or the Methodists or Presbyterians but hidden in a corner in a box whose only marking was “Coors”. Since this box contained the very early records of the church, we were overjoyed to get it back safely.

H. Edwin Burke has been pastor of the Fairview Community Christian Church during the last seven years (1976-1983) of its first century.

During that time, the church added 65 new members and the average Sunday attendance has increased to 60. The budget has tripled to \$37,598.90. Giving to outreach causes has increased dramatically and many improvements have been made on the property. We have seen children “grow in wisdom and in stature” – from Sunday School and youth events to high school, college, and marriage.

The newsletter which began on an occasional basis some 35 or 40 years ago, goes out monthly to over 400 homes in the community, state and to several other states including Hawaii.

Since 1976, the annual Thanksgiving-Harvest Sunday features the fruits of harvest in this rural-farming community, and we give thanks for God’s many blessings as we share a meal together.

Esther Walker has been arranging Sunday flowers (from gardens all over our community) for 25 years. Prior to that, women of the church were responsible for flowers – taking turns each month.

The first name to appear on the Cradle Roll after the Burkes came to Fairview was Amy Johnston. Amy is now a second grader. The two youngest persons attending the church are two-year-old Melissa Lauppe and five-month-old Marie Fales. The two oldest members are Mrs. Vera Taresh, 96, and Mrs. Margaret Spangler, 93.

Several three and four generation families are active in the church, including the Spanglers, Lauppes, Jopsons, Morrisons, Beilbys, and until recently, the Whites.

Each Sunday worshipers gather to pray, sing, and to hear the pastor bring a message to strengthen, comfort, challenge, and motivate those who hear it.

In the weeks preceding the Centennial Celebration, Rev. Burke’s messages have been based on the New Testament book of I Corinthians.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

As we begin the second hundred years, there is no better way to start than to remember the closing words of the 13th chapter of I Corinthians:

“And now abideth faith, hope, and love;
but the greatest of these is Love”.

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Some Personal Observations

This historical booklet is an endeavor to give an interesting and readable account of the beginning and progress of the Fairview Community Christian Church during its first 100 years.

It is compiled from information in clippings given me by the Beilby family, clippings and memories collected by Eleanor Harris, an article written by George Derby, some historical notes written in 1953 by Dorothy Reeves, a Vacation Bible School project in the '50's, a number of phone calls, and literally thousands of pages of minutes and reports that I have read.

There are still volumes of Sunday School and Ladies Aid/Christian Women's fellowship records and minutes untouched – enough perhaps for a book about either one – if anyone would take the time and effort to do this work.

I am certain that there are many people whose names should appear, plus some events that should be mentioned that are not included.

The shortness of time prohibited the complete checking of accuracy, solving problems of conflicting information, lists of names, etc. However, the stories included here will encourage some of you readers to author articles, send clippings, pictures, etc., that we can file with the Fairview Centennial material to enlarge and enrich the history of this first 100 years.

Last January as we were beginning preliminary Centennial work, I read an article in the Disciple by a minister whose church had just celebrated its 115th anniversary. He said, "A fellow pastor once told me that a church anniversary can be either 'a fool's paradise or a servant's call'".

I am sure there is always a tendency to become overly sentimental during such observances and to attempt to whitewash and overlook the mishaps, mistakes, and misfortunes in the life of a congregation. We want to dwell only on the "sunny side of the street". I have tried to tell the history as it appears in recorded minutes and records without embroidery.

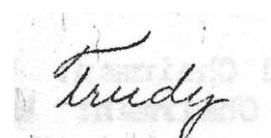
In this booklet you will see ups and downs, joys and sorrows, and, reading between the lines you may recognize times of tension, that there has not always been unity, that we as a church have not always lived up to the high calling of Christ.

But there are glorious memories to share, too – generous giving, caring, compassion, joy in building and in the completion of that building, physical and spiritual growth, and changed lives.

I have known many emotions and feelings as I read through the pages of the past. Perhaps first and foremost is frustration that many interesting articles are neither dated nor signed. Then there was amusement, amazement, admiration, disbelief, joy, love, and even disgust – plus many times the question, "Why".

I have learned that the church's history is a mixture of memories of joy, folly, fellowship, mistakes, faith, sentiment, love and hope.

The bond that has held the Fairview Church together for the last 100 years has been the bond of shared love and faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. That this will continue for another 100 years is my prayer and my faith.



Mrs. H. Edwin Burke

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

I WANT THE FAITH

I want the faith that envies not the passing of the days;
That sees all times and ways more endless than the stars;
That looks at life not as a little day of heat and strife,
But one eternal revel of delight
With God, the friend, adventurer and light.

What matter if one chapter nears the end?
What matter if the silver deck the brow?
Chanting as I go
Past crimson flaming from the autumn hills,
Past winter's snow,
To find that glad new chapter
Where God's spring shall lift its everlasting voice to sing.

This is the faith I seek,
It shall be mine,
A faith that strides across the peaks of time!

Ralph Spaulding Cushman

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Church Officers, 1982-1983

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
East Nicolaus, California

H. Edwin Burke.....Pastor

Church Officers for 1982-83

Board Chairman: Shirley Perozzi
Vice Chairman: Walt Peacock
Clerk: Nellie Hall
Treasurer: Virginia Vertrees
Assistant Treasurer: Joyce Beilby
Financial Secretary: Doris Spangler
Assistant Financial Secretary: Bernard Perozzi
Director of Christian Education: Trudy Burke

Elders (Spiritual Leaders)

George Derby, Shirley Perozzi, James Taresh,
Wesley Jopson, Janet Jopson, Clayton Spangler,
Ted Barker, Dorothy Barker, Dorothy Reeves

Deacons (Helpers)

Bob Spangler, Bill Spangler, Burton Lauppe, Walt Peacock,
David Jopson, Phil Morrison, Gene Trautman, Alan Lauppe,
Don white, Carl Hall, Don Beilby, Bernard Perozzi, Jim Spangler

Deaconesses (Helpers)

Iris Hatanaka, Loretta Peacock, Eleanor Harris, Kay Lauppe,
Sandy Jopson, Sharon Almond, Beatrice Trautman, Mona White,
Debbie Lauppe, Nellie Hall, Ella Jensen, Ilo Morrison,
Diannia Morrison, Alice Spangler, Mary Ann Johnston, Doris
Quinn,
Dottie Spangler, Joyce Beilby

Junior Deacons and Deaconesses

Matt Morrison, Stacey Spangler, Sherie Spangler, Cindy White,
Ricky White

Honorary Deacons and Deaconesses

Eldon Jopson, Eleanor Jopson, Margaret Spangler

Trustees (Property Committee)

Alton Harris, Shirley Perozzi, James Taresh, Walt Peacock,
George Derby, Alice Spangler

Church organist: Beth Baltzell

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Newsletter co-editors: H. Edwin and Trudy Burke

Church Secretary: Trudy Burke

**FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983**

Addendum

1883

75th

1958

Anniversary of the
Dedication of the Sanctuary
Fairview Community Christian Church

Sunday, October 26th, 1958, dawned bright and beautiful despite the weatherman's prediction of a rainy day. This day marked a re-dedication of the Sanctuary dedicated October 21, 1883, as a 'Christian Chapel' for the Spiritual nourishment of the community; a place of Worship; a place for Social gatherings.

Many members of yesteryear and many who had first made the "Good Confession" at 'Fairview' were present to have a part in the day's festivities. Many who could not be present sent messages and gifts and so have a part in the day's services.

At 9:30 o'clock the people began coming in. A total of 282 registered, some were so glad to see old friends they forgot to register, still others were too small to do their own names. On another page area visitors' names and towns from which they came, even from Webb City, MO.

At the morning worship hour, Dr. Charles Severns, executive secretary of the Christian Churches was the speaker.

Following this service, the women's group of the church served a potluck lunch. At this time, the church dedicated the new tables for the social hall.

Dedication services began at 2 o'clock with long time members of the church presented. Mrs. Margaret Jopson was among the first members, having joined the church 69 years ago.

Following was the re-dedication of the building, the dedication of the new organ, communion set and altar ware.

Ministers participating were Rev. Esther Phinney of Wheatland, Dr. Charles Severns of Berkeley, Rev. Gerald Ford of San Jose, Rev. Stacey Dolby of Wheatland, and Rev. Hoffman Hurley, present pastor.

(I copied the above from a hand-written article from the files of Eleanor Harris. Eleanor's mother, Ruthe Corliss, is undoubtedly the author.)

FAIRVIEW COMMUNITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION – September 18, 1983

GOD OF GRACE AND GOD OF GLORY

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story; bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour;
For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail His ways!
From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living hope these days,
For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal,
Lest we miss Thy Kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set men free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail no one, nor Thee,
That we fail no one, nor Thee.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the search for Thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore,
Serving Thee whom we adore.

Amen

Music by John Hughes, 1873-1932
Words by Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1878-1969

This document published by Fairview Community Christian Church and authored by Trudy Burke. (September 1983)