

FORD MOYNES

on the MAIN STREET



Churches and religious foundations established many decades ago in Lindsay have withstood the "trials and temptations", and well grounded "religious roots" have withstood the stormy blasts and trying tempests. Churches in Lindsay were not built on shifting sands but rather on solid rock. The day of the itinerant minister and isolated flocks of parishioners, the days when "sky pilots" walked to their scattered flocks and held prayer meetings in some wee humble cottage with earth floors, was an era now entirely forgotten.

In early days the Roman Catholics worshipped in a small frame church at the south-west corner of Lindsay and Russell Streets. In those days Presbyterians gathered in a small dwelling on Francis Street, now the location of the Alexandra School, thence to a brick church on the same street, across from the Court House. Also in those days St. Paul's Anglicans met in a Church on Kent Street, where Dominion Store is today and where the old post office was situated.

In those days the Methodist

Church, now the United Church, was housed in a small frame house on Wellington Street, near William and later met in a large frame church on the corner of William and Wellington Streets before building at Cambridge and Bond.

In those days the Baptist congregation had a church on Sussex Street north, before building the present church on Cambridge Street. The Baptists also met for a time in a church on Peel Street. In those days when the Queen Street people had a small frame church on Crandell Street, near the east ward school, later they built a large church at the south-east corner of Queen and Caroline Streets.

A book, "John Sanderson the First" tells the story of this minister who travelled on foot and on horseback through the forests from Cavan Township to Lindsay.

Members of the Apostolic congregation first held meetings in a store on Kent Street, now the John Cole shoe store.

It is understood that the Salvation Army held services in a hall on William Street before building a Citadel on Peel Street.

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Practically every Church congregation has experienced stress and strain in connection with growth and development and they have weathered the storm. It was ever thus.

People with Christian beliefs have been the most zealous and conscientious in standing four square for what they deemed to be right. Among the many congregations to experience the spasms of spiritual beliefs has been those who were brought up in the Baptist faith. Several years ago a group of Baptists broke away from the old and tried congregation of the Baptist Church on Cambridge Street north, and founded the Church on William Street south. Today both are carrying on successfully.

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In the wheels of congregational progress a very old landmark among Baptists has disappeared. The old Cambridge Street Baptist parsonage has been levelled to the ground.

History records that the church and parsonage date back to 1865, the new edifice replacing the first house of worship which was located on Peel Street where the Salvation Army citadel is today. Progress was steady and the pioneer group of 10 to 14 experienced a steady growth and it was a proud day when the church on Cambridge Street was erected.

It is a beautiful church with a fair sized Sunday School at the rear. The congregation has been blessed with a large number of very worthy and deeply dedicated ministers, as well as a fine and loyal congregational membership.

The Church is topped with a tall and state'ly spire and the large bell in the belfry is one of the best. Through the years the peeling of this melodious bell has called many people of different Lindsay congregations to worship.

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