



**BRICK & SLATE** -- The Littlewood Church in Westminster was constructed white brick. The roof was shingled with slate. A loan of \$3,000 at four per cent interest was taken out to complete the building. The total cost was \$4,800, thanks to plenty of volunteers.

### Littlewood Church marks its 100th birthday

Littlewood United Church in Westminster West was built on the solid foundation of community and faith. Today, nearly 100 years after the present church building was completed, the country church located on the Westminster/Delaware Townline can boast of 50 families on its roll and a weekly Sunday School attendance of over 20. There will be a number of special activities throughout 1993 to mark the Centennial.

The history of Littlewood Church actually reaches back beyond a century when a frame

church (known as Baker's church) was built on the site by the Methodist pioneers of the area. The present church cost \$4,800 and was built by William Gerry of London with the help of many local volunteers. The cornerstone was laid on May 29, 1893 and the church was opened on Oct. 8, 1893.

It's interesting to note that Gerry and the stone-mason hired for the project, Harvey Kilbourne, both found their future brides literally a stone's throw away from the church. Gerry married Fanny Baker

south of the church, and Kilbourne married Elizabeth Baker who lived in the first house west of the church.

The church building hasn't changed much over the years. In 1967, the Littlewood United Church Women installed a new Hammond Electric organ. In 1973, the front vestibule was torn out. In 1974, a new kitchen and washrooms were added to the rear of the church and a well was dug. In 1990, there was extensive renovations throughout the building.

Sadly, several other churches in the area have had to close over the past 30 years. These include Southwold United Church (1962), North Street United Church (1965), White Oak United Church (1969) and Sharon United Church in (1991). With each closure, a number of new families joined the Littlewood congregation.



**WORDS OF WISDOM** -- "Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness" are the words inscribed above the the choir loft in 1915 as the church's motto.



**HAND-CARVED** -- A chair located at the front of the church may have been donated from one of the other churches in the area which were closed in the past 30 years.

*Photos by  
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