

HISTORY OF REDNERSVILLE CHURCH

Rednersville United Church was erected in 1849. It was constructed of grey stone undoubtedly taken from the side of the hill near by. A wall was also built in the centre under the floor to give it added strength. The stringers are all cedar poles ten inches in diameter. The original floor, still in use, is of inch and a quarter pine ten inches wide. A very old, mottled, green account book records the business transactions in connection with the building of this Church. The original meeting was held in Rednersville School House on October 14, 1848. Marshall B. Roblin was elected secretary-Treasurer. A committee of five collectors, James Redner, Hector Howell, George Savage, Philip Roblin and a Mr. Fasset, was appointed to take donations which consisted of just about anything a person had to give. Their donations ranged from fifteen pounds by Philip Roblin down to several of five shillings. Many donations were not in money, as flour, cheese, etc.

The contract for the building was let to George Savage for the sum of four hundred pounds; and Joseph Todd did the stone masonry work for which he received eighty pounds. The building committee met on May 25th, 1849, and voted to allow George Savage an additional five pounds for extra work on the steeple, and also a further sum of sixteen shillings and ten pence for extra work in obtaining doors. Some years after completion, the steeple was removed and a tower put in its place, but there are no records to show when this was done.

About the beginning of the century, the chancel was added. In 1938 a bell was donated by Charles L. Babcock.

The original Church Bible, which is still in excellent condition, was printed in 1847, and donated by Charles Biggar at the dedication of the Church in February 1850.

The church hall was formerly a church at Demorestville. It was purchased and moved to its present location in 1938. For fourteen years, from 1942 to 1956, it was used as a schoolroom for the younger grades.

Rednersville United Church celebrated its Centennial with an Anniversary Service on October 16th, 1949, commemorating one hundred years of activity of the congregation of that edifice. The guest preacher was the Reverend J. I. MacKay, Superintendent of Home Missions.

Written by D. K. Redner
October 1949