

# Rednersville Church

in 1968

Picture donated by Mrs. Winston Pulver, 1968.

## Rednersville United Church Marks Centenary On Sunday

Rednersville United Church is celebrating its centenary on Sunday, October 16th, when the guest preacher will be Rev. J. I. MacKay, D.D., superintendent of Home Missions of Bay of Quinte, Montreal and Ottawa conferences. There will be two services, namely at 11 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

This church was built in 1849, and dedicated on February 17th, 1850. Minutes concerning church affairs are complete from the beginning, as is revealed in historical notes gleaned by Theo. G. Mueller, in co-operation with Rev. J. P. Henderson, M.A., minister Rednersville Circuit.

These minutes reveal that a meeting was held on September 23rd, 1848, at which time it was "resolved" to open a subscription for the purpose of building a Wesleyan Methodist Church at Rednersville. The subscription list having progressed to a suitable extent, a building committee was appointed comprising Owen Roblin, James Redner, Marshall B. Roblin, Philip Roblin and Robert N. Sheriff. The original trustees were Isaac Williams, Marshall B. Roblin, John H. Morden, Philip Roblin, William Brickman, Robt. N. Sheriff, James Redner and William A. Johnston.

On Jan. 5th, 1849, a contract was let to George Savage to build for four hundred pounds a building 36 feet x 48 feet, "to have a steeple and a gallery on three sides, two windows in each side and two in the front of Gothic form."

**Centenary Program**  
A special centenary program, to be available at next Sunday's service gives details of progress in establishing the church, and a tribute is paid to the people who contributed to the effort. The program also carries a list of original subscribers to the building fund who donated labor, stone, lumber, timbers, drawing of stone, brick, peas, flour, wagon woodwork, shoemaking, jacks, clover seed, glass, fence moving, hoppers and box making, cheese, wood, lamps, pipes and elbows, lime, oats, mutton, potatoes, hay, shingles, proceeds of a grocery sale at launch of vessel, and money.

### Historical Comment

When the present church was built, Rednersville was an appointment on the Conseccon Circuit of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. Rev. R. Jones was minister and Marshall B. Roblin, Sect'y-treasurer of the Board of Trustees and Building Committee at the time of building.

The first Board of Trustees were:- Isaac Williams, Marshall B. Roblin, John H. Morden, Philip Roblin, Wm. Brickman, Robert N. Sheriff, James Redner, Wm. A. Johnston.

The contract for the building was let to Mr. Geo. Savage for somewhat over £400, currency being still in pounds, shillings and pence. With the exception of a very small amount, the church was opened free of debt.

Later in 1879, the Rednersville circuit was formed with Rednersville, Albury (then Dempsey's) and Massassaga as appointments. Very soon after, Massassaga was transferred to the Amellsburg circuit and Centre became an appointment with Rednersville. In 1915, Victoria was added from the Conseccon circuit, so that at present Rednersville is a 4-point charge.

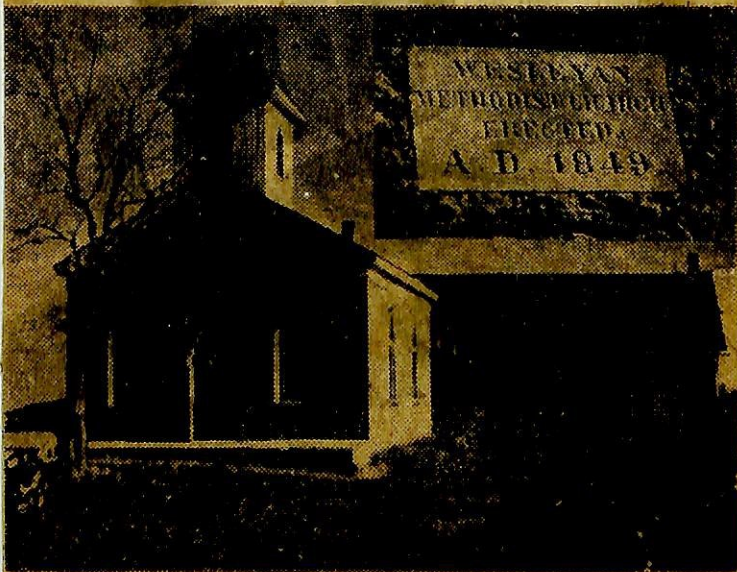
It is fitting that we pause to pay tribute to those pioneers who made this edifice possible. The road was rough and long. These early settlers encountered the difficulties of clearing the primeval forest, of surviving on frost and drought, of carving out trails and roads, of carrying grain on their backs long distances, to secure their food. In order to rear their families, they had to nurse them sometimes through sickness and epidemics without the care of doctors and nurses. Yet in spite of these almost insuperable difficulties, they took time to come together over long distances to worship God, and devised ways and means with wonderful ingenuity and devotion even when money was scarce, by which this present church was built. Over 150 heads of families and over 300 individuals over a wide area, sacrificed time, money and produce in making their contributions.

Shall we whose life materially is easier in so many ways, not do our part to-day in carrying on the work which they so nobly began?

Thanks are extended to the Board of Trustees by whose permission the foregoing was compiled, to Harold Wanamaker and Dan Anderson for use of equipment and typing and also, to Rev. J. P. Henderson for assisting in compiling the paragraph paying tribute to the pioneers.

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### CHURCH MARKS CENTENNIAL



Above is shown an exterior view of Rednersville United Church which marked its Centenary on Sunday. Plaque inset above the doorway of the church, tells the date of construction.



Century-old Bible and church minute book are examined by, left to right: Theo G. Mueller of Madison, Wis.; Rev. J. I. MacKay, Superintendent of Home Missions, guest preacher; and circuit minister Rev. J. P. Henderson. Historical data relating to the church has been collected by Mr. Mueller, whose ancestors lived in the Rednersville district.