

Sunday Schools and Teachers

After Mr. Jonathan Crisp came from England he settled in Fairholme. His farm was towards the southend of Hagerman Township, and about five or six miles from Dunchurch. He began a Sunday School about the year 1885. The settlers' children had to walk quite a few miles in some cases to get to the little log school house where day school and Sunday Services were also held. The wood stove would be fired up almost every day during cold weather.

Mr. Crisp became known as the Deacon. He took part in most of the Community affairs for he had a little education drilled in him from the old sod across the foam.

After his son Dave Crisp got married he took over the farm and the Deacon moved to a big house on a stone foundation in Dunchurch. He took up the S.S. work again and was Supt. for many years. Previously Mrs. Clemenhagen had superintended and assisted in Dunchurch for the past thirty years, with the Methodist S.S.

Mr. Arthur Buchanan followed the steps of Mr. Crisp after he passed on. James Dobbs was a fine young man about the time Mr. Buchanan died in 1921 so he then took over the S.S. Books. He was assisted by Miss Hattie Simpson (Wye). These two mentioned both had a regular attendance for six years without missing a class.

After the Methodist and Presbyterian Congregations united there were others who followed with the church work: Mrs. Joe North (writer), Wilma Dobson, Mrs. Cook, Mrs. Badger, Mrs. Lillian Quinn, who was also organist for many years, with Mrs. D. R. Macfie as alternative. Mrs. Macfie was also teacher of the Sunny Slope S.S. for twelve years and Supt. all of that time. She was the organist there for the same period.

In 1969 the S.S. attendance dropped off. It was decided by the present Minister to hold weekday Bible Study for the junior group. Mrs. H. Crossman assisted the first year. In 1971 & 72 Mrs. O. Moore assists Rev. Jackson and they are progressing very well.

The caretaker of the church is Mrs. Harry Johnson at the present time and she sits in on these daytime classes to help maintain order.

In the early 1890's there used to be about fifty or sixty attend the Sunday School, compared to the present time when a couple of dozen are considered a good turnout.

This partly could be due to our population which is mostly elderly people and the most of the children come from greater distances to the day school by bus, which is the modern transportation.