

THE BAPTIST CHURCH, PORT PERRY

At the turn of the century the Convention Baptists had a church situated on the very same spot as the present church(1971).During the first part of the century interest in the church seemed to decline and services mainly were conducted by student pastors who came out from Toronto on Sundays.At this time the Sunday school portion of the church was used by the High School for Household Science classes.The building was later ~~purchase~~ purchased by the Fair Board and moved to the Fair Grounds where it is still being used as an exhibit hall.For several years there were very few or no worship services among the Baptist Congregations in Port Perry.

Under the sponsorship of Calvary Baptist Church in Oshawa a revival of the denomination took place in 1937-38.Mr. Clem Wright with the assistance of their pastor Rev. Glen Wardell conducted services at the waterfront in a large tent,near the location where the J.Orde Marine is.This was the beginning of a new era for the Baptist Church in Port Perry.When it was too cold to hold tent meetings ,the congregation first met in Napier's Restaurant and later moved to a room over the Harness shop which was in the vicinity of where Dowson's Red and White store is now located.Several ministers were in charge of the congregation for brief periods after Mr. Wright left Port Perry for Toronto.

In 1945 a building was erected on the same site as the present one. Here the congregation seemed to thrive under the leadership of Brother Taylor who was succeeded by Mr. Sloan in 1953.Meetings were held in the afternoon since Mr. Sloan also had the Little Britain charge.

From May 1954 until Nov. 1955 Mr. David J. Toews had the pastoral charge.During this period the church became associated with the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.

Mr. Paul Delaney became pastor in 1956 and during his term a parsonage was built on a lot presented to the church by Mr. Wm. Starr. Rev.S. Mulligan succeeded Mr. Delaney in Dec. 1959.In Nov. 1961 a student pastor Mr. John Brown took over the charge.Realizing the need and importance of a new church he immediately began working toward this goal.His congregation was behind him and after 3 years that which was