

The churches of any community play a real part in the moral & social life of its people. Kearney has three churches, the Roman Catholic, the United Church, and the Anglican Church. Each one rich in local history, and having many colourful characters among its members.

The United Church was formerly under the Methodist church, and in 1948 celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Sometime before 1885, the first services were conducted by a layman Mr. Garrioch who came here from Scotland. He served Ravensworth, Sand Lake, Orange Valley, and the community of Kearney which was mostly on the 12th line. Mr. Garrioch and those who followed him, travelled by foot, and many of the services, held twice a month were conducted in the homes.

During the period 1889-1896, Mr. Sinclair McIvor gave some land, where the cemetery is, and also some timber for the church. The logs were floated down the river to Galbraith's mill, situated where Ayer's Dam now is. Here the logs were cut into lumber, then hauled back to the church site, and the church was built.

After the coming of the railroad in 1896, this building was inadequate for the needs of the growing community. After the present church was built, the old one was moved down into the village, placed on the main street where ~~the~~ the Community Centre now is, and served as a meeting place for many organizations. It was later destroyed by fire. The present church site was donated by Mr. Wm. McIvor.

Early in 1920 during the ministry of