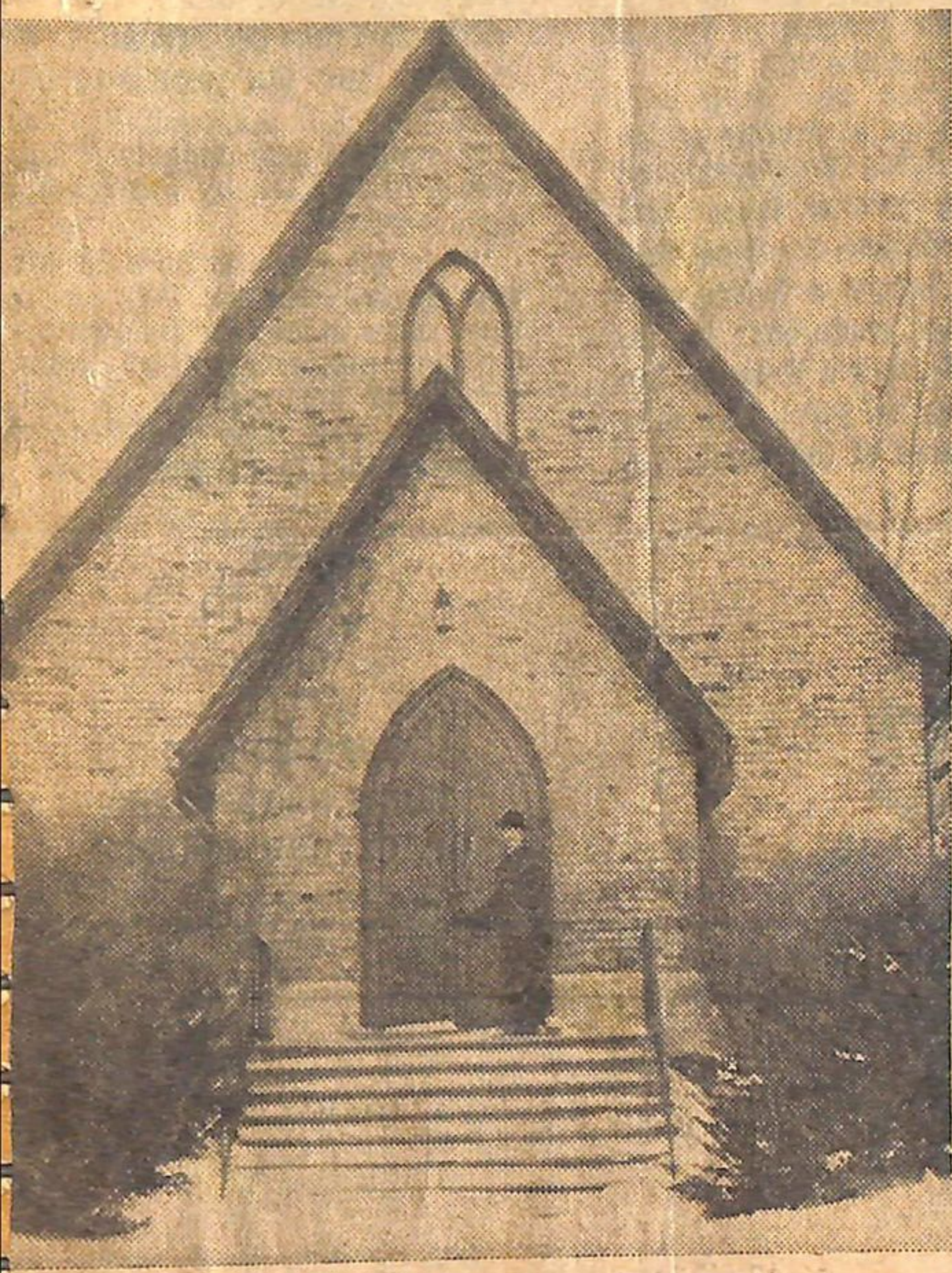


Lakeside Church Is Observing Centennial



Lakeside Anglican Church Observed 100th Anniversary

Christ Church of Lakeside recently observed its One Hundredth Anniversary and a booklet was published to mark the event. Copies of the booklet were made available to members of the congregation and visiting friends at the Sunday service on September 30th.

A history of the church tells how in the year 1859 the Rev. Wm. Bookman was commissioned as a missionary to Thamesford, Dorchester, Delaware and surrounding districts.

A meeting was held at Lakeside on October 6, 1862, and the enthusiastic gathering decided to build a church, pledging their financial support on the spot.

It is interesting to note that James Ingersoll, a brother of the famed Laura Secord, donated one acre of land and lumber for floors. Charles Shrubsole donated 15,000 bricks, while others donated timber and posts for the fence, and about 46 cash contributions, of which the highest was \$120.00, were made.

Construction was begun in 1863, the corner-stone being laid in June of that year. The church was to be built in the Old English Gothic style and specifications were drawn up for every phase of the work.

Rev. Mr. Brookman was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Belcher, who came with his wife and family from India, where he had been engaged in missionary work. Rev. Mr. Belcher took up residence in the rectory at Thamesford. In March of 1864, Christ Church, Lakeside, was dedicated and the first Vestry meeting was held on April 2, 1864.

At the 100th Anniversary service a number of Memorials and Gifts were dedicated including the following:— Bishop's Chair in memory of Sarah Towle; Chalice, in memory of Mrs. Mary Richardson, wife of James Baker, presented by Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Richardson; Hymn Board

An Oxford hamlet church which had its earliest days tinged with glamour, zeal and excitement, will on Sunday, Sept. 29th, hold special services to mark its one hundredth anniversary. Christ Anglican Church at Lakeside, a charming little structure, built in the Old English Gothic style, was constructed in 1863, with the cornerstone laid in June of that year.

For the anniversary services on Sunday, it is expected that many former members of the congregation will be present to hear special speakers, and to recall memories of the past.

At the 11 a.m. service, the speaker will be the Rev. J. D. Gilmour, BA, L. Th., a former rector and now rector of the Church of St. Thomas, Hamilton, while in the evening a former student-in-charge of Christ Church, the Rev. G. G. Russell, BA, BD, now rector of St. James Church, St. Marys, will deliver the sermon.

Present rector of the church is the Rev. J. A. Catling, L. Th., RD.

Following both services, refreshments will be served to those present by ladies of the church organizations.

BEGAN IN 1859

It was in 1859 that the Rev. William Brookman was commissioned as a missionary to Thamesford, Dorchester, Delaware and surrounding districts. After forming a congregation in Thamesford in 1861 and in St. George's Church, Thorndale, and Grace Church, Nissouri, in 1862 he turned his attention to the village of Lakeside. A meeting was held on October 6, 1862, and it was decided to build a Church.

in memory of Miss Jane Shrubsole, given by Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Shrubsole; Lectern Bible, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Baker, presented by the family; a wall plaque erected by the congregation in memory of Samuel Towle; Sunday School War Memorial, in memory of Sapper W. S. Robinson; The Cross, donated by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Seaton 1947; The Lectern; gift of Cronyn Memorial Church, London; and the Bread Box, gift of St. John the Evangelist Church, London.

There was a very large attendance at both morning and evening services. In the morning, Rev. J. D. Gilmour, a former rector, now of Hamilton, was guest speaker. Rev. Garwood Russell of St. Marys, was the evening speaker.

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Construction was begun in 1863, the corner-stone being laid in June of that year.

Mr. Brookman left in 1863 to become Secretary of the Western Ontario Bible Society. He was succeeded by Rev. Samuel Belcher, who came with his wife and family from India, where he had been engaged in missionary work. Mr. Belcher took up residence in the rectory at Thamesford. In March of 1864, Christ Church, Lakeside, was dedicated and the first vestry meeting was held on April 2, 1864. Robert Armstrong was appointed rector's warden and Mr. Sharpe, people's warden. The first delegate to Synod, Robert Armstrong, was appointed in 1864.

Mr. Belcher resigned in 1870 to become rector of Pt. St. Charles, Montreal, where he was later made a Canon of Christ Church Cathedral.

In 1870 the Rev. William Daunt, MA, came to Thamesford as rector of Thamesford, Lakeside, Thorndale and Evelyn. His ten years' incumbency was most successful. In 1880 the Parish was divided and Mr. Daunt moved to Thorndale.

His successor was Rev. William Minter Seaborn, whose ministry was rather brief since he accepted a call to St. Matthew's Church, London, in 1883. The 1884 report showed the total number of parents and children as 120, with an average Sunday School attendance of 40.

REPLACED FATHER

Rolf Seaborn, a lay reader at Pelee Island, was invited by the Wardens to accept the charge left vacant by his father. Mr. Seaborn received his ordination in September 1884 and was then formally inducted as rector of Lakeside and Thamesford Churches. In 1888 Mr. Seaborn left to take charge of the parish of Thorndale.

The Rev. T. H. Brown, a graduate of Magdalen College, Oxford, and a man of great energy and enthusiasm, succeeded him as rector in 1888 but left in 1892 to become rector of Christ Church, Delaware. He was succeeded by Rev. William Stout, whose stay in the parish was unfortunately very brief. In 1894 Mr. Stout was followed by Rev. J. A. Bloodsworth, who remained until 1899.

In November 1899, Rev. Mr. Bloodsworth was succeeded by Rev. T. G. A. Wright, BA. It was during his incumbency that a new rectory was built at Thamesford across from the Thamesford Church, entirely by a subscription list to which Lakeside contributed the sum of \$500.

In 1903 Lakeside and Thamesford were divided and D. E. Cameron was sent to take charge of the Lakeside parish. He was not ordained and at the time of his arrival was pursuing his studies at Huron College. During his incumbency a rectory was built in Lakeside. His successor was W. H. Moore, who also did splendid work in the parish but left in 1909 shortly after receiving his deacon's orders.

Rev. J. W. Jones then came to Christ Church and, with a true gift for organization, gathered the ladies of the congregation together to form the Ladies' Parish Guild in 1910. Mrs. F. G. Seaton was elected president, Mrs. William Kirk, vice-president, Mrs. H. G. Gleason, secretary, and Miss C. McKonkey, treasurer. The name was later changed to Ladies' Guild and this organization continued to serve faithfully and well throughout the years up to the present time.

From the time Mr. Jones left the parish in 1911 until 1913, Rev. A. A. Shipway was rector. He was an untiring worker and under him the Church made splendid progress. The choir, which had formerly been unvested, was his particular interest and they were now provided with caps and gowns.

Mr. Shipway left the parish in 1913 to enter the American Episcopal Church and was followed by the Rev. J. H. McLeod. This was at the beginning of the Great War 1914-1918 and the residents of Lakeside were buying their first automobiles. Rev. Mr. McLeod retired to London in 1915 after being bereaved by the death of Mrs. McLeod.

ORGANIZED AYP
The Rev. G. T. Goodhand then came to Lakeside and in 1916 organized the AYP. This organization served successfully for several years.

From 1917 until 1920 Rev. F. G. Richard had charge of the parish, at which time it was again joined with Thamesford. Then followed Rev. W. D. Davis, L. Th. 1920-25; Rev. H. J. Johnson, MA, 1925-32; Rev. R. S. Skinner, 1932-36; Rev. J. D. Gilmour, BA, L.Th., 1936-38; and Rev. S. W. Semple, BA, 1938-47.

Of the men who served from 1920 to 1947, Rev. W. D. Davis,

Rev. H. J. Johnson and Rev. R. S. Skinner are now retired; Rev. J. D. Gilmour is presently rector of St. Thomas' Church, Hamilton; and Rev. S. W. Semple is now chaplain at The Ontario Hospital, St. Thomas.

In 1948 Lakeside was separated from Thamesford and became linked up with St. James' Church, St. Marys, under the Rev. G. P. Parsons, who ministered faithfully for two years. At this time Lakeside was again added to the parish of Thamesford and Crumlin under the Rev. J. G. Lethbridge, who had been rector of the two point parish for a short period prior to this. Under his leadership the parish became self-supporting. After a brief stay, Mr. Lethbridge resigned to become Anglican chaplain at Westminster Hospital, London, Ontario.

His successor was the Rev. A. D. Munro, who arrived from Scotland in 1951 to become rector and remained until 1953. He was succeeded in 1954 by the Rev. R. W. Rowles and it was during his incumbency that the rectory in Thamesford was sold and a new one built on Stanley Street North.

Rev. R. D. Ostle, who came to Canada from the United States, succeeded him but resigned in 1958 to return to the United States. During his short incumbency the Lakeside CPR station was purchased and moved to the Church grounds to be used as a parish hall.

The present rector, Rev. J. A. Catling, formerly rector of the Parish of Markdale, succeeded Rev. Mr. Ostle in December of 1958. The Church was re-decorated in 1961 and in the Fall of 1962 the Quebec heaters, which had been used in the church for many years, were replaced with oil heaters.

Many changes have taken place in the community over the period of one hundred years but Christ Church has, throughout these years of change, reflected its Christian influence.

The new electric organ in Christ Anglican Church was dedicated on Sunday by Rev. J. A. Catling.