

*Mrs. C. Fairchild*

First Baptist Church,

WARREN, PA.

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY

SUNDAY, MAY 20, 1894.

HISTORICAL SERMON.

Delivered by the Pastor,

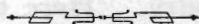
C. BARNABAS SMITH.

1834 - 1894.

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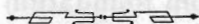
WARREN MAIL PRINT.

# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH.



## HISTORICAL SERMON,

*Delivered by the Pastor, C. BARNABAS SMITH.*



AT THE CELEBRATION OF THE SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF WARREN, PENNA., 1834—1894.

*TEXT—1 Corinthians 3:9: "For we are laborers together with God; ye are God's husbandry, ye are God's building."*



WHEN contemplating a historical sermon, our mind centered upon this text because it sets God forth as the great cause and maker of history.

The text speaks of us as "laborers together with God." That we may properly understand our sphere, permit me to suggest that possibly a better rendering is that given by some of our best translators—viz: "fellow-laborers of God." We

stances, loves His church and therefore makes its history.

Our effort this morning will be to place before you (as briefly as possible), the history of the First Baptist Church of Warren, Pa., and thus acquaint the younger members with the providential leadings of our Father in the days that are past. The task is an extremely difficult one on account of missing records. Sometimes five or six years have passed without records; but we have sufficient to prove beyond a doubt that the *vine* was of the Lord's planting and has had His care all these 60 years.

The church having had an existence just three score years, we shall, therefore, divide its history into three periods of twenty years each, viz: First, Organization and Foundation Building; Second, Season of Transition; Third, Season of Triumph.

#### I. THE FIRST PERIOD, or Organization and Foundation Building.

The first day of the existence of the First Baptist Church of Warren, was Friday, May 2, 1834. We quote from the records: "By the request of a number of Baptist Brethren and Sisters who had been previously united in Conference, a council convened at the Court House in Warren, on Friday, the 2d day of May, 1834, to take into consideration the propriety of giving the Brethren and Sisters composing said conference fellowship as a sister church. Brethren present from Pine Grove,



Ashville and Carroll, namely: Pine Grove, Thomas Foster, Wm. Heaton, Silas Ruland, Levi Hitchcock, Hazel Tupper, Jacob Allen, James Love. From Asheville, Eld. Isaac Fuller, James McCol- lum. From Carroll, Eld. Adrian Foot, Levant Rathbun. Eld. Martin Coleman being present as missionary from the New York State Convention, was invited to a seat. These being accepted by the Conference as their council, the council then proceeded to the examination of their articles of faith and practice, and of their circumstances. Voted unanimously that it is for the honor and glory of God to erect the standard of the Cross in this place, where the ordinances of Christ's house may be administered as they were delivered to the saints; and that we give fellowship to the Brethren and Sisters whose names are here inserted, as a regular church of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Pond Curtis,	Polly Doty,
Olin W. Shaw,	Maria Shaw,
Wm. Morse,	Polly Waters,
Wm. Gildersleve,	Elizabeth Morse,
Elisha Doty,	Polly Strong,
Parmelia Curtis,	Loisa Wheeler,
Fanny Curtis,	Mary Comstock,
Hannah Give,	Emma Comstock.

After which the following exercises were at- tended to. Eld. Coleman preached the sermon, Eld. Fuller gave the right hand of fellowship, Eld. Foot addressed the church and congregation, Eld. Gildersleve made the concluding prayer. Isaac

Fuller acted as Moderator and James McCollum Clerk." (Signed by the Clerk.)

On May 3d, the first covenant meeting was held with most of the council present. At this meeting a Brother and Sister Jones were received as members. The Browns soon followed and in a remarkably short time the roll was adorned with "Smiths," making the trio of familiar names complete.

For a little more than eight years the infant church struggled on without the aid of a pastor; but the foundations were being laid deep and broad for a large and strong church in coming days. As helpers in this pioneer work, came (doubtless by the Spirit) missionaries occasionally to preach the word, encourage the hearts and strengthen the hands of this people—the "building of God."

Among these missionaries were Elder I. S. King, Elder Wm. Gildersleve, Elder I. Wilson and Elder Elisha Gill. During these years there was a visible growth so that at the coming of the first pastor, Rev. Alfred Handy, on November 1, 1842, the membership enrolled was 29, a net gain of 13 since the organization of the church. On March 6, 1841, we find that the church adopted the articles of faith and practice held by the Baptist church of Jamestown, N. Y.; and on October 1, 1842, they adopted a new covenant.

The first to go out from this church to the Church Triumphant was Sister Polly Doty, who departed this life November 14, 1842. For more



than eight years she had struggled with her brethren and sisters without a pastor. Many a time had she prayed for a shepherd to lead the church and at last was gratified by seeing a pastor settled fourteen days before her death. Under date of December 31 of this same year we find this record made by the devout clerk—Brother Norman Snyder: "The regular covenant meeting according to appointment was held to-day; only a few members of the church present. Brotherly love seemed to prevail, and there seemed to be an increase of religious feeling. 'Oh, Lord, revive thy work.' " This prayer was the outburst of a soul agonizing for the prosperity of Zion; and we wondered as we read it, what the result would be. We were not long held in suspense, for soon we found recorded conversions and baptisms. It is needless for us to say that the membership was revived and of one mind; they always are when souls are being saved. The salvation of men must follow such a state of things as a natural result; this is God's way of erecting the great structure of which we are a part.

We quote again from the records: "This elegant \*Bible, used on the Sabbath in the church, was purchased in Fredonia, N. Y., at the price of six dollars (\$6.00), by a few friends in that place, and by them given to the Baptist church in Warren; it is a handsome and valuable present, and this

\* This Bible, now old and worn, may be seen at the home of Deacon A. Gerould, where it has long been preserved.

record is made as an expression of gratitude as well as an act of justice. *This* book, Church Records, Vol. 1, Baptist Church, Warren, Pa., was purchased in Buffalo, N. Y., at the price of two dollars (\$2.00), and given as a present to the church by the pastor. Oh, that it may be preserved and used for the purpose for which it was made, and filled with things worthy of being recorded; things which will please God and honor the church."

ALFRED HANDY,

Warren August 1, 1843.      Pastor of the Church.

All these years the church had worshiped in the Court House; but now with the coming of a pastor comes the desire for and faith that an edifice can be erected; the church was therefore incorporated, constitution and by-laws adopted and a committee appointed to secure a lot and raise funds for a house of worship. This is the last we hear of this committee; evidently they found it too great an undertaking.

The next important action of the church was to make it an offense for one member to speak derogatorily of another in public. No better resolution could have been supported; it should be upon every church book—always in vogue.

At this same meeting, September 27, 1845, the clerk, conscious that all was not right in the church, caused a prayer to flow from his pen to stand for generations recorded upon the church book. But no good results came of it, and after studying the character of the man, we judge that



the prayer was never recorded in heaven. This clerk is not the one whose name we revere, and of whose prayer we have previously spoken. Unlike that prayer, it did not seem to come from the heart. Let us learn, dear ones, from these records which are truly God's teaching to us, that effectual prayer is heart prayer.

In 1849 we find the church worshiping in the academy. How long they had worshiped there and how long they continued, there is no record.

In 1851 there is recorded coldness and indifference and the Holy Spirit seemed to have withdrawn from the little flock and the enemy prevailed. A search was instituted for the purpose of discovering the cause, when a Brother Bennett was found intoxicated; and when upbraided for it, he simply said, "I drink when I am dry, like other folks." While his reply was so extremely ludicrous that we can but smile, it was also extremely sad; for his influence was wholly and constantly against the church and his divine Lord. Suffice it to say, he was excluded. Then there was recorded a gracious outpouring of God's Spirit. Let us catch the lesson.

The last two and a half years' records of the first period of the church are wanting; thus in darkness do we leave the *foundation builders*; but the building is God's and He who has manifested His love for the work and workers through all these years will not leave nor forsake His people in the night season of their struggle. Leaving, then, the his-



tory of the *first period* of the church in the hands of Him who made it, we pass to

## II. THE SECOND PERIOD, or Season of Transition.

We left the church in darkness at the close of the first period; we find it obscured in the same at the opening of the second, for no records were kept from July 3, 1852, to April 25, 1857. On the last date mentioned, we find the church assembled in the court house for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of calling to the pastorate Rev. Wm. Smith, who proved himself an unworthy character and in a few months left the church in a discouraged and disheartened state. What the result would have been we know not, but predict disaster, had not the wise builder, whose we were, sent to our assistance the wise and venerable Willoughby to take the pastoral care of His people and lead them on to success. Shortly after Brother Willoughby became pastor, the clerk was excluded from the church and proved himself worthy of the same by refusing to deliver the book of records, keeping it six years, when, unknown to him; his daughter returned it. Thus we are left again for a long time without records; fortunately Rev. Mr. Willoughby still lives so that from him and a few others we are able to gather facts concerning events which equal in importance anything in the history of the church. It was during these years that Pastor Willoughby purchased a Baptist meeting house in Kiantone and brought it to Warren, which is none other than the one in which you

now sit. These were days of struggle for the little church, but with the Lord on their side they were enabled to meet all demands and make progress. It was during this pastorate that our dear Sister I. S. Alden—who, in service, is now the oldest member—came to the church by letter from Panama, N. Y.; also Brother A. Gerould and wife by letters from Erie, Pa.

Another important event which took place about this time was the conversion of a Mr. Geo. Snyder, afterwards the husband of our dear Sister C. M. Snyder. At the time of his conversion Brother Snyder was in college, fitting himself (though unwittingly), for the great and responsible work of the ministry; for soon he heard the Master's voice bidding him go preach the Gospel; and obediently he arose and went; and it is said of him that his work was abundantly blessed, he having a gracious revival every year until the Lord said: "It is enough, come up higher." While missed and lamented by the loving companion and daughters, such a record can but make glad their hearts and lift every voice in this church which sent him out with its blessing and benediction, in songs of praise to Him who has thus honored his own.

Shortly after Brother Snyder's conversion occurred that of a Mr. J. S. Hutson, who was also called to the work of the ministry, which he entered after completing his course at Bucknell University. Brother Hutson has always been a strong preacher and successful pastor, and at this present

time holds the important pastorate of the Nixon Street Baptist church in Allegheny City, Pa. Sister Hutson is a sister of the late Rev. Geo. Snyder and went out from this church with her husband to give her life to the Master's work.

On the first day of October, 1864, Pastor B. C. Willoughby having gone from this field to take the pastorate of the Baptist church at Meadville, Pa., the church, needing a wise councilor, had with them Rev. A. D. Bush, pastor of the Baptist church at Corry, Pa., now the beloved pastor at Panama, N. Y.

In 1866 the church took another important advance step by adopting a system of benevolence. On June 6th of this same year another one of the few whose membership dates back so far was added by letter from Meadville, Pa.; this was Sister Susan Snyder. On September 3d, the records speak, not of a sunrise meeting, but a 9 o'clock meeting on Monday morning to witness the baptism (by the pastor) of Sister Mary Brothers, formerly a Catholic and latterly a Methodist. Like the Bereans, she was a student of the Bible—a seeker for light; and when she found that sprinkling was not baptism, she made haste and arose and was baptized. Let others do likewise.

We find recorded, under date of November 11, a thing which surprises us, viz: the refusal of the church to call to the pastorate Rev. I. S. Webber, of Pen Yan, N. Y. About that time Rev. Mr. Webber was pastor of our home church at Coop-



ers Plains, N. Y., and known as an able preacher and faithful pastor. We are truly surprised that the church should refuse him the pastorate, but doubtless the divine Master, having another field for him, over-ruled to His own glory.

On January 5, 1867, Brother and Sister Waid united with the church by letters: he from Townville and she from Guy's Mills, Pa.; and four weeks later our aged Sister Sarah Ann Sturgeon was received by letter from Erie, Pa.

The days and years pass rather uneventfully until we reach the 17th of April, 1870, when we find the baptistry used for the first time. The first candidate to go down into the baptismal waters within these sacred walls was Sister Laura A. Walker. On December 31st, of the same year, Brother and Sister A. J. Hazeltine were received by letters from Busti, N. Y.

Nothing more of importance is found recorded to the close of the second period of the church's history. The last record of this period states that "the church has been without a pastor for more than two years and the church is in a low state." This is the way it appeared unto men, but the fact was there had been a *transition*, and the change had been for the better. At the beginning of this period this church edifice had been erected, so that the church was no longer homeless. The Lord had also brought to Warren and into the Baptist church, men and women whose wisdom and conse-

cration had (though they knew it not), added to the little struggling band the elements of power.

Truly we were "God's building," and He, during the second, had built rapidly upon the foundation laid in the first period of the church's history.

### III. THE THIRD PERIOD, or Days of Victory.

At the beginning of this last period the church is still weak financially and exceedingly small in numbers and obliged to continue the old practice of seeking aid from the State Association whenever she seeks a pastor; but this thing is destined to have an end in the near future; only a few more years and the church will be self-sustaining.

Not long after entering upon this third period a great sorrow befell the church in the death of Deacon Norman Snyder, who for many years had been a strong pillar. He united with the church in 1840. The records show that he served in the capacity of deacon for 27 years. He wrought well and faithfully and died triumphantly. The church felt deeply its loss, but bowed submissively to the *will* of the Divine, and has ever rejoiced in the fact that his bereaved companion (Sister Susan Snyder), has been spared to share with us the triumphs of these latter days.

The great uplift of the church, which has so signally marked this last period began with the labors of Evangelist Hurlbert in December, 1876, followed by the pastorate of Rev. Dr. E. F. Crane,

who began his labors with the church May 1, 1877. The first thing attempted during this pastorate was to repair the house of worship, which was soon accomplished and re-dedication services held on December 20 of the year above named. Among the ministers present were Rev. Geo. Whitman, of Oil City, Pa., now of Buffalo, N. Y.; Rev. Fred. Evans, D. D., of Franklin, Pa., now of Milwaukee, Wis.; Rev. Geo. Peltz, D. D., of Jamestown, N. Y., now of Philadelphia, Pa. Dr. Peltz preached the sermon. At this service four deacons were ordained, viz.: A. Gerould, who was elected on February 3, 1866; S. G. Waid, N. Loree, and A. J. Hazeltine, all of whom were elected on July 1, 1877.

In 1878 Dr. Crane held a meeting of marked power. Many of our present members were brought in as a result of that meeting.

Dr. Crane's pastorate in Warren was brief, but blest. Six men have succeeded him; changes have been frequent but all have been successful and the church has never ceased to grow. Surely the Lord is with His people.

On March 25, 1883, the church, now grown strong, did a noble thing in raising the pastor's salary from \$800 to \$1,000. March 1, 1885, records the death of Sister Hammond, the beloved wife of the pastor. The church is to be congratulated for standing so nobly by the bereaved pastor, making it possible for him to meet all expenses thus incurred.



In 1888 and 1889 a Sister Malmberg labored with the church as pastor's assistant, doing her work principally among the Swedes of the city.

During the summer of 1889, the church, needing a more commodious house for the accomplishment of its work, arose and built the structure in the rear of this room, which, for prayer, Sunday school and class rooms, together with dining hall and kitchen, are equal if not superior to anything in the city.

Dedication services were held on February 23, 1890, Rev. P. S. Henson, D. D., of Chicago, preaching the sermon.

In January, 1891, the church established a Swedish Mission. In December of the same year Bro. John Peterson came to take charge of the mission, and was received into the church from Jamestown, N. Y., and on February 8 following was ordained to the gospel ministry. A month later, March 3, 1892, letters were granted the 34 Swedish members for the purpose of organizing a Swedish Baptist church in this city. The church, duly organized, with Rev. John Peterson pastor, was recognized by a council on March 31st. This movement has very materially lessened the membership of the First Church, which had reached 250 or more, but was a step in the right direction for all that. The First Church has reached a point where it is bound to increase rapidly in numbers and will therefore soon make good its loss, while the Swedish brethren and sisters, under the leadership of their faith-

ful and devout pastor, will be able to accomplish vastly more among their own people.

In April, 1892, came the closing of the pastorate of Rev. Will C. King, followed June 1 by the present pastorate. The summer passed quietly in seed-sowing. In October a week of prayer was observed by our Christian Endeavor Society which resulted in the revival of God's work in many of our hearts. No conversions resulted in our midst from this meeting, but there were conversions in Philadelphia as an indirect result. A Mr. F. D. Wing, National President of the Traveling Men's Christian Endeavor Society, was with us one or two evenings and being favorably impressed with the idea of a week of prayer for young people, hastened home and instituted such a meeting in his own church with results above mentioned. We speak of this for the encouragement of our young people who so heartily co-operated in the work; also Sister A. J. Hazeltine, who suggested the idea to the pastor. In all this we see the hand of God, adding a little here and a little there, to the great superstructure, bringing it by each Christian act, each kind word and loving deed, each service faithfully rendered, nearer to completion.

How blessed, dear ones, to be thus employed by our Master for the furtherance of his kingdom among men. In December an effort was made to bring together the whole resident membership of the church and put into active service all their forces. An entire week was given up to this work

and we were pleased to call it "Rally Week." All the various societies of the church gave reports, read papers and delivered addresses which sought to arouse enthusiasm in every department of our local work. The papers and addresses were good, and we believe accomplished to a considerable degree the purpose of Rally Week.

On the first day of January, 1893, we began special services which were abundantly blessed of the Lord to the salvation of souls, and we can but feel that the week of prayer in October and rally week in December paved the way for this good work. On February 21st, Evangelist N. B. Randall, D. D., came to our assistance and the success continued, many expressing a desire to live for Christ. As a result of this meeting, twenty were added to the church by baptism and others came by letter.

We soon found ourselves with a large number of new members—41 in all, besides many additions to our congregation, people who had not as yet joined with us in church fellowship. For these new comers, a reception was given in the church parlors on the evening of March 17th, which was quite largely attended and resulted in our mutual acquaintance, a thing of infinite importance; for unless we are *one* in *heart*, *aim* and *purpose*, we have no moral right to exist as a church of Jesus Christ who prayed the Father that we might be *one* as *they* are *one*. This is impossible without mutual acquaintance. Brethren, we are "God's building,"



but only by a oneness of heart, hand and voice can we become God's *great* structure, capable of meeting the demands and honoring the purpose of our existence.

On May 25th occurred our annual roll call service, which was quite largely attended by the membership. We were ably assisted in this service by Rev. F. W. Lockwood, of Titusville, Pa., and Rev. Wm. T. C. Hanna, of Bradford, Pa., who preached most excellent sermons.

During August and September, through the generosity of Deacon A. J. Hazeltine and Sister G. W. Thompson, the church was re-papered and painted throughout; a much needed improvement, for which the church feels very grateful.

For three weeks in January of this present year (1894), we held extra services with audiences equal in size to those of last year, yet the results were not so great; two, only, being converted.

Perhaps this apparently small success was the result of the omission of the preparation of which we availed ourselves last year. Perhaps we did not continue long enough; but all we can now do is to leave our mistakes with the Lord and seek to know and do His will henceforth. But is not the rescue of two souls a great victory? What are their value? Ah! They are priceless. I would toil a lifetime for one soul.

At the beginning of this year we began the publication of a little church paper (The Chronicle), which we trust will be a help to the spiritual life of

every member of the church, and preach sermons to many who do not attend upon divine worship.

On the 16th of this month of May occurred our annual Roll Call service which was a success, though not to the extent we had desired. One important feature of the meeting was the address by the venerable Father Willoughby, of Randolph, N. Y. It was exceedingly touching to hear this man of God recount his labors with this church when its pastor many years ago. My young friends, do you wish to be happy when you are old? Then let God use you; do your work—all of your work; finish your course; then in your old age to look upon *duties faithfully performed* will be to you a *crown of joy*.

#### THE PASTORS AND OFFICERS OF THE CHURCH.

First, the pastors. I stated at the beginning of this history that for more than eight years the church was without a pastor, but had with them occasionally missionaries who broke to them the bread of life. The pastors of the church have been seventeen in number; and so brief have been their pastorates that only a little more than half of the time has the church been supplied with preaching. Had the church feasted for 60 years instead of 30—fasting the other 30—there is no telling what her size and power might have been at this present time. Thanks to our divine Master for bringing the church to the period of success, when she need be no longer without the ministration of His truth.

Following is a list of the pastors, together with the date of their settlement and departure.

1. Rev. Alfred Handy; settled Nov. 1, 1842, closed June 21, 1845. Duration of pastorate, 2 years and 8 months.

2. Rev. Wm. R. Northrup; settled Nov. 23, 1845, closed Jan. 2, 1848. Duration of pastorate, 2 years and 1 month.

3. Rev. Wm. M. Everett; settled Oct. 1, 1848, closed Oct. 1, 1851. Duration of pastorate, 3 years.

4. Rev. Wm. Smith; settled May 9, 1857, closed Sept. 30, 1857. Duration of pastorate, scant 5 months.

5. Rev. B. C. Willoughby; settled Oct. 25, 1857, closed — Duration of pastorate, about 4 years and 6 months.

6. Rev. A. J. Hastings; settled July 13, 1865, closed Oct. 7, 1866. Duration of pastorate 1 year and 3 months.

7. Rev. Thos. Evans; settled Feb. 2, 1867, closed Jan. — 1868. Duration of pastorate, 11 months.

8. Rev. Mr. Lockwood; settled May 3, 1868, closed Oct. 12, 1868. Duration of pastorate, scant 5 months.

9. Rev. I. Trowbridge; settled Jan. 1, 1870, closed Aug. 6, 1871. Duration of pastorate, 1 year and 7 months.



10. Rev. J. Harrington; settled Oct. 3, 1875, closed Jan. 30, 1876. Duration of pastorate, 4 months.

11. Rev. Dr. E. F. Crane; settled May 1, 1877, closed Oct. 2, 1878. Duration of pastorate, 1 year and 5 months.

12. Rev. H. H. Leamy; settled Jan. 12, 1879, closed March 1, 1881. Duration of pastorate, 2 years and 2 months.

13. Rev. James Rea; settled May 31, 1881, closed June 1, 1884. Duration of pastorate, 3 years.

14. Rev. E. D. Hammond; settled Oct. 5, 1884, closed July 4, 1886. Duration of pastorate, 1 year and 9 months.

15. Rev. Wm. J. Coulston; settled Aug. 1, 1886, closed Nov. 4, 1888. Duration of pastorate, 2 years and 3 months.

16. Rev. Will C. King; settled Dec. 5, 1888, closed May 1, 1892. Duration of pastorate, 3 years and 5 months.

17. Rev. C. Barnabas Smith; settled June 1, 1892 and (thanks to the great "Head of the Church") his pastorate still continues.

We are told that Rev. J. R. Merriman supplied the church for a short time after the close of the pastorate of Rev. Thos. Evans. Mr. Merriman is still living and engaged in the work of the ministry. We are also informed that a Rev. Mr. Gates preached for a little while. Nothing is re-

corded in the church book concerning the work of these men.

Rev. Mr. Handy had the honor of being the first pastor of the church, and seems to have been a devout servant of God, and left an influence for good which has been gathering force all these years.

Rev. Mr. Northrup came at first for 6 months on a salary of \$70. At the expiration of the 6 months the church called him for one year on a salary of \$215.00 and donation, he to furnish house and firewood; and we judge that he was kept so busy in a vain endeavor to accomplish the feat that he had little time for anything else. The church did not seem to prosper during his pastorate.

Rev. Mr. Everett had a pastorate of peculiar blessing. For a long time the baptismal waters were frequently visited.

Rev. Wm. Smith proved himself to be an unworthy man. The hand of fellowship was withdrawn from him.

Rev. Mr. Willoughby proved to be a God-send to this people, becoming their leader, doubtless, in the darkest hour of the church's history; but, as day succeeds the night, so with this pastorate came a change which brought joy and courage. This church edifice was erected and God's pleasure manifest in the salvation of men. Brother Willoughby's pastorate was the longest the church has ever had.

The pastorate of Rev. A. J. Hastings was brief and without special incident save his ordination which occurred on Oct. 24, 1865, and the coming of Evangelist Geo. Balcom just at its close.

Rev. Thos. Evans was obliged to leave the field on account of failing health after a brief pastorate of 11 months and died soon after, at the home of his father-in-law at Irvineton, Pa.

Rev. Mr. Lockwood left the field for the lack of financial support, after a brief pastorate of 5 months.

Rev. Mr. Trowbridge seems to have been pastor of the church during seed time rather than in days of harvest gathering. We learn that he preached the gospel faithfully and thus helped his predecessors to prepare for us later pastors better things.

Rev. Mr. Harrington left the field four months after settlement because of failure to secure aid from the State Association.

Rev. Dr. Crane probably never knew failure. Wherever he has gone during his long ministerial life he has always been able to make things go from the beginning of his pastorate to the end thereof. Possessed of an indomitable will, he would not recognize defeat; and yet he has ever been kind and loving, and no man has a more tender heart than he—a heart always flaming with a passion for souls. His pastorate in Warren was abundantly successful.

Rev. Mr. Leamy is a brother with whom we



never had the pleasure of meeting, but judge from the records that he was a man of God, a lovely spirit, faithful pastor and good preacher of the divine word.

The pastorate of Rev. James Rea extended through three years and was a great blessing to the church. Many were saved and added to our numbers.

The pastorate of Rev. Wm. J. Coultson was also greatly blest. He not only wrought well and faithfully in Warren so that the church grew rapidly, but his untiring energy and burning zeal led him to look after and foster interests in Kane and Kinzua, each of which have since become independent churches, the former having considerable strength. Although having met Brother Coultson but once, we have always felt a deep interest in him and his work, since it was under the preaching of his father-in-law, Rev. A. Tilden, now of Port Byron, N. Y., that your humble servant and wife were both converted and by him baptized.

The pastorate of Rev. Will C. King was another successful one. Under his preaching and pastoral labors there seems to have been almost constant accessions to the church. During his pastorate the beautiful rooms in the rear of the audience room were added. He took up the work of Brother Coultson, so nobly begun at Kane and Kinzua, and made himself of great service to these interests.

Of the present pastor, we have only to say that he feels his weakness and inability more and more, and trembles when he sees the magnitude of the work; but he is relying upon the prayers and co-operation of the dear brethren and sisters, together with the promises of the Master, so many times verified in the past, and believes that the God who has made the present relationship of pastor and people (we trust) a mutual blessing, will increase its blessings and usefulness till He shall bid it end.

WHERE ARE THESE MEN OF GOD WHO HAVE SERVED  
THE CHURCH IN FORMER DAYS?

All the early missionaries, together with the first four pastors, viz: Handy, Northrup, Everett and Smith, have finished their works and gone to their reward. The fifth pastor, Rev. B. C. Willoughby (now 87 years old), resides in Randolph, N. Y. Pastors Hastings, Evans, Lockwood and Trowbridge have all closed the volume of life and gone over the river. Rev. J. Harrington very recently closed his pastorate at Holland, N. Y. Rev. Dr E. F. Crane (now 86 years old) resides in Franklin, Pa. Rev. H. H. Leamy is pastor of the Baptist church at Warrensville, Pa. Rev. James Rea is pastor of the Bouk Avenue Baptist Church in Buffalo, N. Y. Rev. E. D. Hammond is pastor of a Congregational church in Philadelphia, Pa. Rev. Wm. J. Coulston is pastor of a Baptist church in Evansville, Ind., a city of more than 50,000 people. Rev. Will C. King is pastor of the First Baptist church of Meadville, Pa.



## EVANGELISTS WHO HAVE SERVED THE CHURCH.

Rev. Geo. Balcom was the first evangelist to serve the church, beginning his labors on Sept. 1, 1866, and closing the 24th of the same month. This work resulted in many conversions.

The second evangelist was Rev. Mr. Hurlbert, who began services on Dec. 5, 1876, closing Jan. 20, 1877. The membership of the church was doubled as a result of this meeting.

Rev. Mr. Brown was the third, coming to the church on Jan. 5, 1890. Rev. Thos. Needham was the fourth and Rev. N. B. Randall, D. D., the fifth; and to-day you have voted to invite \* Rev. H. H. Emmett.

All of the above named evangelists were excellent men of God and wrought faithfully in Warren. May the Master make the labors of those who still live a blessing wherever they go.

## THE DEACONS.

Eleven men have served the church in the capacity of deacons, and are as follows:

NAME.	DATE OF ELECTION.
1 Pond Curtis.....	May 31, 1834
2 A. Comstock.....	Aug. 1, 1835
3 William Snyder.....	Aug. 24, 1844
4 Alpheus Winchester.....	Aug. 24, 1844
5 Norman Snyder.....	March 3, 1849

\* A few days after we invited Evangelist Emmett to hold meetings with us in May, he was accidentally shot and now lies dangerously ill at his home in Conneaut, Ohio.



NAME.	DATE OF ELECTION
6 A. Gerould.....	Feb. 3, 1866
7 A. J. Hazeltine.....	July 1, 1877
8 S. G. Waid.....	July 1, 1877
9 N. Loree.....	July 1, 1877
10 G. W. Thompson.....	Aug. 2, 1893
11 L. W. Gates .....	Aug. 2, 1893

The records state that in 1843 a Bro. J. B. Stanton served the church as deacon, but there is no record of his election.

The first five deacons, together with Bro. Stanton, after laboring faithfully for the church and bearing the burden and heat of the day, many years ago passed on to their rest, and verily "their works do follow them." The last six deacons elected still live to serve the church. The senior deacon is Bro. A. Gerould, who has served the church in this capacity for more than 28 years. During these years there have been seasons of prosperity and seasons of adversity; but, day and night, in storm as well as sunshine, Deacon Gerould has always been found at his post.

Deacon Waid has long been in feeble health, while Deacon Loree has grown old; and, being obliged to husband their strength, the church is deprived largely of their presence and help in the social meetings; but their love for the Master and His people is none the less, and their prayers are as earnest and faithful as ever for the prosperity of the church.

Deacon Hazeltine was not only brought to the church by the God of Providence to be a devoted spiritual helper but *financial pillar*. The Lord has made him a very successful business man and has committed unto him much of this world's goods; but best of all is the endowment of a liberal heart and hand, which has, and is, proving a blessing to the Master's work in our church.

Deacons Thompson and Gates are scarcely a year old (officially), but they have long proved themselves to be choice members, and we believe they are of the right material for deacons and will make strong pillars upon which the church may lean, we hope, for many years. They love the church and devotedly serve it in every way possible.

#### CHURCH CLERKS.

The church has had 15 different clerks. D. Titus and Deacon A. Gerould were each elected to a second term, after some years of retirement from the office, making in all 17 different clerkships. They are as follows:

NAME.	DATE OF ELECTION.
1 A. Comstock.....	July 5, 1834
2 O. W. Shaw.....	Aug. 1, 1835
3 Eddy T. Pratt.....	April 1, 1837
4 J. W. Smith.....	Jan. 6, 1838
5 Levi Hitchcock.....	June 2, 1838
6 Norman Snyder.....	Feb. 29, 1840
7 D. Titus.....	May 6, 1843
8 E. Winchester.....	July 31, 1847

## NAME.

## DATE OF ELECTION.

9	Dewit C. Breed.....	July 6, 1850
10	D. Titus.....	Oct. 5, 1850
11	A. Gerould.....	Oct. 1, 1864
12	S. G. Waid.....	Aug. 31, 1867
13	A. Gerould.....	Sept. 4, 1869
14	J. A. Steele.....	July 13, 1881
15	E. M. Hatch.....	Nov. 1, 1882
16	A. J. Hazeltine.....	April 23, 1884
17	G. W. Thompson.....	Aug. 2, 1893

## PRESENT OFFICERS.

Pastor—C. Barnabas Smith.

Deacons—A. Gerould, S. G. Waid, G. W. Thompson, A. J. Hazeltine, N. Loree, L. W. Gates.

Clerk—G. W. Thompson.

Treasurer—Elias Morningstar.

Superintendent of Finance—H. E. Davis.

Board of Directors—A. J. Hazeltine, President; H. E. Davis, Secretary; John Humphrey, G. W. Thompson, Edwin Blunt, Elias Morningstar, Barney Horton.

## LICENTIATES.

The church has licensed the following brethren to exercise their gifts in preaching the Gospel, viz: G. W. Shaw, now dead; George Snyder, now dead; J. S. Hutson, now pastor in Allegheny City, Pa.; J. P. Myers, now living, but not preaching; Elmer Conrath, now editor of the Johnstown, Pa., Tribune.



## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday School, or rather Bible School, is a flourishing institution in our church. From it many have come forth trained in the *word* and principles of *righteousness* to be bearers of burdens and responsibilities incident to church life; but has it accomplished all it might and ought to have done? We believe that while it has succeeded, it has failed; failed to reach many young hearts which ought to have been reached. The failure we believe, has been due, not to the lack of devout and consecrated teachers, but to the indifference of parents and other Christians who have excused and absented themselves from the school; and by so doing, have taught lessons which the most devout teachers have been unable to counteract. Let me say to every parent and Christian, if you wish your children and neighbors to love and respect God, His *word* and *institutions*, be a Christian here and a saint hereafter, then take your place in the Bible school and *redeem the time*. The Bible School is not for children alone, but adults as well. The church has had a school for years which has constantly grown in numbers, but it is yet a dwarf compared with what it ought to have been. Let us *all* put hand and heart to this noble work. The superintendents for a few years past have been Dr. W. W. Freeman, Deacon A. J. Hazeltine and Elias Morningstar; the last named presiding over the interests of the school at the present time.

## THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.

For some years the church has had a Christian Endeavor Society of considerable strength; and while it is not what it ought to be, because of some not feeling responsibility in its work, yet it is one of our strong arms. Here is our training school where our young men and women are being prepared for noble service "*for Christ and the Church.*" We call upon all our young people to rally round the standard of Christ in this noble society. Your pastor considers the B. Y. P. U. far superior to the Y. P. S. C. E. *for Baptist young people*; but, so long as we have a Y. P. S. C. E., let every young member of the church be loyal to it. If not faithful to the trust which the Master has committed unto you here, how will you answer your Judge yonder? We call upon *all* the deacons and older members to attend these services and help to train the young.

## THE CHOIR.

From time immemorial, singing has been a part of divine worship. This church has been prompt to provide able leaders for this important service. Many years ago the leadership of the choir devolved upon Sister I. S. Alden; then came a Mr. Logan, Dr. W. W. Freeman, and now Mrs. D. L. Gerould, who is ably supported by three others, viz.: Mrs. G. W. Thompson, Lucian Benjamin and O. Holdridge, composing a quartette which is equal, if not superior to any in the city. A chorus of the following named singers render efficient aid at the Sunday evening services: Miss Edith M. Humphrey,

Miss Ada Cook, Miss Marie Lesser, Scott Sherman, J. A. Reed and H. V. Hazeltine. Following are the names of some of the organists who have served the church: Miss Lora Alden, Miss May Stoddard, Mrs. Stephenson, Mrs. Dr. W. W. Freeman, Miss Lizzie Peirce and Miss Nettie Snyder; the latter presiding at the organ now.

#### THE WOMEN'S WORK.

The women's work has for years been a marked feature of the church. We rejoice in the fact that Mary, Martha, Lydia, Dorcas and Priscilla all have their representatives among us; noble women who have not simply been *helpers* in the Gospel, but many times *leaders*. Often have they put hand to the work which seemed to baffle the faith and skill of the brethren and pursued it successfully. Sister A. Gerould and Sister I. S. Alden were thus engaged for the church long before any other of the present female members had united with it. But times and conditions have changed so that now a large company of devoted sisters are always ready to put hand to the work and shoulder to the burdens which come so oft upon us.

#### BENEVOLENCE OF THE CHURCH.

In the matter of benevolence, the history of the church has been very gratifying; large sums having been raised and forwarded for the advancement of our Master's work in other fields. In this work the women have done nobly; contributing not only to the fund for the general missionary work, but *very largely* to the special work for women.



As was expected, the financial depression has diminished our benevolent contributions; but they have gone farther down the scale than we had expected; possibly, farther than they ought. Let us take care not to keep back a part of the price—the Lord's money. Remember Ananias and Sapphira!

*Quote* — A FORWARD LOOK.

→ Thus far we have been looking backward. // We have seen the church—organized with 16 members grow in eight years to 29 members; then, like a bird attempting to move against a mighty wind, we only increased our membership five in 26 years, so that in 1870 the list was 34; in 1881 it had increased to 104; and to-day, while we have dismissed a large number and established the Swedish Baptist church, we still number 243; making more than 300 Baptists in the city. // We saw the church too poor to call a pastor; then it was able to give one a meagre support; but for many years the salary has been constantly increasing until it has reached \$1,200. It has been now some time since the last \$200 was added; so, should the periodical increase come soon and suddenly, it would not surprise us beyond recovery. ←

We have seen the church homeless and we have seen it owner of this comfortable edifice ~~in the very heart of the city.~~ ← We have seen the church small and we have lived to see it large. We have seen it dependent upon other churches for support, and we have seen it self-supporting and reaching out hands of helpfulness to others. We have seen it

disheartened, and we have seen it full of hope and good cheer. We have seen it the victim of adverse circumstances, and we have seen it the object of a favoring Providence. //

What say these voices, coming out of the past? Do they not tell us of a mighty God who rules over all, and never sleeps nor slumbers? They speak of an eye that is guarding, a hand that is guiding, and a heart that is tenderly beating in sympathy with us. They speak of the fullness of divine love, the abundance of his grace and the unchangeableness of his character. All these gracious uplifts are prophetic of a favoring Providence and greater victories in coming days; only remember that the success of the church depends upon the use that God makes of its individual members; and the use that God makes of us depends upon our faith and faithfulness; hence the importance of complete consecration to Him, that our future as a church may be bright and blest. As we stand to-day upon this beautiful table-land to which our great Cap-  
tain has led us, and look back into the distant valley from whence we started, and survey the devious path along which we have come, climbing higher and higher up the mountain side, over the plain and the rough, through sunshine and shadow, storms and calms, ever increasing and always onward, we exclaim with glad and grateful hearts: "This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes." → End P 35

But, friends, let us look no longer down the

mountain side and over the history of the past, but face the future. Do you not see that the mountain lifts itself still higher toward heaven? Our pathway is still upward. There are loftier heights to be attained; and along the journey will still be found rough places as well as smooth; new battles must be fought and new victories achieved. All this, dear ones, will require a great outlay of grace, love, faith, time and strength; but I trust that we are ready for any work or sacrifice that may be required, and that with fixed faith in Christ we shall surmount every obstacle, break through the ranks of all opposition and yet plant our banner on the highest mountain peak. Then shall we find our tents pitched close by the gates of *paradise*, from which, when all struggles and darkness are past, in the light streaming out of yon sky, we shall begin the ascent of the everlasting hills where we shall find a bright and eternal prospect.

→ May the *blessing* and *benediction* of our God rest upon you all//so that as we still ascend and pass on to these glorious and triumphant heights, none may be left by the way.



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, WARREN, PA.

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MEMBERSHIP LIST MAY 2, 1894.

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Alden, Mrs. I. S.	Cable, Mrs. John B.
Altemas, Samuel	Campbell, Mrs. P. T.
Altemas, Mrs. S.	Campbell, Blanche E.
	Campbell, Kate B.
Bailey, Ben.	Carnes, Mrs. Anna
Bailey, Mrs. B.	Carlson, Agnes
Baker, J. W.	Caylor, Mrs. Katie
Beebe, Mrs. Lettie E.	Clark, L. W.
Berkle, Henry	Clark, Hollis
Berkle, Mrs. H.	Coats, E. L.
Berry, Mrs. S. P.	Coats, Mrs. E. L.
Blair, Mrs. W. W.	Coats, Archie
Blunt, Edward	Coats, Ella
Blunt, Mrs. E.	Coleman, Mrs. Mina
Branch, Mrs. Isabella	Cogswell, Mrs. Stacy
Branch, Mrs. Mary	Cook, Ada
Branch, Jessie	Conley, Mr. —
Branch, Mary	Conley, Mrs. —
Branch, Edith	Cramer, Mrs. Anna
Branch, Wayne	Crawford, James W.
Branch, Irvine	Critchlow, Wm.
Burns, William	Critchlow, Mrs. Wm.
Burrett, Ely	Critchlow, Rose
Burrett, Mrs. E.	Critchlow, Maud
Burrett, Jessie	Crosby, Mrs. S. F.
Burrett, Rena	Curry, Mary

## MEMBERSHIP LIST MAY 2, 1894.

Dame, Mrs. Israel	Gerould, Dea. A.
Dame, Myrtle	Gerould, Mrs. A.
Davis, D. M.	Gerould, D. L.
Davis, Mrs. D. M.	Graves, Mrs. Cora
Davis, H. E.	Gross, Mrs. Albina D.
Davis, Mrs. H. E.	Gross, Cora
Decker, Lou G.	Gruber, Mrs. Sarah
Decker, Sue A.	Guyette, Maud
DeVore, Mrs. Rose	
Donovan, Benjamin	Hazeltine, Dea. A. J.
Douglass, Mrs. C. A.	Hazeltine, Mrs. A. J.
Dunham, O. E.	Hazeltine, Blanche M.
Dyson, Thos. H.	Hazeltine, Harold D.
	Hazeltine, Húgh V.
Eba, Mrs. B.	Head, Mrs. Libbie
Edget, Grace	Hinton, George
Edwards, Mrs. Sarah	Holtberg, Anna K.
Esperson, Mrs. Minnie	Hood, Mrs. Bertha
(Phillips.)	Horton, Mrs. A. M.
	Horton, Nellie H.
Fairchild, Mrs. C.	Howard, Mrs. Betsey
* Fairchild, Lottie	Howard, May
Fairchild, Charles S.	Howard, Fred H.
Faxon, Mrs. Martha	Humphrey, John
Freeman, Dr. W. W.	Humphrey, Mrs. J.
Fry, Daniel	Humphrey, Edith M.
Fry, Mrs. D.	Humphrey, Jean
Fry, Arthur	
	Johns, Mrs. Eliza
Gates, Dea. L. W.	Johns, Chillion
Gates, Mrs. L. W.	Johns, Orange
Gates, George	Johns, Archie

## MEMBERSHIP LIST MAY 2, 1894.

Johnson, Jacob E.  
Johnson, Maggie  
Johnson, Louisa  
Johnson, Maria  
Jones, Mrs. E. A.

Kaberlin, George  
Kaberlin, Mrs. G.  
Kaberlin, Mrs. Edward  
Kaberlin, Mrs. Eugene  
Keller, Mrs. Fred  
Kennet, Mrs. S. J.

Lacy, Mrs. Ella  
LaFever, Mrs. Effie  
Lake, John N.  
Lake, Mrs. John N.  
Laufer, Mrs. Geo. T.  
Lesser, Mrs. J. S.  
Lesser, Amelia  
Lesser, Marie  
Lincoln, Mrs. Frank  
Loding, Mrs. M.  
Loding, Ella T.  
Logan, Mrs. Addie  
Loree, Dea. N.  
Lott, W. H.  
Lott, Mrs. W. H.  
Lynn, Chris.

Mason, Fred  
Miller, Louise B.

Miller, Mrs. Fanny  
Mitchell, J. L.  
Mitchell, Mrs. J. L.  
Morningstar, Elias  
Morningstar, Mrs. E.  
Motto, Josie  
Motto, Alice  
McIntosh, Bruce  
McIntosh, Mrs. B.  
McMaster, Mrs. J. H.  
MacMurray, R.  
Mansfield, Cynthia  
Martin, Belle  
Mason, C.  
Mason, Mrs. C.  
Mason, Richard  
Mowers, Archie  
Myers, Mrs. Lucy  
Myers, Maud

Nelson, J. T.  
Nelson, Mrs. J. T.  
Nelson, Mary  
Nelson, Clara  
Nesmith, Mrs. Ozro  
Nesmith, Eddie  
Nesmith, Mrs. Frank  
Nesmith, Gertie  
Nickle, Mrs. A. W.  
Nybo, Marion

Page, Mrs. Adda C.



## MEMBERSHIP LIST MAY 2, 1894.

Page, Mildred	Smith, C. B.
Page, Roy	Smith, Mrs. C. B.
Peterson, Mrs. M. A.	Snyder, Mrs. Susan
Phelps, Henry	Snyder, George
Phillips, D. W.	Snyder, Mrs. C. M.
Phillips, Mrs. D. W.	Snyder, Laura
Phillips, Albert	Snyder, Anna
Phillips, Mrs. J. F.	Snyder, Antoinette D.
Pratt, H. T.	Snyder, Agnes
Pratt, Mrs. H. T.	Sterry, Mrs. J. A.
	Sterry, John Jr.
Reed, J. C.	Steen, Mrs. Dora
Reed, Mrs. J. C.	Straussbaugh, Henry
Reed, J. A.	Strickland, Ralph
Rockwell, Mrs. Ida	Sturgeon, Mrs. Sarah Ann
Rogers, Mrs. A. M.	Sylvis, Mrs. Agnes
Rounds, E.	
Rowley, Mrs. L. B.	Taylor, Mrs. Agnes V.
	Thompson, Dea. Geo. W.
Sampson, Mrs. Allie	Thompson, Mrs. Geo. W.
Schuler, Mrs. Eunice	Thompson, Addie D.
Sherman, Scott M.	Thompson, Eva
Sherman, Mrs. S. M.	Thompson, Merle A.
Shirley, Alice	Thompson, P.
Sill, C. F.	Thompson, Mrs. P.
Sill, Mrs. C. F.	Toner, Wm.
Smith, Mrs. Thomas	Toner, Mrs. Wm.
Smith, Jetta M.	Toner, Walter
Smith, Glenn	Toner, Mary
Smith, A. W.	Tremble, Mrs. Mary F.
Smith, Mrs. A. W.	Tremble, Mary E.
Smith, Edna	

## MEMBERSHIP LIST MAY 2, 1894.

Waid, Dea. S. G.	Winchester, Mrs. Alice
Waid, Mrs. S. G.	Wood, Mrs. Belle
Waid, Nettie	Wright, Minnie
Waid, Eugene	Wright, Mrs. Julia—
Waid, Sherman	
Wang, Anna	Yuell, Margaret D.
Ward, Mrs. Addie	
Weiss, Mary	Zeigler, Mrs. W. C.
West, Paul	
Wills, William	Total, - - - - - 244

Since May 27th, Brother and Sister H. T. Pratt have taken letters from us and united with the First Baptist Church of Corry, Pa., where they now live.

Sister Margarette D. Yuell has also united by letter with the Central Baptist Church of Chicago, Ill., where she is engaged as City Missionary. A few years ago, at a ladies' missionary meeting of this church, the question came with peculiar force, "Who will give her life's service to the Master as a missionary?" Thoughtfully and prayerfully, our dear Sister Yuell said, "I will." With the prayers and blessing of the church and the benediction of our Lord, this consecrated sister went out from us to prepare herself in the training school at Chicago for her great life's work which she entered upon after graduation; and so signally has the Master blessed her labors that she has already attained a reputation among Baptists which is as far reaching

as North America. The prayers and good wishes of this church will ever follow her.

It is expected that several members will soon unite with us by letter; among whom are Bro. Gordon Hague, and also Bro. W. L. Pettingill and wife from Rochester, N. Y. Bro. Pettingill has recently been called to the general Secretaryship of the Warren Y. M. C. A.

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## READ AND KEEP OUR BAPTIST CHURCH COVENANT.

### CHURCH COVENANT.

Having-been led, as we believe, by the Spirit of God, to receive the Lord Jesus Christ as our Saviour, and on the profession of our faith, having been baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, we do now in the presence of God, angels and this assembly, most solemnly and joyfully enter into covenant with one another, <sup>as</sup> one body in Christ.

We engage therefore, by the aid of the Holy Spirit, to walk together in Christian love; to strive for the advancement of this Church, in knowledge, holiness and comfort; to promote its prosperity and spirituality; to sustain its worship, ordinances, discipline and doctrines; to contribute cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the Gospel through all nations.



We also engage to maintain family and secret devotion; to religiously educate our children; to seek the salvation of our kindred and acquaintances; to walk circumspectly in the world; to be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements, and exemplary in our deportment; to avoid all tattling, backbiting, and excessive anger; to abstain from the sale and use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, and to be zealous in our efforts to advance the kingdom of our Saviour.

We further engage to watch over one another in brotherly love; to remember each other in prayer; to aid each other in sickness and distress; to cultivate Christian sympathy in feeling and courtesy in speech; to be slow to take offence, but always ready for reconciliation, and mindful of the rules of our Saviour to secure it without delay.

We moreover engage that when we remove from this place, we will as soon as possible unite with some other church, where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's word.

PRAYER.

Now the God of Peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that Great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting Covenant, make you perfect in every good work, to do his will; working in you that which is well-pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.