

CONFERENCE CHURCHES

Grand Gorge
(607) 588-6283

Harrisville
(315) 543-2873

Lake Placid
(518) 523-6716

Marcy
(315) 736-4019

Massena
(315) 769-2129

Middleburgh
(518) 827-5241

Monticello
(845) 794-5423

North Troy
(518) 235-1662

Northville
(518) 863-4331

Ogdensburg
(315) 393-8808

Pierrepoint Manor
(315) 465-6761

Rockwood
(518) 762-3393

Russell
(315) 262-0402

Schenectady
(518) 355-2295

Scotts Patent
(607) 288-6283

Stone Ridge
(845) 687-7212

Syracuse
(315) 475-2200

Tonawanda
(716) 692-0836

Windsor
(607) 655-1816

The Spotlight is on . . . our Churches!



CONFERENCE CHURCHES

NORTH CAROLINA



Archdale
(336) 431-5174

OHIO



Crooksville
(740) 982-6565

Fostoria
(419) 436-9473

Lisbon
(330) 424-3233

Nevada
(740) 482-2035

PENNSYLVANIA



Franklin
(814) 432-4123

Geneva
(814) 382-1468

Glen Iron
(570) 922-1974

Green Grove
(Nicholson)
(570) 222-3389

Howard
(814) 625-2262

Linesville
(814) 683-4400

Muir
(717) 647-9850

Sayre
(570) 888-2417

Marcy, New York

The Utica Pilgrim Holiness Church was the result of the vision and efforts of two pastors in the Conference: Rev. Clifton Berg and Rev. Orrin L. Fay. These two men came to Utica and conducted street meetings. Four meetings were held each night; each man preached twice and both sang in the four services.

During this time period, a place was rented on South Street. Services were held there for a short time. Visible results were minimal, but the overall effort was honored by God with souls getting saved.

The same year, 1936, a permanent place of worship was acquired. It was an old dwelling located at 803 John Street, a part of the Underground Railroad, a house with many fireplaces and a secret passage used to hide runaway slaves en route to Canada.

It was this year that Rev. J. N. Jump came to shepherd the little flock. Bro. Jump supported himself as an upholsterer. The John Street dwelling provided a chapel for worship as well as an apartment for Bro. and Sr. Jump.

The church was organized October 12, 1936, according to the 1937 Conference minutes. According to records, the first annual business meeting was held May 22, 1944, and the first church board meeting was held following the annual meeting. No records were found between 1936 and 1944.

In 1939 the church moved from 803 John Street to 811 John Street. Later the adjoining building was purchased and the two buildings were made into one. Bro. Jump, members and friends of the church worked together to make the building a useful and attractive place of worship. Pulpit furniture was crafted by Greydon McCulley, and the pulpit and altar rail by Bro. Jump. Some mortgaged their homes to pay for the buildings and materials. This place of worship was our church for over thirty years.

Rev. Jump was our pastor until 1957, when he resigned to go to a home missionary work in the Rochester, NY area.

Rev. William Thurston pastored in 1957-58.

Rev. William F. McCulley and Sr. Ida McCulley came to pastor our flock in 1959. The domestic environment around the church at 811 John Street had been deteriorating, so after due consideration and prayer, the decision was made to move from the city. Fourteen acres of land were purchased in the town of Marcy. It was an ideal location, easily accessible from any direction. The John Street property was sold and the new parsonage was built on Cavanaugh Road, with the new church building on the corner of Cavanaugh and Kennedy Roads.

Now, backing up to about 1961, Bro. McCulley and the Utica people began a home mission outreach. A Sunday School family had a summer home in Wheelertown and spoke to Bro. McCulley about the possibility of an afternoon Sunday School. Bro. and Sr. McCulley drove the 30 miles and canvassed the community to assess the amount of interest. It seemed to be an open door. The first Sunday over 30 people from the area were crowded into a small cottage, plus the people who came from the Utica Church. Our teachers got double mileage on their lesson! This endeavor lasted about five years. Souls were saved but interest died in the community so the converts from this work began attending the Utica Church. There were other items of interest but space will not allow.

The last service held in the John Street church was a funeral service for Sr. Virginia Vanderpool, better known as "Jane", or by the young people as "Aunt Virginia." She lived down the street from the church, and it was almost as if God didn't want her to make the move with us, so He took her home to Heaven on January 30, 1971. It was the end of an era.

Bro. and Sr. McCulley faithfully served and loved us for 19 years, from 1957 to 1978. Those

of us who had the privilege of being under their ministry were truly blessed.

Rev. Thomas Plew was our next pastor, from 1978-79.

In the spring of 1979, Bro. Rowan Fay accepted the call to Marcy and the Fay family moved in. In 1980 Marcy Pilgrim Academy was begun, and later an addition was added to the church to serve as a learning center. Under Bro. Fay's leadership we started a bus ministry. He resigned in 1993 after fourteen years of fruitful ministry.

Rev. James Brewer came in July 1993 and served for two years. Rev. Ronald Robison came in 1995 and pastored for one year. Rev. Wesley Sanford accepted the call in 1996 and was our pastor through 2002. He was a blessing to the church and in the community.

From July of 2002 through 2003 we were without a pastor. We had David Fuller and Bro. Billie Bidwell fill in at times, as well as capable men from our congregation. We had a couple of prospective pastors, but for different reasons weren't able to fill the parsonage and pulpit. We began talking to Bro. John Musser, Sr. about our need of a pastor. He had indicated his decision to resign as pastor in Oxford. He actually planned to take a year off and do some writing. He came and filled in for us six times including Easter Sunday. God had other plans for him and starting applying pressure to Bro. Musser's heart until he surrendered his own desires and accepted the call to Marcy.

It didn't take long for us to realize what an "opportunist" Bro. Musser is. "Opportunist" is used here in a very positive way. Bro. Musser can strike up a conversation with someone and turn it around to let them know that he is a pastor, and then they ask him, "What church?" This is just the "opportunity" he was waiting for. He tells them, "I pastor the Pilgrim Holiness Church on the corner of Cavanaugh and Kennedy Roads in Marcy." Quite often they tell him, "Oh, I know right where that is, what's it like?" "Why don't

you come and check us out?" he asks, as he hands them his card and invites them to church.

Some of the projects completed since Mussers have been here are: painting and repairing the interior of the parsonage, laying new bedroom carpets, installing new windows, a front entry door, new vinyl siding, enclosing the deck with the old windows and putting siding on it, helping with repairs in the second parsonage, improving grounds and flower beds, building a greenhouse with PVC pipe and plastic sheeting (what wonderful veggies Bro. and Sr. Musser raise!), installing kitchen cabinets in the all-purpose room at church and painting the walls, enclosing the stairway to the church basement, and many hours of tending the sump pump for the church basement.

Since the Academy closed, the second parsonage had been vacant. The board agreed that it is to be used for missionaries coming off the field who need a place to stay. So far, Billy Simmons and his family, and Rod and Cora Wells, have resided there. What a blessing each family was to our congregation while they were here!

The Mussers are working their way into the hearts of the people in the community. God's spirit is working and we are excited about the great things happening.

Since Mussers have been with us we have had the following evangelists: Rev. Paul Miller, the Tillises, Bro. Daniel Hardy, Perry Case, and Rowan Fay.

We have the usual seasonal activities, Christmas programs written and directed by Dennis and Connie Hallenbeck, Friendship Dinner and Friendship Sunday in February, Pastor Appreciation month with a different type of pounding each Sunday. The final Sunday we "hijack" the service from Bro. Musser and we honor our pastor and his wife. Usually each family has something to share. Here are some of the more recent activities: after Thanksgiving one of our members had an inspiration

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50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

of the

Pilgrim Holiness Church

2105 Curry Road
Schenectady, NY 12303

August 17-19, 2007

*Speakers, Music and Fellowship
from the past to the present*

Dinner on the grounds — Saturday, August 18, 3:00 p.m.

Adults \$10, Children (6-10) \$5

RSVP and payment by August 1 to the church

ALL ARE WELCOME!

For further information contact the parsonage (518) 355-2295
or Arleen Hallenbeck (518) 895-2084 or thallenbeck@juno.com

SPOTLIGHT ON MARCY

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that we have Christmas centerpieces made up and given to people who had been contacted throughout the year. We contacted Mrs. Candella, who owns a plant, fruit and vegetable business in the community, about making the centerpieces for us. She agreed to do it for a very reasonable price. They were distributed and the recipients were amazed. God only knows what the outcome will be.

Bro. Musser is getting some of his desire to write fulfilled by writing a little devotional for the "Rural Oneida Star" publication that comes out every other week. Other opportunities may be opening up in other publications. The "Oneida County Star" also ran an article about our church, which was recently reported in the Pilgrim News.

God comes and meets us in our services and several times the preaching has been set aside in honor of God's presence. Such a melting of hearts and spirits as testimonies of praise and thanksgiving are given, or someone expresses a need to pray for spiritual help. We appreciate the special moving of God in our community.

Good things are happening, but the best is yet to come!

CONFERENCE CHURCHES

Strattanville
(814) 764-3430

Tunkhannock
(570) 836-2090

Twin Rocks
(814) 749-0907

Venus
(814) 354-2945

Canada



ONTARIO



Kingston
(613) 389-8291

North Gower
(613) 489-2501

Welland
(905) 788-9644

Brazil



Manaus
Rev. Roderick Wells
011 55 92 3238-3735

Haiti



Field Superintendent
Kendall Straight, III
(315) 769-8293