

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

History of the Milton Wesleyan Church

Written by

Rev. Henry F. Taylor



The Wesleyan Church Kentucky District

THE HISTORY OF THE MILTON WESLEYAN CHURCH

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The history of the Milton Wesleyan Church had its beginning in the year of 1926 or 1927, under the leadership of Dr. W. B. Dunkum, who at that time was conference president of the Kentucky Conference of the Wesleyan Methodist Church of America.

In the early years of the church, the congregation worshiped in a small building two blocks off of Highway 36 up the old school-house road. It was near a spring of water that a lot of the Milton people used for their water supply. The building had been used by a black congregation prior to this time.

Many were the hardships in the early days of the church. After the church had been having services for some four or five years, it was the writer's privilege to preach for them on two or three occasions on the week end when I was in Bible College.

I well remember in those services, how a small congregation of six women and not more than three men huddled around an old wood burner stove to keep warm. Though they were small in number they were men and women of courage who "...earnestly contended for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints," Jude, verse 3.

These dear and faithful people have all passed on to their reward in a better world.

The late Mrs. Hallie Wright was the last one of the charter members to receive her eternal reward.

Besides the founder of the church, Dr. W. B. Dunkum, the Conference President, the church has had eleven Pastors:

Rev. James Zuck, deceased
Rev. Jacob Hunter, deceased
Rev. Louis Baumgartel
Rev. Miss Susie Britton, deceased
Rev. Earl Pommerehn
Rev. Kenneth Reynolds
Rev. Robert Burt, deceased
Rev. Robert Kendall, deceased
Rev. Henry F. Taylor
Rev. Clarence May, deceased

The present pastor is the Rev. Wayne Mahoney

History repeats itself ever and again. It moves in cycles. First the banner is up then it is down, but God always has His champions who pick it up again.

It was in 1942 that Rev. Miss Britton with four or five women and Mr. Clarence Graves were impressed to start praying and fasting for a revival in Trimble County, KY. After six months of praying, the Lord impressed Sr. Britton that it was time to call an evangelist and singers and start a revival. They called Rev. Earl G. Pommerehn for the evangelist and the Robinson sisters for singers. The meeting started the third week in June and went on for six weeks. There were one hundred seventeen (117) souls converted in that one revival meeting. Some received a glorious call to preach the gospel.

Eventually, Rev. Earl Pommerehn came to Milton to be the pastor. During his ministry the church purchased the old flour mill and converted it into a church building. Then they purchased the town saloon and converted it into the church parsonage. It was located across the street from the church. The congregation worshiped at this location until the fall of 1963.

Another outstanding revival took place in the month of May 1963. It was during the time that the writer was pastor of the church. Rev. Velma Manuel and her husband Roy Manuel were the evangelist and singers. It was a two week revival with a full house every night. Many souls were saved and a good number of young married couples came into the church. Again the congregation was looking for a larger church building.

It was at this same time the Methodists were building a new church on the hill and we were able to buy their property under the hill. The congregation moved to its present location about the first of December 1963.

During these years God honored the church spiritually and numerically. During the next three or four years the Sunday school and church attendance tripled. In 1965 the church built a new five room parsonage with pastor's study and a carport.

Rev. Wayne Mahoney has been the church pastor for over eleven years. During the years of his ministry the church building has been enlarged and completely remodeled with a beautiful sanctuary.

Yes, a church for sixty years extending a message of salvation to the people of Milton and Trimble County, a church with courage and a purpose, still contending for the faith once delivered to the saints.

Respectfull submitted,

Rev. Wayne Mahoney

WM/dm