
DEDICATION SERVICE

EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

1229 Highway Avenue, Covington, Kentucky

Sunday, May 1, 1966 - 7:30 P. M.



Reverend Hugh E. Delaney, Pastor

A Message From the Minister



"Let us rise up and build." So they strengthened their hands for this good work." This statement from Nehemiah 2:18 seems to express the initiative, courage, and faith of Reverend Mitchell and you good people of Epworth in the early fifties. We deeply appreciate the vision, service, and stewardship of those who planned, promoted, and helped pay for the beautiful church. We cherish the memory of those who participated in this noble endeavor and have gone on to their eternal reward. Gifts given as memorials to deceased loved ones are precious to us also.

We highly commend the integrity and loyalty to the Lord of all of you who have given to the Church Budget and Building Fund. The annual Lawn Fetes, donations to the Building Fund by groups in the church, etc. all have made this happy occasion possible. Deep gratitude is expressed to God for enabling us to get the new Church paid for ahead of schedule. This is in addition to an ever-increasing regular church budget and living expense. "Since the people began to bring the offerings into the house of the Lord, we have had enough to eat, and have left plenty." II Chronicles 31:10.

We are greatly encouraged by the foresight and dedication of our present church officials and members as manifested in the planning of a new addition to our present building. We are confident that your continued loyalty and regular giving will pay for this new addition in due time. As we seek, find, and do the Lord's Will, He will guide and sustain us. May He continue to use us effectively and fruitfully.

Yours in His Service,

HUGH E. DELANEY,

Minister

DIRECTORY OUR MINISTRY

Bishop Roy H. Short, Louisville Area, 1115 S. Fourth Street, Louisville, Kentucky
Dr. Homer L. Moore, Superintendent of Covington District, Fort Thomas, Kentucky
Reverend Hugh E. Delaney, Pastor, 1310 Highway Avenue, Covington, Kentucky

The Official Board

TRUSTEES

Merle Nelson, Chairman Official Board
John Leslie, Housekeeper
Elwood Turner, Church Treasurer
Ollie Privett, Chairman of Trustees
Albert Rice
Edgar Shryock
Ralph Barker
*Earl Henthorn
Albert J. Luessen

STEWARDS

Devere Adams
Mrs. Robert Beckett
Miss Ru'h Bentz, Communion
Mrs. Leroy Burns
Mrs. John Daly
Miss Emily Davis
Mrs. Hugh E. Delaney
Charles Dick
Mrs. Stanley Dilts, Communion
Howard Gross, Lay Leader and Secretary
Roy Hodges
David Ertel
Mrs. Estell Lancaster
Mrs. John Leslie

STEWARDS

Mrs. A. J. Luessen
Charles Meyers, Financial Secretary
Richard Meyers
William Meyers
Mrs. S. C. McClanahan
Mrs. Gus McGahan
Mrs. Charles Miller
Waites Mote
Mrs. Merle Nelson
Mrs. Richard Ragan, Pres., W.S.C.S.
Kenneth Ratliff
Mrs. Albert Rice
Mrs. Henry Sanders
Clarence Shaw, Pres., Methodist Men
Mrs. Edgar L. Shryock
Miss Clara Spring, Sec. Bldg. Fund
James O. Tritsch
Jerry Tritsch
Mrs. Elwood Turner, Pres., Ever Ready
Miss Marie Turner, Membership Sec.
Mrs. Paul Welch
Miss Lois Winzenried
Mrs. Louis Winzenried
Andrew Tritsch, Honorary
* Mrs. Milton (Lizzie) Tritsch

* (Passed away during this year.)

Commission Chairmen

Membership and Evangelism—Albert Rice
Stewardship and Finance—Elwood Turner
Christian Social Concerns—Leroy Foster

Education—James O. Tritsch
Missions—Howard Gross
Worship—Mrs. A. J. Luessen

Music

Choir Director—Jerry Tritsch
Assistant Organist and Pianist—Mrs. Estell Lancaster

Organist—Mrs. A. J. Luessen
Pianist—Mrs. Charles Miller

Sunday School

Superintendent—Edgar Shryock
Secretary—Young People alternate
Division Superintendents:

Assistant Superintendent—James O. Tritsch
Treasurer—A. J. Luessen

Children—Mrs. A. J. Luessen Youth—Lois Winzenried Adult—Albert Rice
Home Department—Mrs. Stanley Dilts
Pianist—Barbara Ehret

Assistant Pianist—Mrs. Charles Miller

Methodist Youth Fellowship Groups

Senior MYF, President—Harold Leslie
Intermediate MYF, Pres.—Pamela Adams
Junior MYF, President—Mark A. Dick

Counselor—Lois Winzenried
Counselors—Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Ratliff
Counselors—Mr. and Mrs. Devere Adams

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SERVICE FOR THE DEDICATION OF A CHURCH

PRELUDE . . . The people in devout meditation.

HYMN No. 551

CALL TO WORSHIP

Minister: Serve the Lord with gladness.

People: Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise.

Minister: O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker.

People: He is our God; and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand. Amen.

INVOCATION . . . The minister.

Let us pray . . . O God, eternal and ever blessed, who delightest in the assembling of thy people in the sanctuary; receive us graciously as we come into thy house, and grant, we entreat thee, that peace and prosperity may be found within its walls, that the glory of God may be the light thereof, and that we may be satisfied with the goodness of thy house; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COLLECT FOR DEDICATION DAY . . . Minister and people together

Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings, with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ANTHEM

CANTICLE OF THE CHURCH . . . To be said responsively

Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

For behold, darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people.

But the Lord shall rise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

And the nations shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

The abundance of the sea shall be turned unto thee; the wealth of the nations shall come unto thee.

Thy gates shall stand always open; they shall not be shut day nor night,

That men may bring unto thee the wealth of the nations, and their kings led with them.

For the nation and kingdom that will not serve thee shall perish; yea, it shall be utterly wasted.

Violence shall be no more heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders.

But thou shalt call thy walls Salvation, and thy gates thou shalt call Praise.

The sun shall be no more thy light by day; neither for brightness shall the moon give light unto thee.

But the Lord shall be unto thee an everlasting light, and thy God thy glory.

Thy sun shall no more go down; neither shall thy moon withdraw itself.

For the Lord shall be thine everlasting light, and the days of thy mourning shall be ended.

GLORIA PATRI

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH . . . The minister and the people.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

PRAYER

HYMN No. 381

THE SERMON

THE DEDICATION OF GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY RESPONSE . . . The people standing

THE ACT OF DEDICATION

Some person authorized shall say to the officiating minister:

We present this building to be dedicated to the glory of God and the service of men.

Then shall the minister say:

By what name shall this church henceforth be known?

To which shall be answered:

It shall be called the EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH.

Then shall the minister say to all the people:

Beloved in the Lord, we rejoice that God put it into the hearts of his people to build this house to the glory of his name. I now accept this building to be known as EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH, to dedicate it, and to set it apart for the worship of Almighty God and the service of all men. Let us therefore, as we are assembled, solemnly dedicate this place to its proper and sacred uses.

Then, all standing, the minister shall say, the people responding:

To the glory of God the Father, who has called us by his grace;

To the honor of his Son, who loved us and gave himself for us;

To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines and sanctifies us;

We dedicate this house.

For the worship of God in prayer and praise;

For the preaching of the everlasting gospel;

For the celebration of the holy Sacraments; **We dedicate this house.**

For the comfort of all who mourn;

For strength to those who are tempted;

For light to those who seek the way; **We dedicate this house;**

For the hallowing of family life;

For teaching and guiding the young;

For the perfecting of the saints; **We dedicate this house.**

For the conversion of sinners;

For the promotion of righteousness;

For the extension of the Kingdom of God; **We dedicate this house.**

In the unity of the faith

In the bond of Christian brotherhood;

In charity and good will to all; **We dedicate this house.**

In gratitude for the labors of all who love and serve this church;

In loving remembrance of those who have finished their course;

In the hope of a blessed immortality through Jesus Christ our Lord;

We dedicate this house.

Then shall the minister and people together say:

We now, the people of this church and congregation, compassed about with a great cloud of witnesses, grateful for our heritage, sensible of the sacrifice of our fathers in the faith, confessing that apart from us their work cannot be made perfect, do dedicate ourselves anew to the worship and service of Almighty God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Then shall the minister say:

Accept, O God our Father, this service at our hands, and bless it to the end that this congregation of faithful people may make manifest the Church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth, and so may this house be the place where thine honor dwelleth and the whole earth be filled with thy glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THE SANCTUS . . . To be said responsively

Therefore with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising thee, and saying:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most high! Amen.

PRAYER

HYMN No. 550

BENEDICTION . . . CHIMES . . . POSTLUDE

HISTORY OF EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

By Howard G. Gross

Eighty-nine years ago, a group of Protestant families joined together to make plans for a place of worship. A building lot was purchased on Main Street, West Covington. After many trials and tribulations the new Church was completed January 30th, 1879. Some of the original families withdrew because of denominational differences. Mrs. Charles Taylor, a Methodist, enlisted the aid of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Union Protestant Church was placed on the Circuit with Ludlow. This secured pastors with regularity. On Sunday afternoon, April 6th, a meeting was held with Reverend W. W. Ramsey presiding. The total indebtedness of one thousand dollars was raised. Contributions were received from members, plus a generous donation from the builder, John Smith, and the total sum pledged was matched by a gift from Amos Shinkle. Thus, debt free, the Reverend W. W. Ramsey dedicated the Church with the Methodist Ritual for such an occasion. And so, Union Protestant became Union Methodist Church of West Covington. Upon annexation to Covington, a change in the church name was necessary because of Union Methodist Church in downtown Covington. Mrs. George Parsons, wife of the Pastor, suggested the name of Epworth, fittingly because of the Wesley Parsonage in Epworth, England.

Epworth celebrated its Golden Anniversary November 11, 1928. Reverend A. H. Davis arranged a full week of observance. Dr. John O. Gross, a former member and the first minister to come from this community church, was recalled as principal speaker. Mr. Eugene Clark, prepared a history of the church.

Pastors who have served Epworth are as follows: Reverends S. D. Akin, Fred Butts, Thomas Hanford, E. L. Shepherd, C. H. Williamson, L. B. Piercel, T. B. Stratton, W. H. Jones, W. A. Phillips, Rev. Gibson, Theodore Garrett, Amos Broering, J. H. Taulbee, J. H.

Litteral, D. Wendall Brown, I. G. Regan, Rev. Walters, Rev. Moore, Rev. Schell, Rev. Anthony, Rev. Vance, W. F. Felts, George A. Parsons, Rev. Mingeldorf, Rev. Scott, J. L. Albritton, A. H. "Daddy" Davis 1927-1942, James H. Talley 1942-1947, Wilford S. Mitchell 1947-1955, Cecil C. Tanner, 1955-1960, and the present pastor, Hugh E. Delaney, 1960 to the present.

The congregation had outgrown the old church, and Reverend Talley put into motion the will for a new and better church. With the capable direction of Reverend W. S. Mitchell, the building plans were placed in the hands of the Building Committee: Elwood Turner, Chairman, W. S. Mitchell, Pastor; John Sowle, Sr., Merle Nelson, A. J. Luessen, Sr., William Hoffman, Ruth Bentz, and John Mitchell. The Architect was Charles Hildreth and the General Contractor was Shrude and Zimmerman. On August the second, 1953, the building was ready for occupancy. After a brief service in the old building at 1279 Parkway, the congregation marched to the new building and the first service was held. A full week of services followed.

In 1960 the church officials sold the old Parsonage at 1281 Parkway and bought a larger and better residence for the Pastor at 1310 Highway Avenue. This was paid for in full within a reasonable time. Bishop Walter Gum dedicated the Parsonage assisted by Reverend John Worthington.

Space and time do not allow us to record the names of all who, through the years, have served us so faithfully as officers, Church School Teachers, Sunday School Superintendents, and all the others who have labored here because they have been legion. We revere their memories and thank our Heavenly Father for them. May we go forward lifting high the gospel Torch they so faithfully carried, and may it inspire us to continue to bless and work in Christian service to this community.

OUR CHURCH RENDERS A MULTIPLE MINISTRY

VITAL SPIRITUAL LIFE is a matter of primary interest to the people of Epworth Methodist Church. A regular weekly Prayer Meeting and Bible Study and also a Prayer Group of the Twelve deepen the spiritual life of the participants. Much earnest praying is done for both the sick and the unsaved.

EVANGELISM is carried on the year 'round through preaching and evangelistic visitation. A revival is held each year.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION in Sunday School is supplemented with an annual Vacation Bible School. There is also a week-day school of religion meeting in our building each week. The construction of additional Church School rooms is now being promoted.

IN MISSIONS the accepted amount on World Service and Conference Benevolences is paid each year. Missionary Advance Specials are carried in each of the Four Lanes: World missions, national missions, conference missions, and the Methodist Committee of Overseas Relief. Our world missionary Advance Special is \$168.00 given annually to support the work of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Watson, missionaries from Ludlow, Kentucky.

THE MUSIC of the Church is excellent. Under Jerry Tritsch's direction, the choir presents anthems each Sunday in an inspiring way. Mrs. A. J. Luessen, our

Organist, has rendered beautiful music in Epworth for years. The choir spends much time in preparing appropriate music for special occasions. The Easter and Christmas Cantatas are outstanding. SOCIAL CONCERNS receive due consideration in Epworth. The Christian stand on moral issues is expressed. The deserving destitute are helped. The bereaved and the seriously sick receive much attention.

FINANCIALLY, the Church has been on the Conference Honor Roll for several years by paying all of the preferred claims on time each Quarter. The people have paid for the building ahead of schedule. The annual Budget and Building Fund now total over \$15,000.00.

THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS our ministry to the people is multiplied. We have three Youth groups which meet weekly, two ladies' groups and a Methodist Men's Club which meet monthly. These groups accomplish a great deal. The men sponsor the boys in the YMCA Basketball League in the winter and in the Softball League in the summer. The ladies sponsor the girls in the YWCA Softball League in the summer. Both Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts meet in our Church.

EPWORTH is a church small enough to know you, yet strong enough to serve you.

DIRECTORY — Continued from Page 3

Ladies Groups

Ever Ready Group, Pres.— Mrs. Elwood Turner	Vice Pres.—Mrs. Hugh Delaney
Secretary—Mrs. Gus McGahan	Treasurer—Mrs. Richard Ragan
Woman's Society of Christian Service, President—Mrs. Richard Ragan	
Vice President—Mrs. Robert Beckett	Secretary—Mrs. Hugh Delaney
Treasurer—Miss Ruth Bentz	

Methodist Men

President—Clarence Shaw	Vice President—Howard Gross
Secretary—Robert Beckett	Treasurer—Merle Nelson



1878

EPWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

1279 Parkway Avenue, Covington, Kentucky