

LATONIA
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

COVINGTON, KY.

*Golden
Jubilee*

1898 • 1948

1898 - - - 1948

Latonia Christian Church



Corner 39th Street and Decoursey Avenue

COVINGTON -- KENTUCKY

Sunday, February 1, 1948

Golden Jubilee Committees

GENERAL COMMITTEE —

Mr. A. C. Alfred, Chairman, Mr. Orville Noel, Mrs. R. F. Moore,
Mrs. C. H. Sousley.

COMMITTEE ON INVITATIONS—

Mrs. Raymond Cayton, Mrs. Cecil Parker, Mr. Joseph D. Hill, Miss
Sarah Rensberger.

COMMITTEE ON USHERING—

Mrs. Leo. Cole, Mrs. Earl Rogers, Miss Birdie Keal, Miss Charleen
Kyle.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE—

Mr. Orville Noel, Mr. M. R. Fries, Mr. Kenneth Anderson, Mr. Harry
Bird, Mr. A. C. Alfred, Mr. Earl Rogers.

KITCHEN AND DINING ROOM COMMITTEE—

Mrs. Hobart Thompson, Chairman of Dining Room.

Mrs. Ray Sims, Chairman of Kitchen.

Mrs. Vernon Berryman, Mrs. John Cox, Mrs. Nelson Stephenson,
Mrs. W. W. Adams, Mrs. Harry Boyle, Mrs. Delmar Cooper, Mrs.
Naomi Breeze, Mrs. Robert Sherman, Mrs. Cecil Pearson, Mrs. N.
E. Kyle, Mrs. Paul Klette, Mrs. Orville Nelson, Mrs. Elmer Simpson,
Mr. Claude Browning, Mr. C. W. Hutson, Mr. John Cox, Mr. W. W.
Adams, Mr. Cecil Pearson, Mr. Ray Sims, Mr. E. E. Webster, Sr.

GOLDEN JUBILEE BOOKLET COMMITTEE—

Mr. Howard Kelley, Mr. Orville Noel, Mr. A. C. Alfred, Mrs. C. H.
Sousley, Mr. Joseph D. Hill.

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Mrs. Elizabeth Alfred

Only Living Charter Member of the
Latonia Christian Church



Mrs. Elizabeth Alfred, the only living charter member of Latonia Christian Church, was born August 9, 1864, to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Demmien near Covington. She became one of the twenty-five charter members of this church in 1898, having previously been immersed into the body of Christ at the Fifth Street Christian Church, Covington. She is still faithful in attending the morning services of the church. Her cheery smile, steadfast faith and love for this church are a blessing to all of us.

Introductory

LATONIA CHRISTIAN CHURCH COVENANT

MILLDALE, KENTUCKY

February 27, 1898



E, the undersigned, hereby covenant as members of the church of Christ at Milldale (now Latonia) to work and worship together.

We agree to take the Bible, and the Bible alone, as our only rule of faith and practice.

We will endeavor to keep the ordinances of the Lord's house blameless and will strive to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

We desire to be known simply as Christians or disciples of Christ and pledge ourselves hereby to seek to exemplify in our daily living the principles of our Lord's teaching in token whereof we have hereunto affixed our names.

SIGNED: Miss Etta Carlton, Mrs. Mary Carlton, Alice Norman, Miss Eva Mullins, Miss Sallie Carlton, Miss Mattie Danner, Mrs. E. Danner, Mrs. Malisa Norman, Mr. James Southard, Miss Carrie Rice, Mrs. Anna L. Schultz, Mrs. Anna Yelton, Mrs. S. E. Spicer, Geo. C. Rice, Wm. Carpenter, Mrs. Lou Rice, W. A. Woolery, G. S. Mullins, S. W. Beverly, A. E. Yelton, J. W. Rice, Mrs. Elizabeth Alfred, O. H. Alfred, Z. T. Carlton, Mrs. Z. T. Carlton.

Although a half century has lapsed into memory since the twenty-five persons named entered into the above covenant, the purpose, policy and program of Latonia Christian Church is today fundamentally the same.

As it did fifty years ago, this congregation today pleads for the restoration of the primitive order of things Christian—doctrine, ordinances, fruits. This assembly of Christians only has never ceased to champion and to "earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints."

Throughout its life this church has without reservation believed in and preached the Fatherhood of God and the divine Sonship of Jesus Christ, the only "propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." Indeed we believe that Peter's declaration in Caesarea Philippi, that Jesus is "the Christ, the Son of the Living God," is fundamental to all Christian truth.

Established fifty years ago upon the inspired Word of God, this church continues to look to the grand old Book for guidance in all matters regarding faith and practice. The movement of which we are a part has from the first asserted that "Where the Scriptures speak, we speak; where the Scriptures are silent, we are silent." This congregation subscribes wholeheartedly to this declaration.

Pleading for the oneness of God's people upon the ancient order handed down by Christ and the apostles, we maintain that in faith there should be unity; in opinions, liberty; but in all things, love.

We have no denominational standards to uphold; no human names to defend; no man-written creeds to proclaim. Indeed, we have no name but the divine; no creed but the Christ; no book but the inspired.

It is our conviction that as long as we point men "to the law and to the testimony" we are faithful to the Lord who bought us with His own precious blood, but that when we fail in this respect we have failed utterly and there is no longer a valid reason for our existence.

To all who have come today to celebrate with us our Golden Anniversary, we extend a most cordial welcome. It is our prayer that you may be blessed in this hour of worship and praise. May it be your prayer that our faithfulness will continue and increase in the years that lie ahead.

Today's Anniversary Program

Reading of the History of Latonia Christian ChurchA. C. Alfred

Service of Mortgage Burning

Responsive Reading

Minister: In a spirit of gratitude to our Heavenly Father that we are permitted to complete the payments on the adequate parsonage now possessed by this church—

People: We burn this mortgage.

Minister: In a spirit of appreciation of the services rendered by those who have led in acquiring the parsonage at 3906 Church Street—

People: We burn this mortgage.

Minister: In appreciation of the willingness and ability of our members and friends to contribute toward the parsonage fund to the extent that we have been able to provide a sufficient amount to liquidate the total indebtedness—

People: We burn this mortgage.

Minister: In a spirit of genuine gratitude that we have been united in the bonds of Christian comradeship in the prosecution of this enterprise—

People: We burn this mortgage.

(Mortgage will be burned by members of the Advisory Council: Brethren Orville Noel, chairman of the Council; Nelson E. Kyle, chairman of the finance committee; Harry Bird, elder; Clarence Webster, deacon).

Special MusicThe Payne Sisters

Sermon — "The Trumpets of the Jubilee"Harry Bucalstein

Invitation Hymn — "I Am Resolved" No. 165

Benediction

Postlude — "Postlude March"Kern

Evening Service — 7:45 P. M.

Prelude — "A Mighty Fortress"Luther

Song ServiceUnder the Direction of the Payne Sisters

Special Music The Payne Sisters

Communion Service

Offertory — "Andante Religioso"Thome

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

Special Music The Payne Sisters

Sermon — "Is the Restoration Plea Needed Today?"Burris Butler

Invitation Hymn — "Where He Leads Me" No. 163

Benediction

Postlude — "Postlude in E-Flat"Lawrence

In Memory



Harlan C. Runyan became minister of Latonia Christian Church in February, 1902 when the church was in its fourth year and had a membership of approximately fifty-two. At that time the congregation was meeting in its first privately owned building. This was located on Franklin Street, now known as Thirty-sixth Street.

Mr. Runyan's first sermon at Latonia Christian Church was preached to an audience of twenty-three persons. In later years he preached many times to audiences numbering more than one thousand.

Birthplace of Harlan Runyan was Blanchester, Ohio. His advent was made on May 10, 1873. At an early age he moved to Ludlow, Kentucky. For a few years he clerked in a store and then made what was probably the most important and far-reaching decision of his life—to enter the ministry. To prepare for this work he attended the College of the Bible at Transylvania University, Lexington, Kentucky. From this institution he was later graduated with honors.

His first and only ministry, aside from Latonia, was at the Mt. Olivet (Ky.) Christian Church.

Toward the end of his work at Latonia Christian Church his health declined rapidly and on the morning of December 13, 1935 his great heart beat its last as he was carried home to meet and be with Him whose precious gospel, "the power of God unto salvation to everyone that believeth," he had so faithfully proclaimed throughout a long and fruitful ministry. A Prince in Israel had fallen.

History of Latonia



ATONIA Christian Church came into existence as the result of a three-weeks' revival held by George A. Miller, minister of First Christian Church, Covington, in February, 1898. The meetings were held in Bird's Hall, Ritte's Corner, Milldale (now Latonia). Affixing their names to the "Latonia Christian Church Covenant" (page 5, this booklet) were twenty-five charter members. This was done on February 27, 1898.

This small band of Christians only met in the rented hall each first day of the week to "break bread." Mr. Miller and P. H. Duncan of the Ludlow Christian Church preached regularly on alternate Lord's Day afternoons for the infant congregation and occasionally there was preaching by visiting ministers.

Early in 1900 W. Y. Allen, a Christian minister working under the Kentucky State Mission Board, took charge of the work and aided in raising the first money for the building of a house of worship. A lot fifty feet square on Franklin Street (now 36th Street) was given by Mrs. Elizabeth Whipps who lived in Covington. She also gave one of the three beautiful memorial windows for the new building. W. S. Giltner and Allie Yelton presented the other two.

Later in 1900 P. H. Duncan became minister pro-tem. The community had grown to a population of nearly three thousand persons and all indications pointed to the possibility of building a strong church.

The Minutes of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention held in 1901, at Cynthiana, Kentucky, October 2-3, contain the following, relative to the work in Latonia:

"Through the labors of P. H. Duncan, the cause has been brought into greater prominence at Milldale, now known as Latonia, Kenton County. In this growing town of nearly 3,000 people, really a suburb of Covington, we will ultimately have a strong church. The joint labors of Brethren George A. Miller, our President today; H. C. Bowen and P. H. Duncan, have given us a neat house of worship and we think that the part of wisdom is to continue to aid this field until it can take care of itself."

Although the growth of the church had not been great, some progress had been made in the work by 1902 when Harlan C. Runyan began his ministry which was the most diligent effort to strengthen the church numerically, financially, and spiritually.

At the 62nd Annual Meeting of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention at Glasgow, Kentucky, on Wednesday, September 24, 1902, on page 10 of the minutes the following is recorded:

"P. H. Duncan continued with the Latonia work until the first of January and while the growth was not very large, some progress was made. The first of March H. C. Runyan began with that field and has made the most diligent effort to push the work forward. Not a very large growth has been made; but the work is such as to promise ultimate success if properly pushed.

"He has done some excellent work in needy fields elsewhere, holding some very successful meetings. One of these was held at Cecelia, more than doubling the membership of that promising young congregation."

The Minutes of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention held September 23, 1903, at Paris, Kentucky, contain the following relating to Latonia:

"H. C. Runyan has led the work forward to great success under all the circumstances at Latonia. We support him there half time, the church one-fourth and the other Sunday we aid in his support at Oakland, Bracken County, where he has completed and dedicated a house in a very needy section. We have agreed to pay one-fourth of every hundred dollars that can be raised to liquidate this debt.

"There fell into my hands a small 'Day Book' which was used for the purpose of recording the minutes of the organization of the Latonia Christian Church at Latonia, Kentucky.

a Christian Church

"On the first page of the 'Day Book,' we find the following:

" 'Notice':

" 'The object of this book is to keep every member posted as to our financial standing.'

" 'Receipts — Sunshine.'

" 'Expenses — Shadow'.

" 'This book should be posted each month and kept at the church for reference.'

" 'A. E. YELTON, Sec'y.' "

"On page two of the day book, the following is recorded:

" 'FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH, Latonia, Ky.'

" 'February, 1900, subscription circulated for building Latonia Christian Church. Lot donated by Sister Elizabeth Whipps, of Covington, Kentucky. Foundation began March, 1900, and building completed and dedicated October 7, 1900.'

"Then follows an itemized cost of the building and material, the sum of the items being \$1,741.18—the cost of the first church. On the next page (3) of this Day Book, we find a list of personal pledges made for the building of the church. On pages 8 and 9 of the Day Book under date of October 11th, we find a credit and debit summary of receipts and disbursements which total \$1,903.38.

Signed A. E. YELTON, Sec'y and Treas. C. C.

"Following the same page 9, occurs this notation: 'Church Debt Yet Due': Board of Church Extension, Kansas City, Mo.; T. R. Bryan, Sec'y, \$600 at 6 per cent interest, payable semi-annually.'





Pictured at left is Harlan C. Runyan in his "working clothes" as he assisted in the construction of the present building of the Latonia Christian Church. The completed structure, now in its twenty-fifth year of service, is pictured on the opposite page.

"On pages 10 and 11 of the Day Book occurs a memoranda of receipts and disbursements of H. C. Runyan, on July 17, 1904, with the following entry: 'Balance due on Church debt, \$397.15, plus interest due August 1st.'"

In 1906 the name of the community was changed from Milldale to Latonia and the church had become known as Latonia Christian Church. Its growth had been rapid and continual. From a mere handful it had grown in four years to a splendidly working congregation meeting every first day of the week in such numbers that it taxed the capacity of the house of worship that was by then free of debt.

A new battle cry was soon heard, "Another lot, a larger house and a great meeting." The lot for the new addition to the building was secured and the revival began on November 4, 1906, with Messrs. Duncan and Runyan leading. Added to the church were forty-six souls and funds for the new building were amassed.

In 1907 the building was doubled in size and the Kentucky Christian Missionary Convention held its meeting there in September. Minutes of the Convention contain the following: "We begin where we are, with Latonia and H. C. Runyan. In the language of Paul to the Thessalonians, we may say of this field and man; 'But also in every place your faith to God's word is spread abroad; so that we need not speak anything.'"

"This enlarged house, the continual success of the preaching of the word, the continually crowded house of worship in both church and Sunday School services, all tell the story of victory."

In January 1911 Latonia Christian Church declared her financial independence of the Kentucky Christian Missionary Society which up to that time had shared in its support. Under the guiding hand of Mr. Runyan, and with the whole-hearted co-operation of every member of the church, the congregation's amazing growth continued. Its building was filled to overflowing every Lord's Day and it was becoming plainly evident that another and larger building was a necessity.

Definite work toward this end was begun in 1916 when Mr. Runyan, A. L. Caldwell, F. A. Hedges and C. M. Vanlandingham each gave one dollar to start a building fund for a worship center that would meet the needs of the rapidly growing congregation. This money was placed in the bank with the faith that in time it would grow into the thousands. Several years passed before Prof. J. H. Craven was appointed Chairman of the seven-member Building Committee. By June 1, 1921 subscriptions in excess of \$30,000 were made, with a large amount already paid in cash. Pledges were to be paid within a five-year period.

David Davis, a Cincinnati architect, was employed to present plans for a church and Bible school plant. This he did, estimating the cost at \$98,000. The structure was to be built on a lot at the corner of Thirty-ninth Street and De-coursey Avenue already purchased for \$5,500.

A contract for the building was let to Northcutt Brothers, Covington. Excavation was begun at once with members of the congregation assisting. With foundation completed, the corner-stone was laid on November 5, 1921 by the Grand Lodge of Kentucky F. & A. M., assisted by local lodges of Covington and nearby communities.

On Sunday, April 8, 1923, the new building was dedicated to house a congregation whose numbers had increased to 714. C. W. Cauble, of Indianapolis, spoke at each of the three services held during the day. A Fellowship supper was held in the afternoon and included prayer by P. H. Duncan and introduction of visiting ministers by Mr. Runyan.

During the day a total of \$11,800.00 in offerings was received toward the building debt. This reduced the debt from \$62,000.00 where it stood at the beginning of the day's activities, to \$50,000.00.

The following evening, Monday, April 9, the church entered into a revival that filled the new house to overflowing and that resulted in 230 additions to the membership.

In its Souvenir Edition dated Friday, April 6, 1923, the WHIRLWIND NEWS, a monthly publication begun by the church in 1918, carried the following statement:

"THEN AND NOW

"There were 22 members in the Christian Church at the beginning of Rev. Runyan's ministry. There are about 900 now. Then there were 25 in Sunday School. There were 773 Last Sunday. (This was Easter Sunday, April 1, 1923). Twenty-five to 50 was a good church audience then. There were 800 present last Sunday."

For twelve years following the building's dedication, the congregation continued its amazing growth and progress. Many victories were won and the undenominational plea was proclaimed to ever-increasing numbers. Harlan Runyan had become an institution in the community and had won the love of a large share of its residents.



Ministers of Latonia



URING his thirty-three year ministry at Latonia Christian Church, Harlan C. Runyan made an impression on the community that remains to this very day. Truly his works have gone up as a memorial to his life.

His work began here in February, 1902. He baptized, married and buried untold thousands. He kept no record of his work and it is impossible even to estimate its greatness. Many times he preached to congregations numbering more than one thousand and at the revival which followed the dedication of the present house of worship in 1923, he brought 230 new members into the church.

Mr. Runyan was so consumed in his work that he seldom rested from his arduous labors, even when a rest was sorely needed. However in 1926 the members of the church and his many friends sent him and his wife on a tour of the Holy Land. Returning enthused and invigorated, he took great delight in showing pictures and giving illustrated lectures concerning the places he had visited.

The entire community felt the shock of Mr. Runyan's passing on December 13, 1935. All places of business were closed on the day of the funeral. Many from all parts of the country came to pay their respects to this one of sainted memory. Many others, who could not come, sent messages of condolence to the family and the church.

In reporting Mr. Runyan's death in its issue of December 21, 1935, the CHRISTIAN STANDARD said: "When Brother Runyan went to Latonia it was a small village afflicted with many unsavory establishments. He has often told that the first payment he got for his service was the offering, which amounted to thirty cents, handed to him in a tobacco pouch. One of the older ministers told him that he should go on with it, because, if it failed, it would be no dishonor to him, because it was such a difficult job, and, if he succeeded, it would be immensely to his honor. Through the years he has built the church up until now it has a membership of sixteen hundred. He was unquestionably the Parson of the Community. This he did by simple preaching of the ancient gospel and by driving himself hard in pastoral service."

A tribute, "Consecrated Living and the Gospel," by Mrs. Sally E. Spicer, special writer for the Cincinnati ENQUIRER, appeared in the CHRISTIAN STANDARD of January 18, 1936 and said, in part:

"Brother Runyan and the church grew with the growing community and became a dominating influence in all good things of the community. Certainly no more outstanding piece of constructive work in the ministry and among churches of Christ has been done in the entire Cincinnati area in all time.

"When one man has achieved a work outstandingly successful, others seek to discover the elements which brought about the achievement. Of those which were most apparent we can mention a few. Brother Runyan believed the gospel of Christ with all sincerity and preached it simply and convincingly. He gave his whole heart and life to his ministry. He lived his preaching. He wasted no time in discussions of political and other problems not germane to the gospel of salvation through Christ. Like Paul, his philosophy for life was, 'I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.'

"Brother Runyan worked. There was no easy life for him. He counted his work as one worthy of heroic and untiring effort. The day before his death from heart failure he conducted the funeral service for a member of his congregation and performed the marriage ceremony for another. His calendar was filled with such duties for many days to come. He was the friend of all and was Latonia's best-loved pastor. In works of charity his heart went out whenever need appeared. A man's creed, whether Jew, Gentile, Catholic or Protestant, made no difference to Brother Runyan. A man's need, whether physical or spiritual, was all he cared to know. . . . Simplicity, devotion and consecration, coupled with a faith which never wavered, marked the ministry of this man of God and quite apparently account for the blessings which the Lord bestowed upon his efforts. Thus he leaves . . . a memory and heritage worth more than money or fame . . . a testimony of the love and power of the Saviour and His church."



Harlan C. Runyan

Christian Church



Joseph D. Hill



THE CONGREGATION ratified the selection of Charles D. Carter as successor to Mr. Runyan on December 29, 1935. He served until 1938, submitting his resignation on April 1 of that year. Thomas H. Alderson was minister from September 1, 1938 until October 15, 1939.

On December 3, 1939 Joseph D. Hill was elected to the ministry of the church by congregational vote. He began his work here on February 1, 1940, coming from the Macedonia Christian Church, near Lexington, where he had served from June 1, 1935 to January 31, 1940. Prior to that he ministered to the Williamstown (Kentucky) Christian Church from July 23, 1930 to May, 1935.

Since Mr. Hill came to Latonia there have been 968 additions to the church membership—457 by confession and baptism and 511 by statement or letter. Bible school attendance has averaged 318; morning worship service, 347; evening service, 186; and mid-week prayer and Bible study hour, 151. Mr. Hill has made 8,505 calls since coming to Latonia, in addition to preaching 1,159 sermons, officiating at 233 funerals and performing 216 marriage ceremonies.

Among local improvements since Mr. Hill came to Latonia have been the liquidation of the church indebtedness, with mortgage burning ceremonies being held on April 11, 1943, the twentieth anniversary of the dedication of the present building; the renovation and redecoration twice of the church building; the purchase of the parsonage, mortgage of which will be burned at today's Golden Jubilee Services; and the purchase of a bus to carry people in outlying districts to and from the church on Sunday morning and evening and on Wednesday evening.

It has been during the present ministry, also, that the Latonia Christian Church has come to a fuller understanding of its responsibility of sending the Gospel to "the uttermost part of the earth." In 1940 A. Ray Carlson, who was then planning to go to the roof of the world, Tibet, with the Gospel message, was chosen by this church as its living-link missionary. Their journey to that far outpost interrupted by the war, Mr. and Mrs. Carlson instead settled in the Philippine Islands and have since witnessed for the Christ in the city of Cebu. In 1945, along with sister churches in the Greater Cincinnati area, this church actively entered into the establishment of the Hyde Park Church of Christ in Cincinnati, and has pledged \$1,000 to that work for 1948, a similar amount having been given in 1947. Partial living-link support is also pledged to Miss Ruth Schoonover, of the Mabashi Christian Mission, in Japan.

Mr. Hill is a graduate of the Cincinnati Bible Seminary, having been Salutatorian of the 1933 graduating class. He obtained graduate work in 1934 from the University of Cincinnati, and in 1935 was awarded a standardized Bachelor of Arts degree by Georgetown (Ky.) College. The degree Master of Arts in Religious Education was conferred on him in 1937 by the College of the Bible, Lexington, Ky., and in 1940 Mr. Hill fulfilled resident requirements with that school for the degree Bachelor of Divinity.

The Advisory Council

Chairman of the Latonia Christian Church Advisory Council is Orville Noel. The Council is composed of all elders and deacons of the church and provides a joint board through which these men can carry on their work, rather than, as in some congregations, through separate boards. Assisting Mr. Noel in leading the Council are N. E. Kyle, first vice-chairman, and Kenneth Anderson, second vice-chairman.

An important phase of the work of the Council is known as the "Home Department." This work, superintended by M. R. Fries, one of the elders, consists of taking the Lord's Supper every Sunday in the year to the sick and shut-ins of the congregation. During 1947 the elders and deacons made 1,462 home and hospital calls, 3,363 contacts and served the Lord's Supper to 2,236 immersed believers in Christ.

—★—
Reading left to right

Note: The men who retired from the Advisory Council December 31, 1947 are indicated by (R). Those who have one, two or three years yet to serve are indicated by (1), (2), (3).

FRONT ROW: Orville Noel (1), A. C. Alfred (3), Claude Browning (R), Jos. D. Hill (Minister), Kenneth Anderson (2), Arthur Christian (R), Harry Bird (2).

SECOND ROW: Stanley Hillman (2), W. H. Swango (3), Wm. Shontz (3), Clyde Steckel (3), Donald Doan (3), Cecil Pearson (3), Robert Sherman (3), E. E. Byland (2).

THIRD ROW: Cecil Parker (1), Hubert Cooper (1), Harry Peck (1), John Cox (2), Chas. Chambers (1), N. E. Kyle (1), Clarence Webster (1), W. Stegman (1), J. T. Lewis (2).

FOURTH ROW: John Harder (R), Geo. Pessler (R), Owen H. Toole (R), Orloff Knarr (R), Chas. Garnett (2), R. G. Sutherland (1), Ray Sims (2).

Those not present when the picture was taken: Walter Adams (R), Joseph Peacock (R), O. P. McCall (R), Roy Spaulding (R), Robert Watkins (R), M. R. Fries (1), Robert Bashford (2), Howard Perny (2), B. C. Mullins (2), Earl Rogers (3), C. W. Hutson (3), Forest Ashworth (3), Louis Penick (3), E. E. Webster, Sr. (1).





The Choir

Among the most faithful servants of the Latonia Christian Church are those who sing in the choir. Under the direction of Lloyd Cameron, minister of music, and Mrs. Joseph D. Hill, organist, this group participates in all regular worship services of the church, including the Sunday morning and evening services and the midweek vesper hour, as well as in special services.

Those who were present when the accompanying picture of the choir was taken are:

Reading left to right

FRONT ROW: Ora Wilda Webster, Mrs. Jos. D. Hill (Organist), Lloyd Cameron (Director), Roger Dumas, Mattie Lue Hillman, Alice Sowder.

SECOND ROW: Charleen Kyle, Rosemary Johnson, Eula Jean Cooper, Fay Poland, Louise Webster, Dorothy Don, Dorothy Poland, Aleathea Klette.

THIRD ROW: Fred Ketron, Sarah Rensberger, Margie Hillman, Marvin Fessler, Mary Elizabeth Johnson, Lynn Chapman, Eileen Berryman.

Bible School Teachers and Officers

The faithfulness, consecration and far-reaching results of the work of the teachers and officers in our Bible School deserve the appreciation of the entire church.

The Whole Bible Study Course, designed and edited by Joseph D. Hill, is used from the first year Intermediates through the Adult Department. This method of Bible Study was begun January 1, 1946. "The Whole Bible As It Is, for All Men As They Are" is the slogan of the Course. Three years are spent in the study of the Old Testament, four years in the New Testament.

It is our conviction that a people devoted to the Restoration of the "ancient order of things" must be daily, diligent students of the Word of God.—(Acts 17: 11). We are taking II Timothy 2:15 seriously!

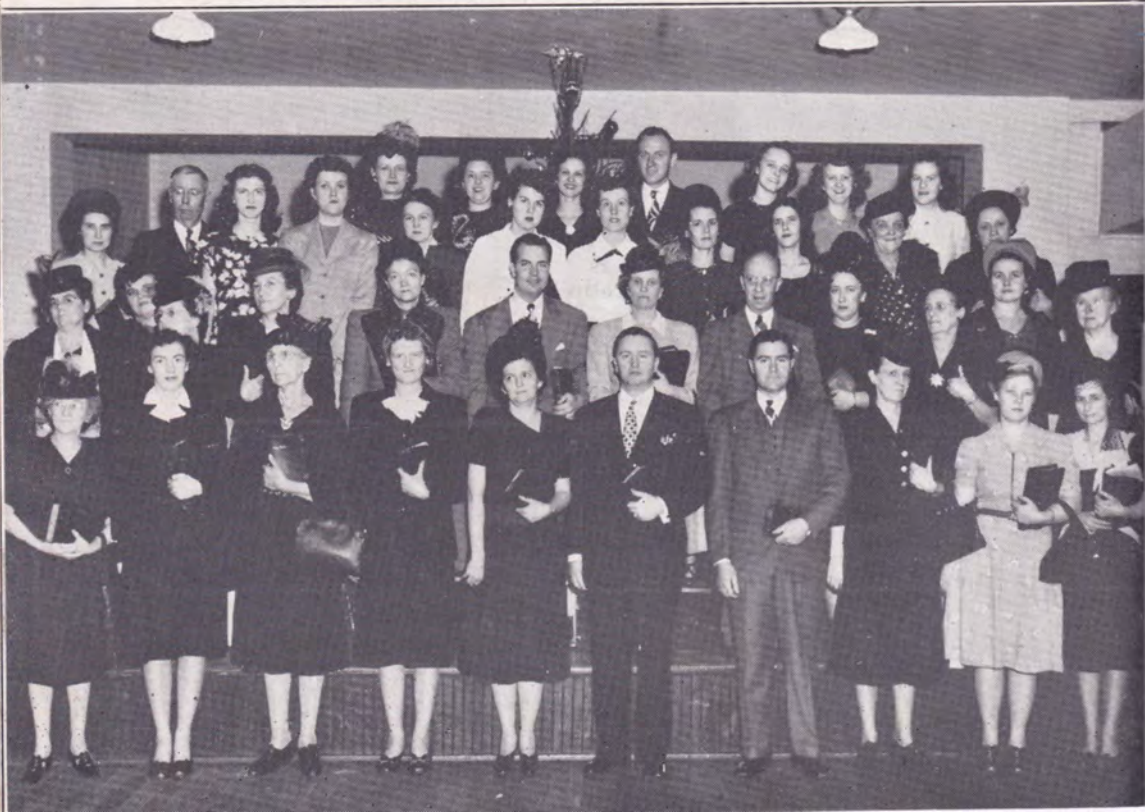
—♦—
Reading left to right

FRONT ROW: Miss Agnes Boyle, Eu'a Jean Cooper Mrs. Susie Lykins, Mrs. Jos. D. Hill, Marie Farney, Secretary, Jos. D. Hill (Pastor-Superintendent) Cecil Pearson (Assistant Superintendent), Mrs. R. G. Sutherland, Mrs. Harold Halfhill, Mrs. Wm. Pollock.

SECOND ROW: Mrs. M. R. Fries, Sarah Rensberger, Mrs. Kenneth Anderson, Mrs. Boyd Gullett, Mrs. J. D. Moore, Charles Chambers, Mrs. Stanley Hillman, Mr. Kenneth Anderson, Miss Margaret Goodridge, Mrs. R. F. Moore, Mrs. Roy Spaulding, Mrs. W. Lemmon.

THIRD ROW: Mrs. Naomi Breeze, Mr. Orville Noel, Rosemary Johnson, Ora Wilda Webster, Blanche Fortner, Fay Poland, Dorothy Poland, Mrs. Harry Peck, Louise Webster, Mrs. Herndon Yeager, Mrs. Archie Williams.

FOURTH ROW: Dorothy Hon, Mary Elizabeth Johnson, Margie Hillman, Marvin Fessler, Lynn Chapman, Mattie Lue Hillman, Eileen Berryman.



Our Servant Abroad



LATONIA Christian Church is proud of the part it is having in supporting Brother Ray Carlson, its living-link missionary to the Philippine Islands. Located in the city of Cebu, Mr. Carlson has made such an impression on the people that he is everywhere recognized as a worker for Him.

Mr. Carlson recently returned to the Philippines after a furlough which followed his first term on the field. Mr. Carlson's service during that period was interrupted by his imprisonment in a Japanese prison camp. Realizing that the Lord had answered their prayers for Mr. Carlson's deliverance, members of Latonia Christian Church opened their hearts and homes to him when he visited this congregation for an extended period in 1946. It was with regret that we let him go from us after such a comparatively short time, but we realized then and realize now that his every concern is for the Philippine work. We join our hearts, our prayers, our offerings, with Mr. Carlson's devoted labors as he continues his faithful ministry.

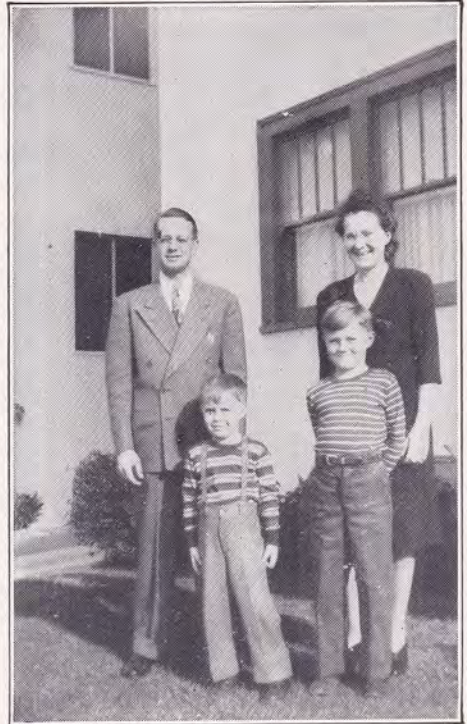
In a recent issue of the **CHRISTIAN STANDARD** Mr. Carlson made the following statement:

We will soon begin our seventh year in foreign-mission work. So far we have found the way very hard and full of heartaches and discouragements. The way to life is rugged, and we have been happy that we could not see the future, else we might not have endured. Even apart from war experiences the way has not been easy. Travel alone is a wearisome, heartbreaking task when a family and baggage and equipment are involved. Inflated costs create financial problems, and the faith of missionaries is often tried thereby. Living conditions in the Islands are difficult to describe. How weary one becomes of the eternal bargaining and haggling that is characteristic of the East! Rather than argue and create scenes, we Westerners would almost rather pay unreasonable prices. The heat is oppressive and enervating. We hate the siesta and its indolence, but a neglect of it soon brings fatigue and listlessness. The universal drudgery of hauling water and hewing wood has played a large part in the present backwardness of countries like this. Misunderstandings caused by custom differences and strange habits are common. Language problems with the attendant handicaps create difficult hurdles—but perhaps we are painting too dark a picture.

The Lord certainly knew all of these problems when He gave the Great Commission. He knew the weakness of human flesh, and set the example of selfless giving and unwillingness to count the cost. Here, then, is the secret of Christian service. We are not told to "go" if it is convenient, or if all our friends and relatives approve, or if we feel "called" to a certain field, or if we are able to secure financial guarantees of our support; but we are commanded nevertheless to carry the message of salvation to all the world.

Our voice may be small, and our effective influence restricted, but as God's harvesters we need not be concerned immediately about the grain out of the reach of our sickles. Let us just make sure that we cut a straight swath and miss no ears in our path. The harvest is great and the laborers are few, but each is required to put in but one day of toil at a time. God will require from the lazy and heedless the blood of those who have not heard the gospel.

—From the "Christian Standard" for January 17, 1948



The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word;
From heav'n He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her,
And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth;
Her charter of salvation,
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With ev'ry grace endued.

Tho' with a scornful wonder
Men see her sore opprest,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distrest,
Yet saints their watch are keeping,
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

'Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation,
Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

—S. J. Stone