

# Grace United Church of Christ



1748 - 2016

Historical  
Pictorial  
Booklet

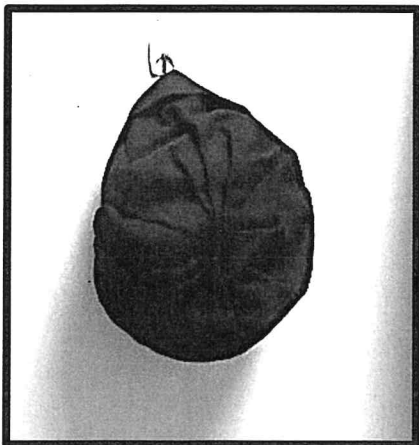


This book contains a history  
of Grace UCC which was displayed  
for Old Home Week 2016.  
It was created and designed by  
Joann Snider and Nancy Myers.





# Music Ministry



Hat worn  
by the  
women of  
the choir.

Senior Choir- Black  
gowns, Ladies with hats  
Junior Choir-Black collars  
& White robes

## 3 Vested Choirs 1936

Children's Choir-Black  
bow & White robes



- Row 1: Glenn Bemisderfer, Julia Black Goshern, Rodney Snyder, Carol Pensinger, Janet Minnich Gift, Virginia Martin Cordell  
 Row 2: William Black, Florence Stine Leshner, Alice Brumbaugh, Jane Hostetter, Robert Snyder, William Brant, Ada Stine Grove, Janet Barnhart Dietrich  
 Row 3: Helen Black Harne, Donald Plott, Pat Gillan, Dorothy Jean Stover Holbert, Durbin Henneberger, Betty Miller Danzberger, Anna Jane Minnich Noble, Jane Izer Schmidt, Ruby Bemisderfer Pinkerton, Anna Bell Koons Goetz, Mary Louise Shrader  
 Row 4: Joe Young, Keiffer Snyder, Mayriale Stover, David Martin-Choir Director, Elizabeth Brumbaugh-Organist, Ellis Izer—Senior Choir, Lois Henneberger, Virginia Black Starliper, Phyllis Goetz Delaney  
 Row 5: James Pentz-Junior Choir, Mildred Lear Toms, Loretta Koons, Ruth Hoke Fair, Martha "Mattie" Pope, Janet Smith Hykes, Wanda Simmers-Junior Choir  
 Row 6: Della Harnish Martin, Mary Gordon Coffey, Vera Branthaver Davis, Ruth Greenawalt Stover, Frances Branthaver Moser, Isabell Rahauser Gingrich, Harriet Snyder Malinawski  
 Row 7: Louise Stine Peters, Irvin Esbleman, Claire Snyder, Paul Hykes, The Rev. G. Ermine Plott, Joe Rahauser, Kenneth Smith, Jean Stephey Maun, Corrine Walters Snyder

## Junior Choir Robe

1984



Front Row: Frank Bowman, Amy Stine,  
Thaddeus DeLauter, Chris Homer  
Back Row: Carrie McKendrick, Martha  
Kuyendall, Stephanie Thomas,  
William Myers



## Chancel Choir Robe

1984



Front Row: Ellen Stine, Agnus Stine,  
Elizabeth Schanzenbacher, Patty Stepler  
Second Row: Marie Eshleman, Bobbie  
Craig, Carolle Patrick  
Third Row: Rella Keller, Deborah Klemm.  
Evelyn Baumgardner, Dorothy Guenon  
Fourth Row: Darlene Bitner, Nancy Myers,  
John Craig, Larry Stepler, Donald  
Eshleman, Ronald DeLauter, Jr.





Chancel Choir  
Robe

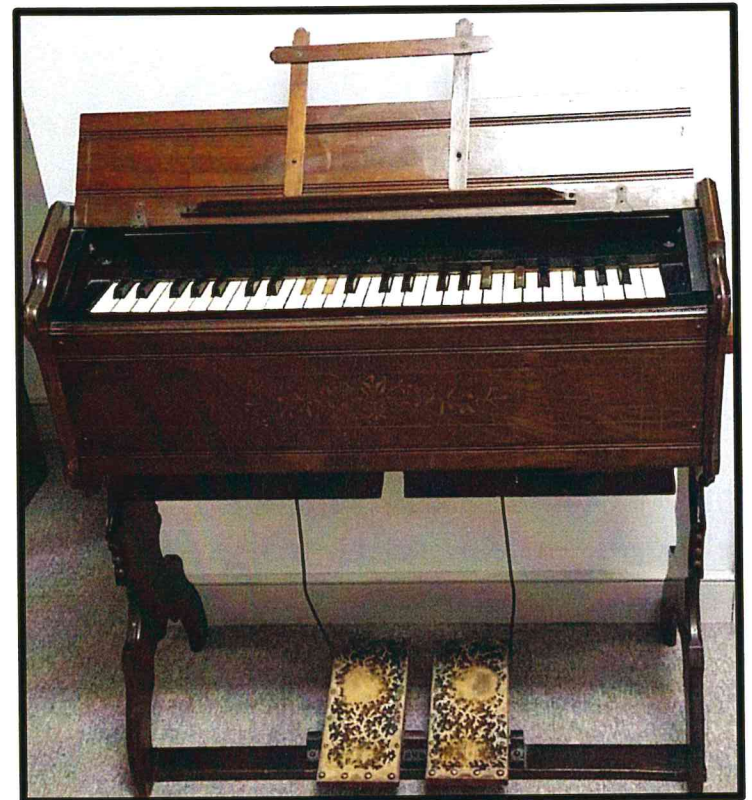
1990

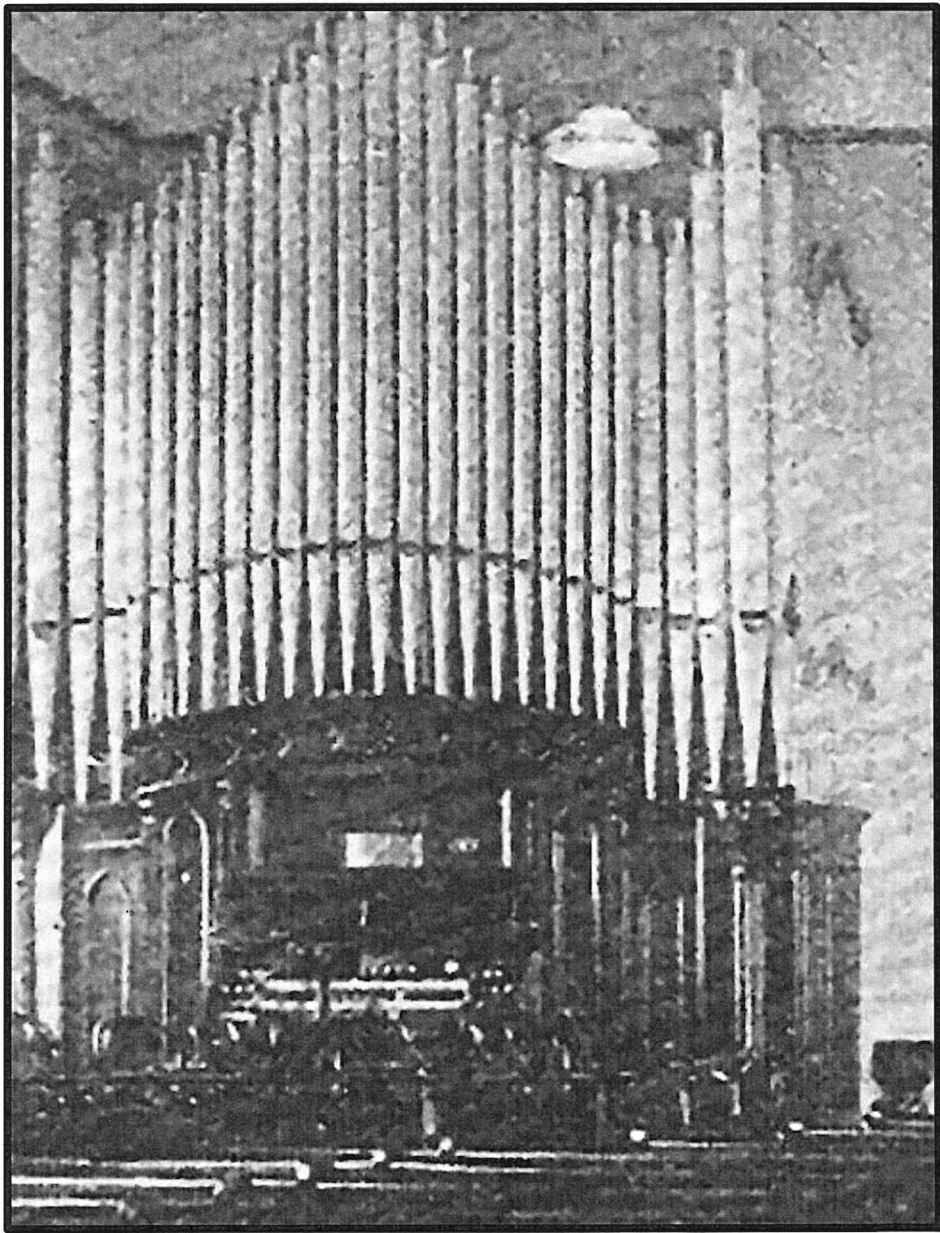


Front Row: Ellen Stine, Betty Henry, Rella Keller, Dorothy Guenon, Patty Stepler  
Second Row: Joanna Fetterhoff, Bobbie Craig, Carolle Patrick, Darlene Bitner, Joann Snider, Margaret Stouffer, Susan Alsip, Nancy Myers,  
Third Row: John Craig, Larry Stepler, Christopher Homer

# Organs over the years

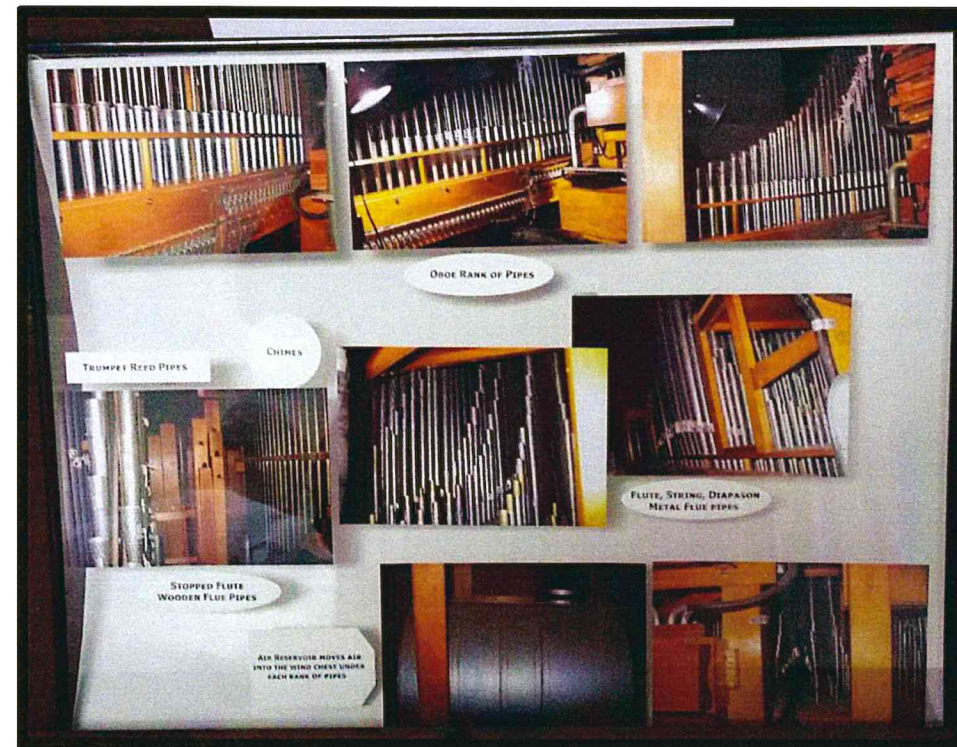
1880s	Mason-Hamlin Reed Pump Organ
1880s	M.P. Moller Pipe Organ -- \$425.00
1903	M.P. Moller Pipe Organ -- \$2,000.00
1930	M.P. Moller Organ refinished in walnut
1953 to present	M.P. Moller Two-Manual Pipe Organ -- \$10,727.00



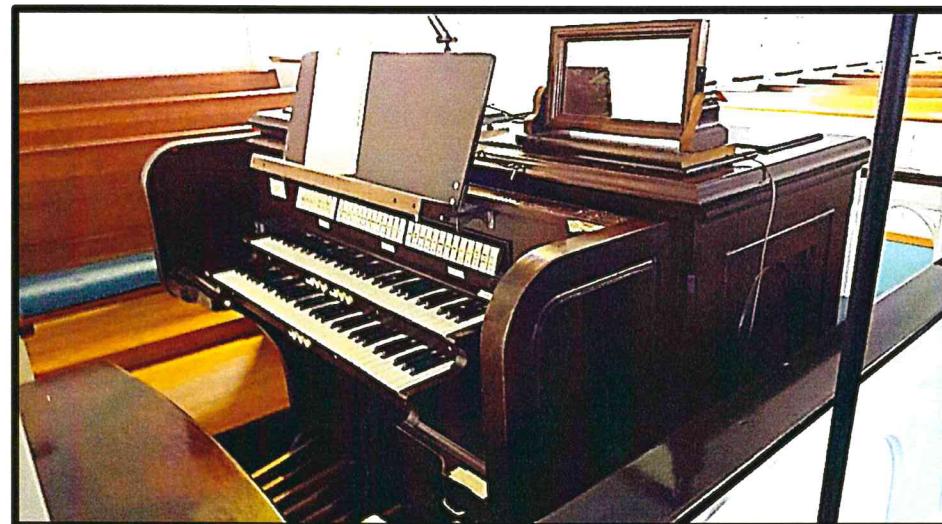




## Original pipes from 1880 pipe organ



These pipes are now located in the loft above the sanctuary which are being used by the present organ.





# **MINISTERS IN SERVICE**

## **to Grace UCC over the years**

Rev. Jacob Weymer	1770 – 1790
Rev. Jonathan Rahouser	1792 – 1817
Rev. Frederick A Schall	1818 – 1833
Rev. John Rebaugh	1837 – 1850
Rev. John S. Faulk	1850 – 1857
Rev. Thomas G. Apple, D.D., LL.D.	1858 – 1865
Rev. Samuel N. Callendar, D.D.	1866 – 1870
Rev. Moses Keifer, D.D.	1871 – 1874
Rev. Stephen A. Kremer	1874 – 1876
Rev. John H. Sykes	1877 – 1880
Rev. Cyrus C. Cort	1881 – 1892
Rev. Calvin U. Heilman	1893 – 1895
Rev. Isaac Newton Peightel, D.D.	1895 – 1919
Rev. L. Valmore Hetrick, D.D.	1920 – 1925
Rev. George Ermine Plott	1926 – 1948
Rev. Harold Bonner	1948 – 1949
Rev. Merle F. Sollinger	1949 – 1954
Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Sponseller, Ph.D.	1954 – 1957
Rev. Luther George Heist, Jr.	1957 – 1967
Rev. Ralph S. Geiman	1967 – 1995
Rev. Dr. Donald L. McBride, D.D.	1996 – 1998
Rev. Donald E. Reese(interim)	1998 – 1999
Rev. Mary C. Wehr	1999 - 2000
Rev. Donald E. Reese	2000 - 2005
Rev. James E. Hughes	2006 – 2013
Rev. Brian P. Adams (3 months)	2014 - 2015 3 mo

### *German Reformed Church*

Rev. Jacob Weymer	1770 - 1790
Rev. Jonathan Rahouser	1792 - 1817
Rev. Frederick A. Scholl	1818 - 1833
Rev. Hamilton (Interim)	1834
Rev. William Vandyke (Interim)	1835
Rev. Jacob Mayer (Interim)	1836
Rev. John Rebaugh	1837 - 1850
Rev. John S. Faulk	1850 - 1857
Rev. Thomas G. Apple, D.D.	1858 - 1865

### *Reformed Church in the United States*

Rev. Samuel N. Callendar, D.D.	1866 - 1870
Rev. Moses Keifer, D.D.	1871 - 1874
Rev. Stephen A. Kremer	1874 - 1876
Rev. John H. Sykes	1877 - 1880
Rev. Cyrus C. Cort	1881 - 1892
Rev. Calvin U. Heilman	1893 - 1895
Rev. Isaac Newton Peightel, D.D.	1895 - 1919
Rev. L. Valmore Hetrick, D.D.	1920 - 1925
Rev. George Ermine Plott	1926 - 1948

### *Evangelical and Reformed Church*

Rev. Harold Bonner	1948 - 1949
Rev. Merle F. Sollinger	1949 - 1954
Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Sponseller, Ph.D.	1954 - 1957

### *United Church of Christ*

Rev. Luther George Heist, Jr.	1957 - 1967
Rev. Ralph S. Geiman	1967 - 1995
Rev. Dr. Donald L. McBride, D.D.	1996 - 1998
Rev. Donald E. Reese (Interim)	1998 - 1999
Rev. Mary C. Wehr	1999 - 2000
Rev. Donald E. Reese	2000 - 2005
Rev. Denise Smelley (Interim)	2005 - 2006
Rev. James E. Hughes	2006 - 2013
Rev. Richard Landis (Supply)	
Rev. Douglas Wagner (Supply)	
Rev. Phil Harner (Supply)	
Rev. Douglas Wagner (Supply)	
Rev. Brian P. Adams (3 months)	2015
Rev. Dr. Carol Kipe, D.D. (Supply)	2015 - 2016
Rev. Narda Druckenmiller (Supply)	
Rev. Daniel Schmidt (Bridge)	

1748 - The Reformed people of the Conogogig Settlement were first served by an itinerant German Reformed Minister, Rev. Michael Schlatter. Other circuit riding ministers served until Rev. Weymer accepted the call.

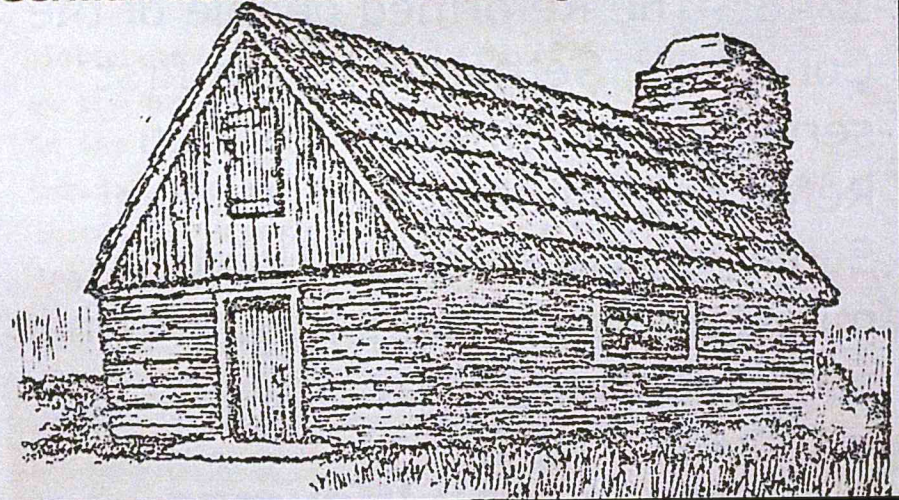
## **Rev. Jacob Weymer**

Tenure 1770-1790

- ❖ 1782 - During his pastorate the village of Greencastle was plotted and laid out by Col. John Allison.
- ❖ 1786 - The German Reformed congregation purchased a tract of land from John Allison and erected a log meeting building at the end of the burying ground.
- ❖ Our church was first known as the "German Evangelical Reformed Society." Later, "Zion" was added and the name changed to "German Evangelical Reformed Zion Church."



**German Reformed Church** log church structure



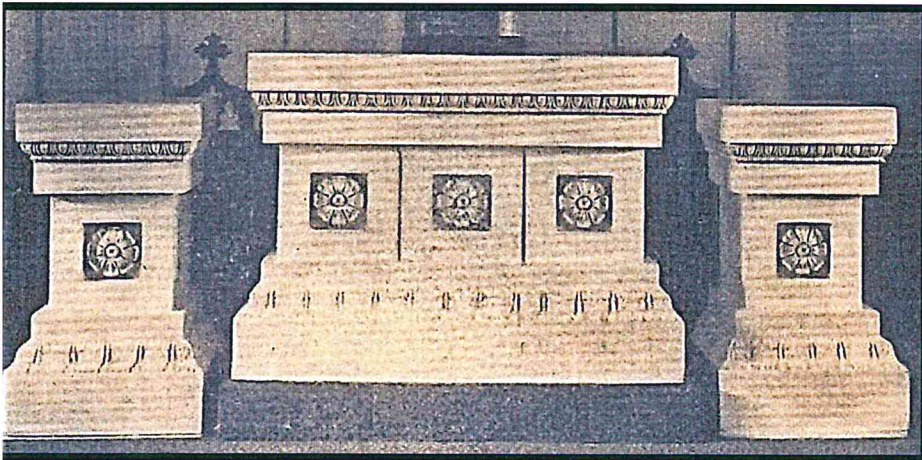
EchoFoto photo by Jacek Wiele

**German Reform Graveyard on South Carlisle Street**

## **Rev. Jonathan Rahauser**

Tenure 1792 – 1817

- ❖ 1808 – Log meeting building  
Demolished.
- ❖ 1808 – Brick building erected at  
the front of the lot.



These items are still being used  
today in the Chapel.



# Rev. Fredrick A. Scholl

Tenure 1818 – 1833

- ❖ Spoke only in German
- ❖ Introduced a course of catechetical instructions
- ❖ Baptized Henry Harbaugh
- ❖ Buried in the German Cemetery



Tall memorial marker of Rev. Frederick Scholl, minister of the German Reformed Church.

## **1834 - 1836**

Pulpit was vacant for several years during which time it was supplied by

Rev. Hamilton  
Rev. William Vandyke  
Rev. Jacob Mayer

## **Rev. John Rebaugh**

Tenure 1837 – 1850

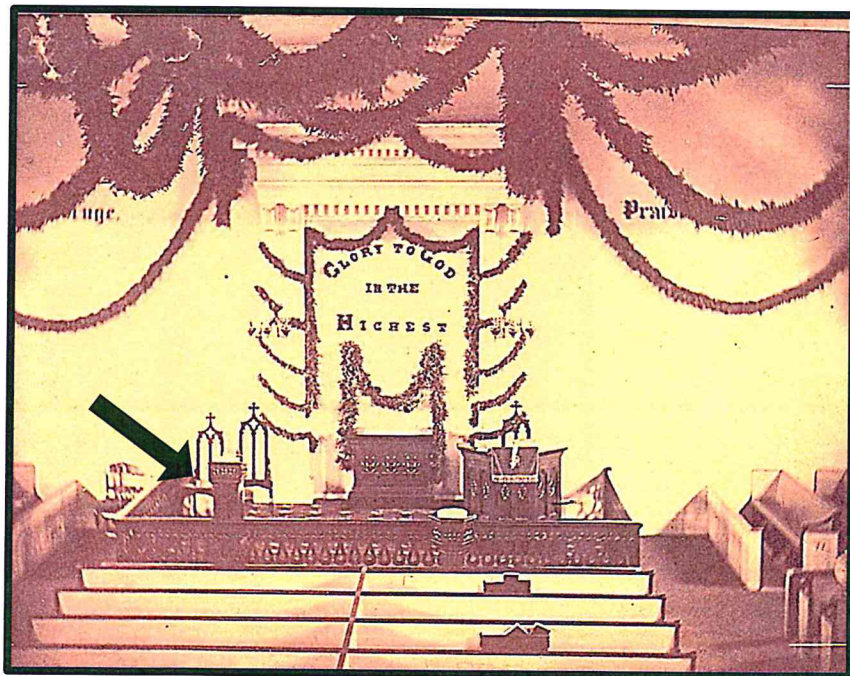
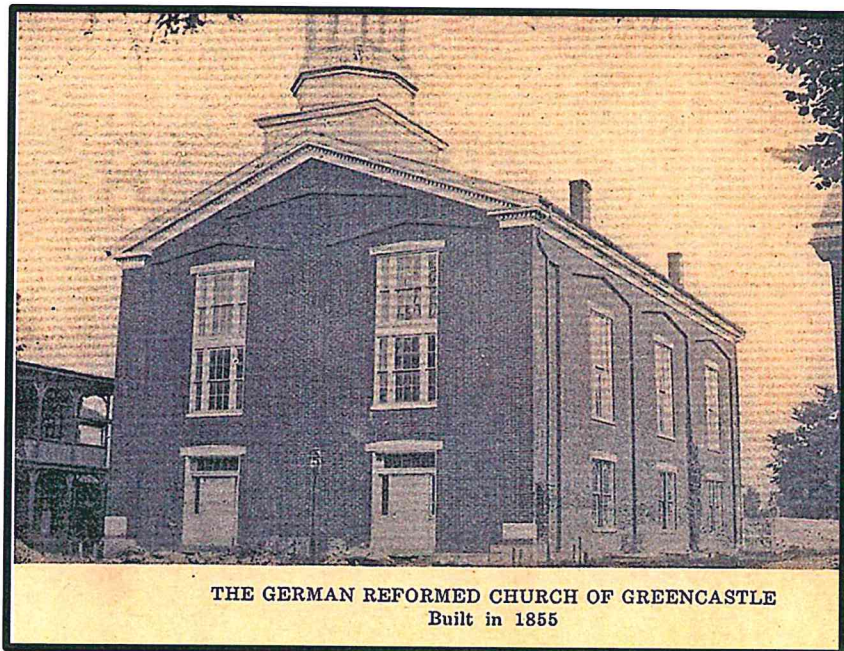
- ❖ Use of German language was eliminated.
- ❖ Introduced the use of English language in public service
- ❖ Organized the first Sunday School
- ❖ Greencastle and Middleburg Charge jointly purchased a parsonage located at 42 East Baltimore Street.

## **Rev. John S. Foulk**

Tenure 1850-1857

- ❖ 1850 – First resident minister.
- ❖ 1850 – Financed Pastor's salary via pew rentals, system replaced with individual "subscription" to the church.
- ❖ 1851 - The name given to the congregation was, "The Reformed Church at Greencastle."
- ❖ 1853 – Tore down the brick church on South Carlisle Street.
- ❖ 1854 – A lot on East Baltimore formed Church at Street, where the present church stands, was purchased for \$1,000.
- ❖ 1855 – The cornerstone from the 1808 church was placed in the opposite front corner of the German Reformed Church of Greencastle.



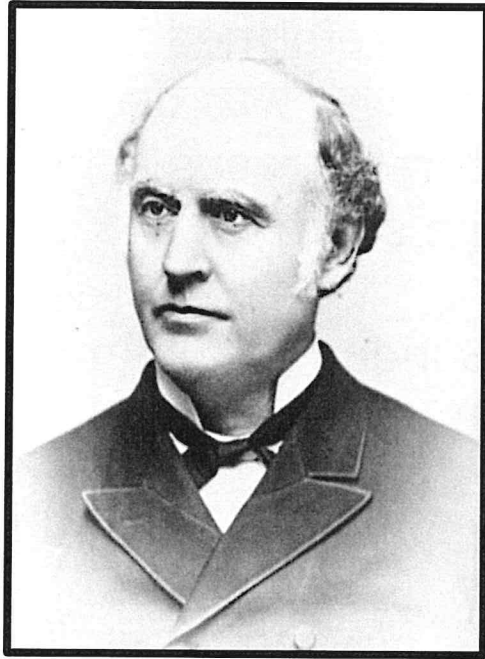




1855  
Altar Chair

## **Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Apple**

Tenure 1858 – 1865



- ❖ 1861 – Sunday School had 220 members.
- ❖ 1864 – Consistory adopted a resolution stating if a member did not commune, attend public worship or neglected to support for

two year he/she would  
be given a Certificate of  
dismissal.

- ❖ 1863 - The Reformed  
Church tower was used to observe  
Confederate troops approaching  
from the south.
- ❖ 1865 - Sunday School met Apr. thru  
Oct. at 9:30 AM and 2:00 PM Nov.  
thru Mar.

*Bell tower used by Captain Ulric  
Dahlgree to  
survey the  
countryside for  
on-coming  
Confederates*



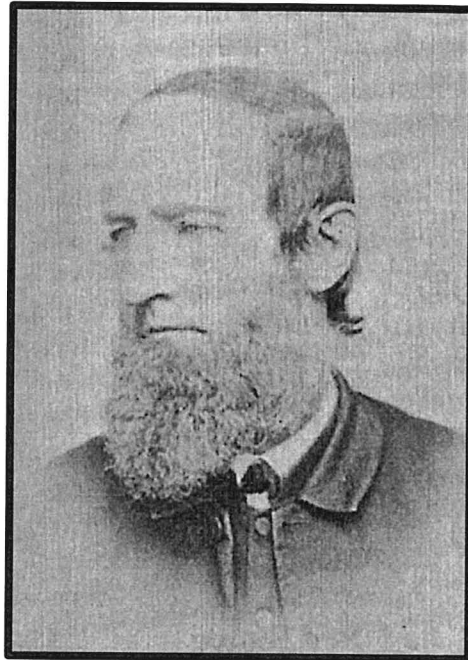
Pen Drawing of the Church as it stood



## **Rev. Dr. Samuel N. Callendar**

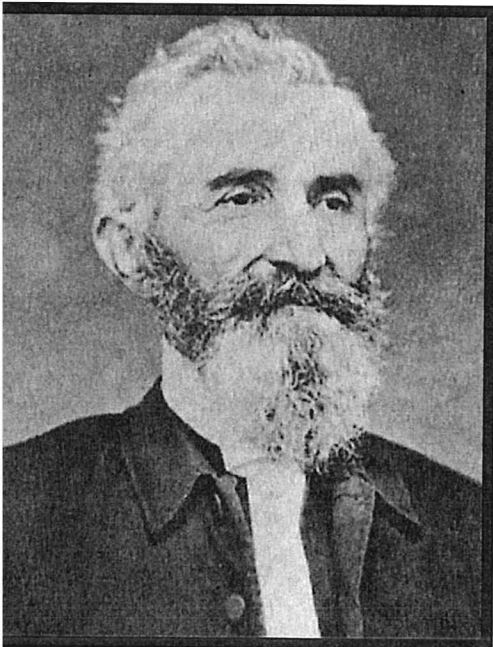
Tenure  
1886 - 1870

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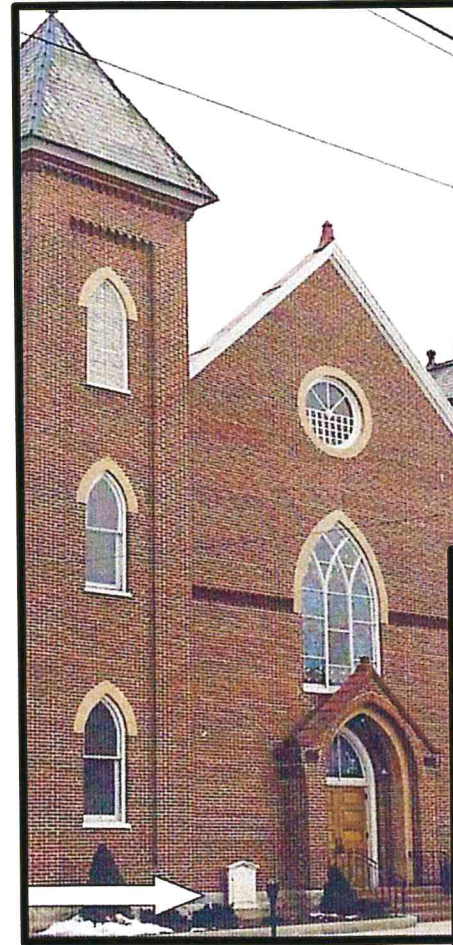
## **Rev. Moses Keiffer**

Tenure  
1871 - 1874



# Rev. Steven K. Kremer

Tenure 1874 – 1876



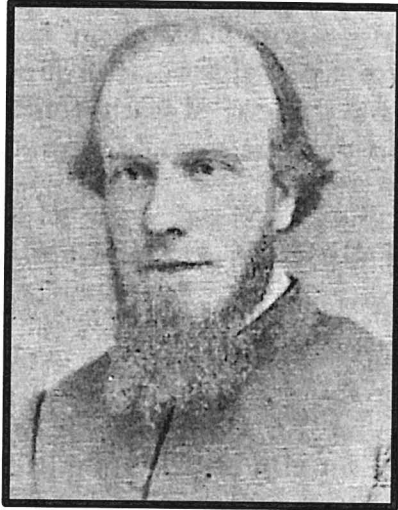
Rev. Kremer was buried in the front yard of the church.



A later addition to the building extended over his grave, which now is marked by a marble tablet in front of the church building.

## Rev. John H. Sykes

Tenure  
1877-1880



- ❖ Purchased a lot east of the church for \$2,700.00, on which was a two story brick building, used as our parsonage.
- ❖ 1880 - a Moller pipe organ installed for \$425.00. It was the first pipe organ in Greencastle.





Grace Reformed Church Parsonage



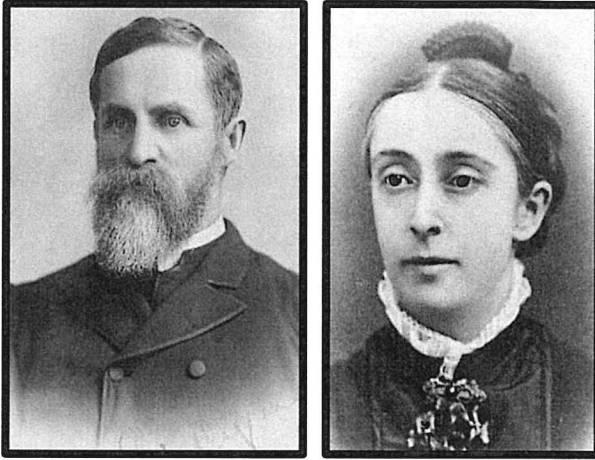
Grace UCC Parsonage 2016



## Rev. Cyrus C. Cort

Tenure

1881 – 1892



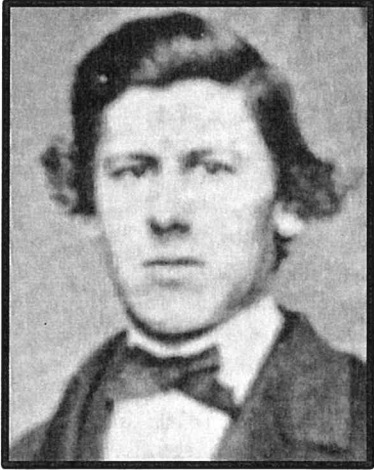
- ❖ Added 340 new members to Greencastle and State Line Charge.
- ❖ A prolific writer on theological and historical subjects.
- ❖ Due to his efforts monuments to the memory of the fallen were erected at Enoch Brown, Fort Loudon, Fort McCord and Fort McDowell.
- ❖ 1886 First Children's Day

John Miller, a Greencastle resident, provided a copy of his great, great grandfather's marriage certificate. Below is a copy of the certificate signed by Rev. Cort.



# Rev. Calvin U. Heilman

Tenure 1893-1895



Ordained into  
ministry 1865

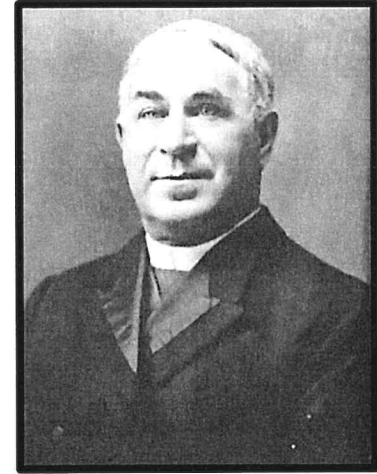


Left Grace  
church in  
1895

- ❖ 1894 – Planned extensive remodeling of church and addition of Twin Towers, Memorial windows, pulpit recess and etc., but died before completion.
- ❖ First floor Sunday School was renovated.

## **Rev. Dr. Isaac N. Peightel**

Tenure 1895-1919



❖ 1895 – Completed the building of a pulpit recess in the rear of the church.

❖ 1895 - Completed the erection of vestibules and towers at the front.

❖ 1895 – Placed 8 memorial stained glass windows in sanctuary.

❖ 1895 – Placed the original oil painting of the “Ascending Lord” above the altar.

❖ 1910 - Brass Lectern in form of a winged Eagle given by Henry & Evaline Omwake and placed in sanctuary.

❖ Purchased of new organ in 1902

and the first public recital was given in 1903.

- ❖ The word "German" was dropped from the name of the congregation.

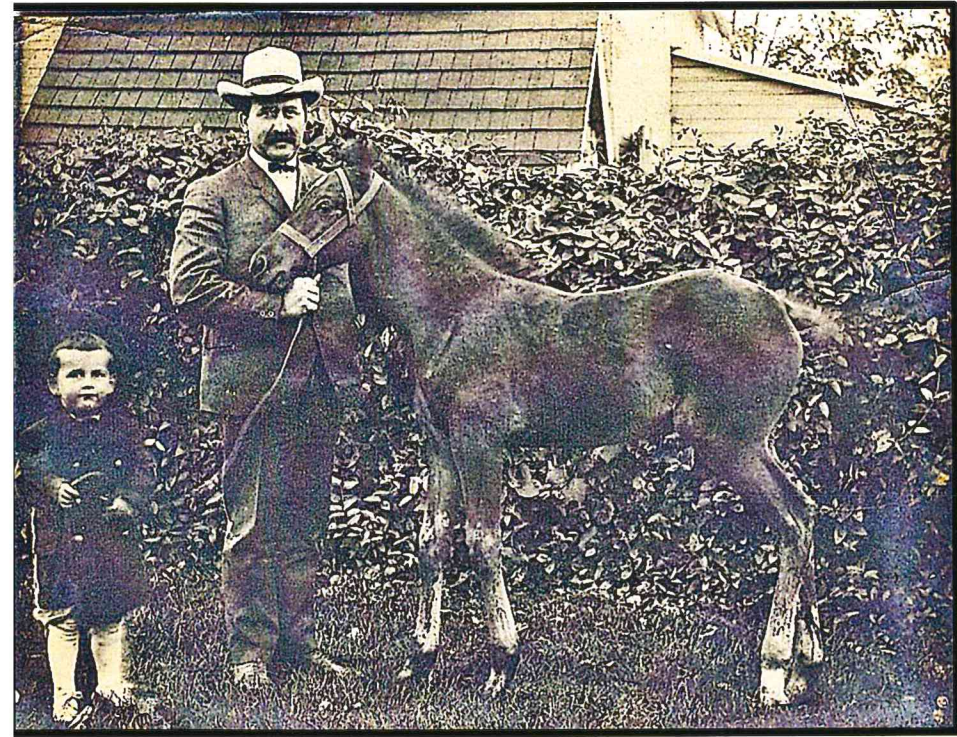
- ❖ In 1908 an application was filed for a charter for a corporation to be known as "Grace Reformed Church of Greencastle, Pennsylvania".

- ❖ In 1910 an electric lighting system was installed.



Interior of Grace Reformed Church 1910

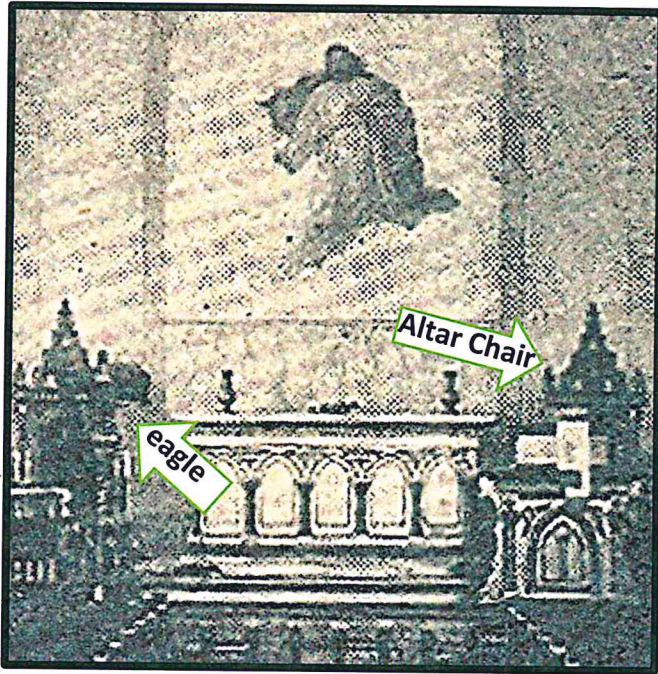






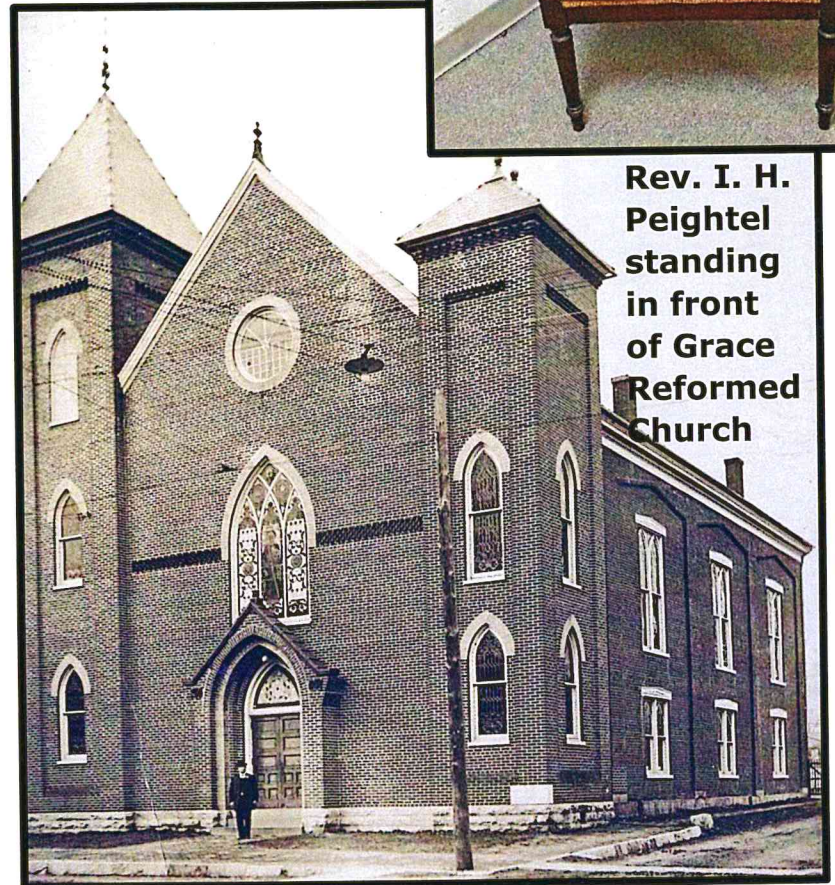
1910

Brass  
Lectern in  
the form  
of a  
Winged  
Eagle



The Brass Lectern is  
in the form of a  
Winged Eagle. The  
children of Henry and  
Evaline Omwake  
presented the  
Lectern to Grace  
Church in 1910.

Original Altar  
Chair used in the  
Reformed Church  
in the United  
States.



**Rev. I. H.  
Peightel  
standing  
in front  
of Grace  
Reformed  
Church**