# **ORACLE**

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## Celebrating 200 Years

In 1818 The Presbyterian Church in Utica was organized by Rev. James Cunningham and some thirty-one members. The church was first called the Concord Congregation but was later changed to the Utica Congregation. Members first met in a tent and then built a church structure. Records were lost on the history of the church until 1838. Some facts about our church:

- Sunday School first started in 1833.
- New church building was built in front of old building in 1848.
- In 1888 the church building was destroyed by fire.
- In 1889, the new church was dedicated.
- In 1916, the Sunday school rooms, kitchen, dining room and basement were constructed.
- In 1939, a special service was held commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the dedication of the present edifice.
- In 1946, Mrs. Stevens organized the Friendship Class. This group of young couples did a lot of church work and enjoyed the fellowship. Mrs. Stevens also organized the first Daily Vacation Bible School.
- In 1960, the sanctuary was completely renovated.
- In 1961 a newsletter to the members was started.

A lot of things have taken place since 1961 in our church (see the scrapbooks in our library) and with God's blessing, many more things will happen in the future.

1909 1939





We had a float in the Utica Homecoming Parade on September  $19^{th}$  and served cake to the people attending the Homecoming on September  $22^{nd}$ . Our annual Bake Sale was held on September  $22^{nd}$  also.











5 Diana Cherry

16 Sarah Torrens

23 Ina Heath

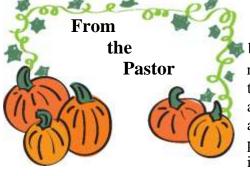
25 Kathy Butcher

25 Jeanne Fawcett

25 Todd Salome

and Anniversaries

27 Terry and Mary Holobaugh



As I was thinking about the past events of the Homecoming Festival being 100 years, the 200 year celebration of the church, and the 50 year reunion of my graduating class, I thought about their sustainability and the how's and why's of it all. It takes a whole community to raise a child and it takes a complete community or congregation to put together such a large undertaking. This does not mean that everyone is involved in the planning but it does mean that everyone gets involved in the event if it is to be meaningful and a success. (continued on next page)

The reason I bring this up is I was asked about Moses crossing the Red Sea and what an undertaking it must have been. It took months of planning and persuasion to bring this event about. Not everyone was onboard to leave Egypt even though they were in slavery and being mistreated. Some were enjoying the culture which had been their lives for the past 400 years, while others stuck to the way of life of their forefathers. Still they went. They were willing to look into and embrace the future as one people rather than to live in the past, allowing God to lead them. We see this over and over in the Bible



Crossing the Red Sea

stories from the Judges to the Kings, to the Prophets, to Jesus and to the Apostles. In all these accounts there was a common thread. God.

If we have that same God in all our efforts they will be a success and that is why things last. It is God who brings all people and things together. In Genesis it says we were created for his pleasure and if we live in his will he is there for our pleasure to bring us together as one.

I look forward to continuing the celebrations of life with each of you with God as our guide.

#### Pastor Terry



Rod & Debra Hornsby Viola Wilson Monte Thompson Margaret & Lynn Fawcett Mary Holobaugh Vicky Gruber Ray & JoAnn McCann Walter Martin Anita Bennett Rick Martin Kay Byard Lora Freed **Bob Shaw** Bob Gruber Lynn Fawcett **Ethel Davis** The Family of Kathy White The Bline, Evans & Hale Families Nathan Butcher Carter & the Morrison Family The Family of Jasey Treadway



Tuesday, October 2, 9, 16, 23, & 30 1:00 p.m. in our church dining hall

We are in the process of making quilts for the foster children at the House of New Hope in St. Louisville. We are always looking for more helpers, so come and join us.

## Circle of Faith Mission Event

7:00 p.m. October 2 at Utica Church of Christ

Join us for fellowship & support of all Utica community area women whose desire is to be the hands and feet of Christ. Please bring colored cotton underwear for the women of Uganda who are in need. Guest speaker will be Cynthia Stiverson from Woven Women International, Inc. Refreshments will follow program.



### 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Dinner Saturday, October 6 6:30 p.m. A short program will follow the dinner

There will also be a Special Worship Service with Communion on Sunday, October 7 at 10:30 a.m.



Ladies Luncheon
October 18
11:30
at
Nick's Pizza in Utica



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Utica Halloween Treat Night Thursday, October 25 6-7:30 p.m.

We will be passing out treats to the children. We are asking for donations of candy for this project. Please bring to church by October 21.

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fied of the control o	æ		pue		heart,		shings	
Le godly w ure to spell ar ure the words a	1		seusoui seusoui		pie		litore	
We all need people who share godly wisdom with us. Directions: First, unscramble the bold letturs to spell another word for "pail." Write that word in the first empty row. Then move the words under each bold letter to that letter's new column. The result will be Proverts 27.9, WK.	щ		Perfume		ag .		a friend	
need peo st, unscramb r first empty v column. Th	ш		pring		ą.		層	
We all rections: Fire set word in the set letter's new	Д	4	e.	Perfume	ъ	3	advice.	A friend