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Hyde Park Presbyterian

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The collection was assembled and digitally scanned by student assistants in the Monroe Fordham Regional History Center – Chris Root, graduate assistant Lynn Lombardo and work study Michaele Moureau. The supervision of this project was by Dr. Jean Richardson, Associate Professor, History and Social Studies Education Department.
Hyde Park Presbyterian Church

Hyde Park Presbyterian Church was born from an idea of the Sessions at Stamford Ontario United Presbyterian Church in the late 1920’s. The Sessions determined that Hyde Park in Niagara Falls, NY was a suitable area to establish a Bible School. Miss Ida Lewis was appointed as the Bible School missionary in May 1929 and meetings were held in a home at 2818 Michigan Avenue in Niagara Falls (this home would later become the manse for the church). The adjoining lots were also purchased at the time.

In January 1931, Walter Bicketon was appointed as the Sunday School missionary to continue the work began by Miss Lewis. The Reverend George B. Hassey was appointed minister to the Sunday School in January 1933 and by March of that same year, Hyde Park Presbyterian Church was constituted and organized.

The church was incorporated in January 1943 as The Hyde Park United Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls, NY. In August of that year ground was broken for the building of the church.

The following are the pastors of the church:

Reverend A. Vance Meanor Oct 1938 – Jan 1942
Reverend Thomas Lamont Jan 1942 – Jan 1946
Reverend Charles W. Pryor, Jr. June 1946 – Jan 1952
Reverend G. Loren Jones Jan 1953 – June 1959
Reverend Robert E. Backstrom Dec 1959 – May 1964
Reverend Jesse M. Howat Nov 1964 – Aug 1969
Reverend Wallace Easter
Reverend David Lewis
Reverend Donald French
Reverend Knight Washburn

Reverend Robert Bellingham, the pastor at Pierce Avenue Presbyterian Church, oversaw the operations of Hyde Park from March 1989 until the church’s closing on December 31, 1992. The buildings that constituted Hyde Park Presbyterian Church were sold to The Living Word Church in July 1998.
Hyde Park Presbyterian Church of Niagara Falls

Anniversary Programs

- 1934 – December Dedication
- 1957 – September Dedication
- 1963 – 30th Anniversary
- 1973 – 40th Anniversary
- 1983 – 50th Anniversary

Annual Reports

- 1948
- 1950
- 1962-1969
- 1970-1974

Minutes

- Sessions – May 1964 – December 1980
- Misc. Commission Minutes

Miscellaneous

- Black & White Undated Photographs
- Church Bulletins – Misc.
- Church Register
- Newspapers Clips – 1930 – undated
- Notes – History of Church

Sale of Church Documents

- Dissolution Plan
- Sale to Living Word Church