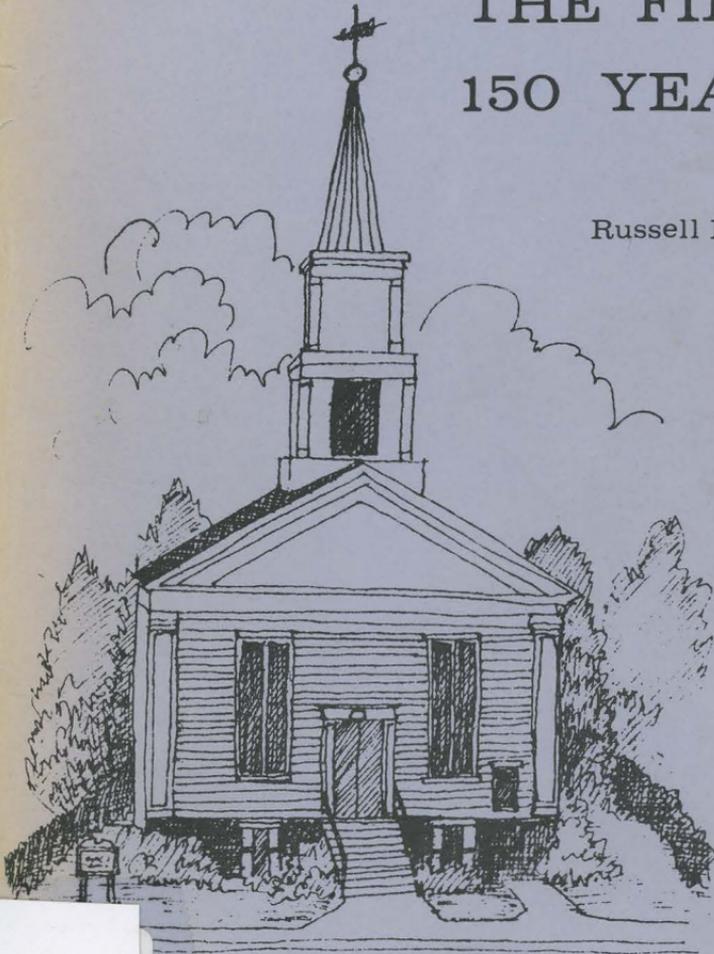


1831 — 1981
THE FIRST
150 YEARS

Russell L. Allen



A Short History of
Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church

1831 — 1981

THE FIRST

150 YEARS

Russell L. Allen

Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church
Alfred Station, New York
May, 1981

P R E F A C E

The Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church has been an influential part of the community which it has served since its founding in January of 1931.

To include all aspects of the fascinating history of this church would be an impossibility. Many names and events have not been included because of the necessity to conserve space.

Disciplinary actions were an integral part of the history of the church. The cases used herein are to show the very real part discipline played in the church for many years and are in no way intended to belittle those persons and/or families included.

All quotations that have been used are written as they appeared in the records. Spelling, punctuation, etc. have not been changed in the hope of preserving the authenticity of what is written.

This short history has been written in the church's sesquicentennial year (1981) to give the members and friends of the church further knowledge of the rich heritage which belongs to all Seventh Day Baptists.

Without the help of many persons, this book could not have been completed. Many thanks go to those who have given time and effort to find and transport record books and other materials.

A special "thank you" is extended to Mae L. Bottoms and James Palmer for the many hours they have given respectively in typing and printing this book.

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A New Church Organized

In the early 1800's many Seventh Day Baptists settled in the Alfred, N.Y., area, traveling either directly or indirectly from Rhode Island. The first recorded meeting of these Alfred area Seventh Day Baptists was on July 12, 1812.

In the mid 1820's a meeting house was built about one mile northeast of the present village of Alfred. In a short time, however, the area of settlement had extended in all directions, including Lanphear Valley (Railroad Valley), East Valley, Goose Pasture (Pleasant Valley) and Hartsville Hill.

The distance necessary for the church members in these areas to travel was fairly long, so in 1830 a request was made to the Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, asking that permission be granted to organize a new church in an area more convenient to them.

The following was taken from the Book of Record of the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred.

A number of Brethern and Sisters being (desierous) to have a church set off from the first Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred presented a (potishion) bearing date the twenty (Eight) of December (Eighteen and thirty) which was (complide) with on the part of the church and a number of Brethern together with the Elders and Deacons ware appointed to meet with us on the Sixt day of January in 1831 at Elder Hulls (Counsel) met

at the place and time appointed and after
(the Council head examined) into the (Con-
sistency) and propriety of our request
they saw fit to appoint a time to Constitute
us into a Seperate Church January the 20th
1831 Being the time appointed

We met at Elder Hulls and After prayer by
Elder Babcock We proseded to read over ouer
Articles of faith which was received by all
the Brothers and Sisters present Elder
Babcock Delivered a discourse from Eph. 2
Chap. and the four last verses Consecrating
prayer and right hand of fellowship by
Elder Hull

Alfred January 20th 1831

After we was constituted into a church we
resolved ourselves into a Church meting made
chois of Brother Nathan Lanphear moderator
and Brother Amos Burdick clerk during the
pleasure of the Church Voted to have ouer
Covenant metings commence the six day before
the 2nd Sabath in Febuary next and to con-
tinue once in two months

We agree to have ouer first meting on the
Sabath at the School House near Jeremiah
Greens and thare are hereafter to be held
at Sutch places as the Church Shal see fit
to appoint

Articles of Faith

Art 1st We believe in the existance of an
almighty all wise and ever living God in
whom is comprised the Father Son and Holy
ghost

Art 2nd We believe that all Scripture was given
by inspiration and is profitable for instruc-
tion that the man of God may be thoughterly
furnished unto Every good word and work

Art 3d We believe in the perpetuity of the ten Commandments given by God to be Binding on all men

Art 4th We believe that all men have Sinned and come short of the glory of God

Art 5nd We believe what our Saviour told Nichodemus that a man must be Born again or he cannot enter the kingdom of heaven

Art 6th We believe that Jesus Christ is the Son and image of the Father that in him all of the fullness of the Godhead Dwells and that by him alone we knew the Father he is our mediator who by the grace of God hath tasted Death for every man nor is thare any other name given under Heaven by whitch we can be saved

Art 7th We believe in Baptism by way of immersion and the Lords supper and the laying on of hands We hold that the Lords supper is Commemoration of and thanksgiving for the benefits whitch we have received by his sufferings and Death that it is a test of feloship to be received in faith and love

Art 8th We believe in the absolute necessity of the final preseverance of the Saints and of the possibility of falling from grace

Art 9th We believe Resurrection of the Dead and Eternal Judgement future Rewards and Punishment according to the Deeds done in the boddy and in the everlasting happiness of the righteous and in the Everlasting missery of the wicked

Covenant Articles

Art 1st We the Subscribers do Covenant to geather and bind ouerselves that through the

assistance of god we will meet on Each Sabbath day and on sutch other days the Church shall see fit to appoint for observing religious instruction and to worship God as far as the hand of Providence will admit and try to live as becomes believers in our Lord Jesus Christ

Art 2nd We agree to watch over each other Jointly and severly for good and try to admonish all disorderly conduct in the Spirit of meekness and try to live in obedience to the Law and gospel of God this will we do by the aid and assistance of the holy Spirit if God permit

Articles of Constitution

Art 1st The naim of this Church Shal be cald the Second Seventh day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred

Art 2nd The officers of this Church Shall consist of at least a morderator one or more Deacons a Clerk othe officers may be added at any time when thought expedent by the free choice of the body at large

Art 3rd The government of this Church Shall be invested in the mail members including the officers for the time being the morderator to have a casting vote in cace of a tye Vote

Art 4th It shall be the duty of every member livin in a reasonable Distance to attend Covenant meetings once in two months at least if surcumstances will addmit the time and place to be appointed by the Church for holding Church meetings shal be appointed by the Church and in cace Seven members meet including the officers in Church meeting they Shall be a quorum Sufficent to

transact church Bissness and in case three members meet they shal have power to adjourn on call a Special Church meeting

Art 5th In Caces of privit trusspass it shall be the Duty of each member to take for an invareble rule that part of the holy writ that is recorded in the 18 Chapt of St Mathews Gospel and is containd in the 15 & 16 & 17 verses in cases of public trusspasses it shall be the duty of each member to follow the foregoing rule or Report to the Church

Art 6th It Shall be the duty of this Church to support their Poor so far as thare surcumstances will addmit agreable to the Gospel is shall be the duty of every mail member to contribute somthing anuely to defray the Church Expences if thought able

Art 7th It shall be a breach of covenant for any Brother to go to Law with any brother in this church in all ordenordinary Cases it Shall be considered a mater worthy of deal

Art 8th It is to be considered that this Church has no felloship with any Secrit Society

Art 9th I shall be the privelege of Every member of this Church who is in good standing to exhort or Speak on religious Subjects as thare minds may be lead when ever Surcumstances will warrent Subject however to the order of the Church

Art 10th A carles or willfull neglect of complying with any of the Preceding articles of covenant or Constitution Shall be considered a mater worthy of Deal

Art 11th In case of any alteration addition or amendment to the above Constitution is desired by any member of this Church Sutch addition alteration or amendment must be

stated in wrighting at a public Church meeting it shall the Duty of the Church to give public notice to All the mail members living in a reasonable distance that Sutch alteration is desired and to appoint a time and place for that purpos and at said meeting the consenting voice of the majority officers presant and at least two thirds of the mail members present shall be nessesary to ratify Sutch alteration When so ratifyed shall be Equally binding as the rest of this Constitution prudential rules and by Laws may be maid or repeald as surcumstances may require at Common Church metings provided allway that Sutch rules Shall not infringe on any of the preceding articles of Covenant or Constitution of this Church January 20th Signed in behalf of the Church 1831

Nathan Lanphear Morderator
Amos Burdick Clk

The list of members who joined the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred when it was organized in 1831 is impressive. The names of those first 51 members (21 brothers and 30 sisters) are as follows:

Amos Burdick Jr. Deacon	Silas Benjamin Jr.
Jonathan Lanphear	Robert Bloomer
Jesse Saunders	Thomas Benjamin
Daniel Maxon	Elisha Potter
Edward Green	Oliver Coon
Benjamin Green	Oliver H. P. Hull
Jesse S. Whitford	Jeremiah Davis
Paris Green	Nathan V. Hull
Hezekiah Bentley	David B. Saterlee
Nathan Lanphear	Ronemanzo Brooks
Ordained Deacon August 23th 1832	
Stephen R. Smith	
Ordained Deacon August 23th 1832	

*The above named brethern All united when
the Church was constituted*

<i>Esther Saunders</i>	<i>Hariot Coon</i>
<i>Elisabeth Burdick</i>	<i>Hanna Hull</i>
<i>Susan Maxon</i>	<i>Patty Hull</i>
<i>Snytha Lanphear</i>	<i>Lydia Burdick</i>
<i>Polly Beebe</i>	<i>Lydia M. Burdick</i>
<i>Sally Green</i>	<i>Tacy Burdick</i>
<i>Hulda Green</i>	<i>Mercy Leskin</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Green</i>	<i>Caty Burdick</i>
<i>Syntha Whight</i>	<i>Mercy Davis</i>
<i>Mary Green</i>	<i>Sally Head</i>
<i>Hannah Smith</i>	<i>Eunice Whitford</i>
<i>Olive Whitford</i>	<i>Sylva Bently</i>
<i>Diadamia Benjamin</i>	<i>Fanny Young</i>
<i>Hanna Burdick</i>	<i>Eunice Franklin</i>
<i>Fanny Potter</i>	<i>Polly Green</i>

*The above named sisters united with the
Church when constituted*

A total of 76 new members joined the church in 1831 and 1832, after the original 51 members. The means by which each new member joined is indicated in the records by one of three letters: "B" (Baptism), "L" (Letter), and "R" (Recommend).

It is difficult to determine the exact number of persons belonging to the church for some of the following years since the dates members left, whatever the reason, were not always recorded. Many joined the church each year; however, many were expelled, excommunicated, rejected, or dismissed for various reasons. Many of those dismissed were given letters allowing them to join other Seventh Day Baptist churches when they moved to another area.

The first book of records does give some information about the number of members for some of the ensuing years, as follows:

*Jan, the 1st 1833 there is 126 members
belonging to this Church.*

Of the 127 members joining between January 20, 1831, and January, 1833, one member, Mary Potter, who joined in 1831, was taken by death in June of 1832.

*We find 138 members Belonging to this Church
October the 25th 1833*

*August the 17th 1834 we find the past year
there has been 40 added to this church and
2 dismissed which makes 186 Members Belong-
ing to this Church*

*June the 28th 1837 we find 178 Members
Belonging to this Church and 8 dismissed
two deaths and 3 rejected since our last
report*

*June the 16th 1839 we find after Deducting
who is dismissed and what has united to us
since our last report we find the Church
contains 189 members*

*June 1840 After deducting the absent members
we find 153 members Residing within the vales
of this Church*

The few reports of members which follow in the Book of Record are not clear as to total membership; however, the last such entry in June 1851 shows 153 resident and 42 nonresident members.

The Old Meeting House

While the church building was being constructed, services and meetings to conduct church business were held in the school house of district number 12. This district was organized in 1828, and the building was constructed in 1829

in the "South West corner of Jeremiah Green's pasture on the East side of the road above the dug Way joining James C. Burdicks land," according to the organizational minutes of the school district.

The building to house the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred "was located in "Goose Pasture" or Pleasant Valley, a few hundred feet up the road from the Lloyd and Minona Pierce home, which was once the parsonage. The location is marked today by a large knotty maple stump, which was one of two maple trees near the church when it was first used in the 1830's.

The church building was a small wood frame structure having one room. A single door was located in one end, and three windows were on each side. It was heated by a large wood stove, and the seats were wooden benches.

The only other information on the original meeting house is information on repairs and cost of these repairs found in the minutes of the church meetings.

Nov 12th 1848

Resolved that br P. K. Shaw be a committee to repair the windows to the meeting house & present his acct

Dec 10th 1848

Resolved that br P. K. Shaw be continued till next meeting a comm. to repair windows

Jan 14th 1849

Br P. K. Shaw reported expences of repairing windows 12 1/2 cts paid by contributions

Feb 9th 1851

Resolved that br R Wescot be instructed to repair the windows of the church & also the

bottom of the stove & put zink under it &
put bricks under the hearth & present his
acct. at next meeting

March 9th 1851

Br Wescot reported his bill for repairs on
stove & windows to be \$2.56 cts.

Resolved that br Wescot repair the door,
lock, hinge, & c, and that he have 50 cts
for said labours

May 13, 1855

Resolved that br P. K. Shaw be a com. to
repair windows and procure window screen
for desk window and present his charge for
the same next meeting.

No more mention of the May 13 resolution
appears in the minutes. At this time the debate
over repairing the old house or building a new
one takes precedence over most other church
business.

After a new meeting house was constructed,
the old house was to be sold. At a Trustees
meeting, December 18, 1859, it was resolved
"that the old meeting house be duly advertised,
and sold at our society meeting, to the highest
bidder."

Jan 3, 1860

Res to proceed to sell the old meeting house
as advertised, conditions of sale one years
credit with good approved notes. Struck off
to J. P. & F. W. Hamilton for seventy dollars

The building was then moved to its present
location at the top of Hamilton Hill, directly
across the road from the brick Hamilton home-
stead. Here it has been used as a barn, a build-
ing for manufacturing wood shingles, and a
blacksmith shop, as well as a home.

A New Meeting House

During its first 20 years, the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred had grown to have a congregation of more than 150 resident members. This was a large number of people for the size of the meeting house, as every member was expected to attend each Sabbath. Also the building had apparently been allowed to deteriorate to some degree, as can be determined from the minutes of the church meetings. In 1854 discussion began to appear suggesting something should be done about these problems.

Before this, however, the idea of building a new meeting house did appear in the March and April 1853 minutes.

March 13th 1853

Br. David Stillman of the 1st Church of Alfred presented a request from a Society meeting at Bakers Bridge for building a meeting house at that place & that we unite with them in building said house & make that the place of our meetings for worship

Resolved that we receive and discuss said matter After a general discussion of the above matter Resolved that br J. Kenyon C. D. Langworthy N. Lanphear P. K. Shaw & W. B. Burdick be a committee to confir with the above society at their meeting one week from tomorrow afternoon at 1 0 clock & report at next meeting

April 10th 1853

A report of the committee to confir with the Union Society at Barkers Bridge report

that they attended said meeting and that said Society abandoned the idea of building a Union house & requested that brn in the North East part of the 1st Church & the 2nd Church to unite & build a House at that place to be owned by & controlled by them as Seventh day Baptists & also wished us to decide at this meeting & inform them at their next meeting one week from today of the result

On motion Resolved that we accept the proposition of those brethren residing in the North Eastern portion of the 1st Church of Alfred to unite with them in creating a house for religious worship at Bakers Bridge provided sufficient funds shall be raised to erect said house

Resolved that br J. B. Langworthy be a committee to inform said brethren of our action in the above matter

This is the last we read of the Bakers Bridge idea until 1855.

At first there were two ideas as to what should be done about the future of the existing meeting house. Some thought the old building should be enlarged and repaired, while others felt a new and larger meeting house should be constructed on the site of the old one.

Lack of agreement and indecision seemed to be the theme for the meetings of the church during the next two years.

July 9, 1854

Resolved that we appoint a com. of four to present at our next meeting a plan for repairing enlarging or rebuilding our meeting house and that broths P K Shaw John R Shaw Nathan Lanphear and Stephen Burdick be said com.

August 13th 1854

Resolved that the com. appointed last month on repairing meeting house be continued one month and that they present a plan for repairing and enlarging said house

It seems the person making this motion was not in favor of building a new house.

Sept 10th 1854

Resolved that com. on repairing and enlarging meeting house be put over till next month

Oct 8th 1854

Com. on repairing meeting house presented their report, which see on file Resolved to receive said report

Resolved that the motion to adopt the report of the building com. be lay on the table

Nov 12th 1854

The subject of repairing meeting house called up and after much deliberation Resolved to postpone the subject to a special meeting two weeks from today at 9 o'clock AM and that it be notified each Sabbath that the subject of building a new house will be the first business of the meeting.

At a special meeting held Nov. 26th 1854

pursuant to adjournment
Prayer by Elder Kenyon

Resolved motion to adjourn new meeting house for present and that we repair the present house by patching roof inserting window lights & Said motion was lost

Resolved that broth Stephen Burdick F W Hamilton and John R Shaw be a com. to circulate subscription to procure funds for building new meeting house

Resolved that said com. on subscription be instructed to insert in their list that said house is to be erected on the present site of the society and cost not less than twelve hundred dollars aside from the material in the present house

Resolved that the business of sweeping meeting house and building fires for the coming year be put up to the lowest

Jan 14th 1855

Resolved that the building committee be continued till next meeting & that notice be given at one or more Sabbath meetings that said com. are to report at said meeting and that a full attendance is desired.

Feb 11th 1855

Com. on building a new house of worship Report that they have obtained for free house on subscription \$610, for sale of slips to individuals the sum of \$50

Resolved that the subject of building new meeting house be postponed till next September.

Sept 9th 1855

Resolved that the subject of building meeting house be put over till next meeting and be the special order of business at three O'clock P.M.

At this meeting there had been many cases of discipline discussed. Apparently, no time was left to discuss the new meeting house, and giving the subject priority as "special order of business" would insure its discussion at the next meeting.

Sept 23, 1855

Subject of building meeting house called up, when br. Stephen Burdick presented the following resolution

Resolved that the present condition of our house of worship demands that immediate measures be taken to procure a more substantial house of worship either by repairs of the present or the erection of a new one.
Resolved to adopt said resolution

Deliberation had been going on for more than 14 months. As it turned out, nearly a year more elapsed before the necessary "immediate measures" were finally resolved.

The minutes of the September 23 meeting continues:

Resolved that broth. Stephen Burdick P K Shaw C D Langworthy Jason Bebee and F W Hamilton be a com. to take into consideration all matters relating to building or repairing a house of worship and the manner deemed best as to how it shall be built whether free or to sell the slips, also plan of each with probable cost of each

This is the second time the word "free" has appeared in the minutes when referring to the new church building. Since the sale of slips meant each individual who bought a slip would own an interest in the new building, it must be assumed that a "free" church would be one built through contributions only, with no person owning any part.

Oct 14 1855

Building committee presented their report
See report on file Resolved to receive said report

Resolved that we make an effort to build a new house of worship and that broth. Edward Green F W Hamilton and C D Langworthy be a com. to circulate subscriptions taken at different locations into consideration also to confer with and visit those interested in house at Bakers Bridge to make an effort to raise funds in that vicinity for said house and report to said com. previous to next meeting.

The idea of a possible house at Bakers Bridge, which was introduced by David Stillman on March 13, 1853, has again entered the picture. Up until this time the people of Bakers Bridge and those living to the north of the settlement were members of the First Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred, which had been located about one mile northeast of Alfred Centre. However, in 1852 the First Seventh Day Baptist Church decided to build a house of worship in the village of Alfred Centre, consequently making it more difficult for the Bakers Bridge people mentioned to attend services. A new house of worship at the Bridge would accommodate these people and enlarge the membership of the Second Church.

If the building was to be built at the Bridge, the members from Lanphear Valley, which extended to the village of Andover, and those in and around East Valley would have to travel much farther.

At this point we no longer have the two opposing ideas of building or repairing. Instead, we have two new positions--one for building at or near the present location (Goose Pasture) and one for locating at Bakers Bridge.

Nov 11, 1855

Resolved that the subscription committee be continued & that br John Langworthy be empowered to call a special meeting to arrange a society when they deem it expedient so to do

Dec 23, 1855

Resolved that the com. on circulating subscriptions for meeting house be continued until next meeting and that br Stephen Burdick be added to said com. & also that it be understood that the location of said house of worship be decided at that meeting

Understandably, people were beginning to show impatience by this time.

Feb 10, 1856

Resolved that we have a special meeting two weeks from to day & that it be notified each Sabbath, that the location of the intended new house of worship will be determined at that meeting

Resolved that breth Nathan Lanphear & Edward Green be a com. to confir with James S. Green and ascertain the condition on which a site can be obtained for the erection of a new meeting house

Feb 24, 1856

Com. appointed last month to consult with James S. Green in regards to obtaining site on which to erect a house of worship Report that they seen said J. S. Green and that he is willing to lease to the society a site for said house as long as the society wish to occupy said site on conditions that the society will fence said lot

Com. on subscription for meeting house report that they have obtained on Subscription for Bakers Bridge \$1325 for present site or near 1030

Resolved that we make an effort to build a new house of worship, with the present encouragement on subscription

Resolved that Breth Leroy Burdick C D Langworthy R K Shaw be a com. to confir with individuals at Bakers Bridge & ascertain the conditions on which certain localities for the erection of a house can be obtained in that vacinity. Said com. are also to ascertain where each subscriber wishes to have said house located.

Resolved that we appoint a meeting one week from tomorrow (March 3rd, the object of which shall be to organize a Society for building meeting house and those who cannot attend have the privilege of voting by proxy, on location of Said house.

March 9, 1856

Moved and carried that we ask a report of the proceedings of the society meeting held March 3 By request the proceedings were read by clerk which see on file Com. appointed at a society meeting March 3d were requested to report at this meeting the votes of subscription on location of meeting house. Said com. presented 41 names favoring locating at or near Bakers Bridge, with a subscription of some 1800 dollars 9 names for the present site, or near it with a subscription of \$1030

It seems a few quite generous persons will be outvoted by many pledging much less per person.

A resolution was offered stating that the inducements are sufficient to warrant the removal of our house of worship to Bakers Bridge. Therefore Resolved that we will locate our house at or near that place in case the society agree upon a site. Said resolution was carried yeas seven Nays 2.

This is the last entry found in the minutes of the church meetings regarding the new house of worship. The problems of a site and money to build have now been turned over to the newly formed Union Society.

As was directed at the meeting of the church on February 24, 1856, a meeting was held on March 3, 1856, to establish a new society for the purpose of selecting a site in or near Bakers Bridge and building a new church on the site.

The following information appears as it was written in the minutes of The Union Society of the 2nd Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred.

Proceedings March 3/56 of a society meeting held by appointment and notice at the 2d S day Baptist meeting house Alfred March 3d 1856

On Motion Resolved that we appoint Stephen Burdick chairman and Freeborn Hamilton Secretary for this meeting. Com. on Subscription and location for new Society house not prepared to report therefore voted to resolve ourselves into a com. of the whole on location of said house & that F W Hamilton be chairman of said com. After some deliberation com. arose and reported that they did not agree on

location and no decision. Voted to receive said report. On motion of F W Hamilton Resolved to proceed agreeable to previous notice to take the vote of all subscribers present including those who vote by proxy on location of said house & also that a com. be appointed to take the votes of such subscribers as have not voted and present them at a future meeting. Voted that F W H and John R Shaw be said com. & that they report at our next regular church meeting. The vote were taken of those present & those sent in by Com. for that purpose and Stood 24 for Bridge and 6 for present site. On motion (of L. Burdick) Resolved to recind from a resolution to decide location by a plurality of votes of subscribers and refer said decision to the Church.

March 10th, 56

Voted that Wm. R. Burdick S. Burdick P. K. Shaw S. Palmiter & F. W. Hamilton be a com. to draft a plan for a house of worship for this Society with probable cost of said house. Res that we appoint a com. to negotiate relative to a site in the vacinity of B Bridge. Res that C. D. Langworthy Wm. R. Burdick Ezra Potter D. Satterlee P. K. Shaw be said com. and report next meeting

Res to adjourn to the School house at Bakers Bridge one week from today at 1 O clock P. M.

March 17, 56

Com. on construction presented a report which was received and laid on table: Res that com. on location of house of worship be continued till next meeting and also com. on plan & cost of said house.

Voted to adjourn 3 weeks from today to the
2d Seventh day Baptist house Alfred

April 7th, 56

Com. on site for house of worship report
that we have decided that a piece of land
owned by S Russell Situated between Doct
Greens & K. F. Burdick is the most suitable
one we have seen at or near Bakers Bridge
being about 150 feet on the road & 100 feet
from front of the building to the creek
Price \$250 or including ashery & appertin-
ances 300.

Doctor Green's house is now owned by
Ethelyn Aldrich, and the F. K. Burdick property
is what many of us knew as the Button property,
which is now the lawn area between the church
and the parsonage.

May 5th, 56

Res that we take up report of com on plan
of house

Motion to amend by reversing pulpit and
orchestry lost by vote of 6 to 2

Res that we build said House of worship
this year carryed by 14 yeas and 2 nays

Nov 25, 1856

At a meeting of the Trustees of the Union
Society

Res that it is the wishes of the trustees
that Bros. C. D. Langworthy write to Bro
Joshua Clark to be present with Us an
preach the Dedication discourse the 1st of
Jany providing the house is ready

Res that we buy a carpet for the meeting
house.

Res that the building com see to the purchase of said carpet

This carpet was to be mostly red, with some black woven through it.

The new building was constructed by Jeremiah Brudick and his sons (William R., Steven, and Daniel T.). Total cost was \$3,380.

It had been hoped by the trustees that the new house of worship would be completed with a January 1, 1957, dedication. However, the building was completed by and dedicated on April 15, 1857.

This "House of Worship" was, of course, to be the one we are most fortunate to still be worshipping in today, one hundred twenty-four years after its completion--a long-lasting memorial to its builders and their workmanship!

Watching Over Each Other

The Covenant Articles of the 2nd Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred positively states that discipline of members is a duty of the church.

Article 2 of the Covenant reads:

We agree to watch over each other jointly and severly for good and try to admonish all disorderly conduct in the Spirit of meekness and try to live in obedience to the Law and gospel of God this will we do by the aid and assistance of the holy Spirit if God permit

Throughout much of its history, during the nineteenth century, the church acted as judge, jury, and disciplinarian for its members. References to actions of discipline, for many and varied reasons, appear in the minutes of nearly every church meeting. Time and time again, individuals were cited to appear at church meetings, or written letters of admonition, dismissal, or excommunication. Many of the reasons such actions were taken by the church are as follows: failure to fill their place in church, nonfulfillment of Covenant, unchristian-like behavior, use of hard language, suing another church member, illicite behavior, dancing, intoxication, refusal to pay equalization, and others.

If a member had a complaint against another, he would address a church meeting with his complaint. The problem was then discussed; and

usually a letter was written, asking the person in question to appear at the next meeting or write a letter to explain his actions. The following are good examples of these letters.

Dear Brother

Because we are covenanted together to watch over Each other for good, it becomes our duty to again call after you. And now we Earnestly request you to meet with us at our next Church meeting, and tell us what are your wishes and determination, in regard to keeping the covenant you Entered into with us.

*By order of the Church
J. N. Forbes
Cor. Sec.*

*2nd Seventh Day Baptist Church Alfred
Alfred N.Y.
March 19th
1876*

If the person did not appear or write to defend himself, a committee was usually appointed to visit him or her to determine if the problem did exist. This could have also been the first step, without the person's having been asked to attend a meeting. If the committee felt the claim was justified, the church would send a letter of admonition.

Alfred Allegany Co. N.Y.
June 7th. 80

Dear Brother

We are pained
by a report that you
are living in open disre-
gard of your Covenant
with this Church - and of
Gods Commands -

Is it so dear Brother,

Write to us and tell us.

Or Come to our next Coven-
ant meeting and talk to us
about it.

F. W. Hamilton

J. N. Forbes

W. E. Ormsby

Corresponding Com.

Second Alfred S. D. B Church

Direct. to F. W. Hamilton

Alfred, Sept. 10th '54

Dear Brother in Christ,

Through the committee appointed to visit you we learn, with regret and pain, that you are not in the enjoyment of religion.

Not only this, you seem to have no anxiety or desire to fulfill the covenant which you made with us and with your Creator.

It becomes our painful duty to admonish you of your error in thus abandoning the church, your profession and your Savior.

Be entreated, dear brother, not to allow the enemy to deceive you with the vain belief that religion is a matter of little importance--a thing that you can lay down and take up as you please.

On the contrary, the Bible makes it a practical, every-day business, and the promise is only to those who continue faithful.

Now, dear brother, in view of the solemn vows which you made to God in the agony of your soul--in view of the joy you felt when you found peace in believing in Jesus--in view of life and its duties, the good you might do, and the injury you are sure to bring upon the cause of Christ by your present course--in view of death and the fearful realities of the external world, we invite, we exhort and entreat you to return to that profession which you have dishonored, to that Savior whom you have slighted and grieved, and to the church who have watched over your course

with interest and anxiety, have rejoiced to see you delighting in the service of God, and have mourned at your departure from the good and right way.

That God, by his mercy and assisting grace may enable you so to do, is our earnest prayer.

*By order of the church
A. A. Lewis/ Com.*

If after the letter of admonition the person still would not confess or make amends, he or she was usually excommunicated or expelled from the church.

The following is a letter of excommunication, written in 1851.

Dear Brother,

It has become our painful duty to withdraw from you the hand of fellowship by a letter of excommunication which was voted at our church meeting of the 13th of July last, for the reason contained in your letter of admonition.

We therefore no longer regard you a member of the church yet we do beseech you to remember that religion does not consist in a mere profession, but in loving and obeying God & we exhort you to break off your sins by righteousness & turn to the Lord who will have mercy & to our God who will abundantly pardon for which we will ever pray.

*By order of the Church
C D Langworthy Clerk*

The following are a few examples of the numerous actions of discipline taken against individuals in the church over the years.

June 20th 1847

Called up the case of Brother Robert West

Resolved that we adopt the first item of the report of the committee

See report on file

Resolved this resolution be laid on the table

Resolved that we reconsider the resolution that refers to Brother Robert West not sustaining his complaint against br Elijah Lewis for swearing false

Resolved that Brother West sustain the first item of his complaint which refers to false swearing

Resolved that Brother West sustain the last clause of his complaint which refers to Mr. Whitmore saying Brother Robert swore false

Resolved that in our opinion we recind from the resolution that refers to brother Robert, not sustaining his complaint when we reconsidered it on that resolution

Resolved that the action of the Church upon Brother West Case be communicated to br E Lewis requiring him to make restitution & also that he be required to fulfill his covenant obligation

August 8th 1847

Resolution presented by br C D Langworthy to withdraw the hand of fellowship from br Robert West as a disorderly walker (see on file)

Resolved that said resolution be laid on the table till next Church meeting for br C D Langworthy to come prepared to sustain the charges in said resolution & that brother West be furnished with a copy of said resolution

September 12th 1847

Resolved that we recind from all votes taken on the subject of the resolution presented by Chas D Langworthy against Robert West last meeting

Also on September 12, the following item appeared: on report that Sister Nancy Pratt . . . has for a long time been violating her covenant by disregarding the sabbath therefore Resolved that she have a letter of admonition

Oct 17th 1847

Resolved that the case of Sister Nancy Pratt be put till next meeting to ascertain whether she has received the letter voted last month

Resolved that J H Cochran be a committee to visit br West and notify him that the church disapproves of his suing his brotheren in church fellowship

Complaint present by br Paul C. Witter against br Robert West see complaint on file Resolved that we receive said complaint

Resolved that it be put over till next meeting and that Eld. Cochran notify br West of said complaint and action of the church

Nov 1, 1847

Resolved that the case of Sister Pratt be put over till the see proper to take it up--

Case of Robert West suing his brethrean
Elder Cochran Reported that he visited him
as directed and that br West withdrew the
suit as instructed

Resolved to receive said report

Brother West's case, or cases, appears in
the minutes of several more meetings. Brother
West was eventually exonerated from many of the
charges and was back in good standing with the
church, as can be seen in the following entry
in the minutes of January 8, 1848:

Resolved that brethren L R Smith H G Witter
and Robert West be a committee to collect
what remains unpaid on the subscription to
remunerate Elder Cochran for laboring as
Paster the past year and report next meeting.

Jan 30th 1848

At a special Church meeting Prayer by Eld
James H Cochran Moderator, E. P. Lewis
Clerk for the day. Called up the case of
br Jeremiah Green dated Oct 3d 1847 Took
up the first item (of said letter reference
to br D. Vincent & Grinnals testimony at an
arbitration at Almond with referance to
certain trees on a certain piece of land
an of occupying the house & barns.

Resolved that we take up satisfied with
br Green's confession that he did wrong
with the provision that he see brother D.
G. Vincent makes the same explanation to
him he did to church and satisfy him

Took up next item with reference to his
using hard language when talking about Jas
Green brother Green acknowledged that he
had done wrong in talking as he did

Resolved that we take up satisfied with
br Jeramiah Greens confession

Took up the item of deception in the sale of land. After a liberal discussion Resolved that we do not entertain the accusation

Resolved that we give br Jeramiah Green a letter of good standing in the church when he perform his duty to D. G. Vincent.

Br W Burdick moved we reconsider the last vote Past

Feb 20 1848

Br Chas D. Langworthy reports that br Jeremiah Green complied with the requirement of the Church & that he gave him his wife & daughter Marietta letters of standing as directed

Some of the church members had refused to take communion. The February 20 minutes continue with the following entries.

Committee to visit br Nelson Gavit report that they visited br Gavit & that he admitted he had been negligent and could not commune on the account of not using wine but thought he should do better in the future

Resolved that those brethren who refuse or neglect to discharge the covenant vows in attending to the Lords Supper give their reasons for doing so.

A number of members stated their reasons it was then resolved to put the matter over till next meeting

On August 13, 1848, the following entry appears in the minutes, giving some indication of the turmoil the church was experiencing at that time.

Resolved that we come together at the meeting house on the six day previous to our

next church meeting at One O clock P.M. to hold a season of prayer confession and humiliation in view of our declining state.

Getting money to pay expenses has always been a perennial problem for the church. One difference in the collection of money today and acquiring money in the early decades of the church's existence is that members were assessed or expected to pay equalization according to their means. A committee of church members made up the equalization lists which stated what each person should pay.

The equalization was sometimes difficult to collect, however, as can be seen from the following:

Sept 10th 1848

Resolved that a committee be appointed to cite those brethren who refuse to pay equalization to attend next meeting & show cause for such refusal and that John R. Shaw be said committee.

Resolved that brethren Charles Sweet & E. P. Lewis be a comm. to cite those brethren who are unwilling to pay equalization to attend next meeting and show cause of the same.

Nov. 12th 1848

Resolved that br J. R. Shaw be continued a comm. to request br Stillman B. Witter to attend next church meeting to show cause of unwillingness to pay equalization

Dec 10, 1848

Called the case of br Stillman B. Witter br J. R. Shaw reports that he visited him & that he gave encouragement of attending church meeting

January 14, 1849

Called up the case of S. B. Witter Committee report that they visited him and that he could not join in worship with us on the sabbath on account of the singing Thinks it is no better than idol worship

The church did not give up on br. Witter, as they then instructed the pastor to visit him.

Resolved that the case of br S. B. Witter be put over till next meeting. Elder Cochran be a committee to visit him

March 11th, 1849

Called the case of br S. B. Witter br Cochran reports that he visited him & that he could not get along with the singing Resolved to receive said report Resolved said report be laid on the table

Various other reasons for disciplinary measures appear throughout the records.

May 13th, 1849

Resolved that brn H. G. Witter P. K. Shaw an Freeborn Hamilton be a committee to visit Dea Amos Brudick, & learn the reason he does not fill his place in the church.

June 10th 1849

Called up the case of Dea Amos Burdick Committee report that they visited him & that he brought nothing against any member of the church as a reason for his neglect but his own coldness & indifference.

Br Burdick being present acquiesced in the above report & made some farther explanations did not justify himself says he feels desirous to fill his place in the church in future

Resolved to take up satisfied with him on his confession.

Committee to visit P. C. Witter report that they made the investigation could not learn from those present that they considered him intoxicated as reported

Resolved that he be exonerated from said charges.

Called up the case of br Samuel Webb & wife having laboured on the Sabbath

Resolved that said brother & sister have a letter of admonition for violating there covenant in labouring on the sabbath of the bible

There had apparently been much dissention within the church membership, as many cases similar to the following appear quite regularly in the minutes of the next few meetings.

Dec 9th, 1849

Committee to labour with br Benjamin Green senior for nonfulfillment of covenant report that he says he cannot walk with the church and wishes to be expelled.

Resolved that said brother have a letter of admonition

Dec. 16th 1849

Called up case of Sister Julia Elliot
Committee report that they visited her that she refused to come out of the chamber to converse with them at that time. One of the com. called at another time conversed with her some. she wished to be expelled and did not want to belong to a church of liars or something of that import.

In another case discussed at the same meeting, the person in question "claimed he did not have any religion did not want any." He was given a letter of admonition for "general disregard of covenant."

Some of the persons wishing to be expelled or refusing to "walk with the church" were upset because of the dismissal or disciplinary action against a close friend. On the other hand, there were those who were upset because another had been accepted back into fellowship with good standing after having been previously admonished.

June 10th 1854

Visiting com. reported that they visited br Thomas A Burdick who claimed he considered himself expelled from the church several years ago and expressed a desire still not to have anything to do with the Church . . .

Resolved that brn. J. Kenyon & N. Lanphear counsel with br Joseph Monroe on the impropriety of using vain language

Oct 8th 1854

Resolved that the propriety of communicating with br. Babcock and wife in regard to spirit Rappings be considered next month

Dec 10 1854

Resolved that Dea Lanphear be Comm. to corrispond with br Ichabod & wife of Ohio, be instructed to say to them, that we have no faith in the principle of Spirit rappings or mediums through them not finding anything like it in the Bible or our covenant

Brother Ichabod Burdick and his wife were members of the 2nd Alfred Church, joining in 1831. They had moved to Ohio and were apparently living in an area where no Seventh Day Baptist

church existed. At a later date their names appear again, asking permission to join a Seventh Day Adventist church. This request was denied.

Jan 14th 1855

Resolved that whereas br Romain Shaw is reported as being connected with secret societies, & as dancing & frolicking with the irreligions, & as professing to believe in the doctrine of universal salvation, Therefore resolved that he have a letter of admonition.

Resolved that brn. Stephen Burdick & S. J. Smither be a com. to visit br Joseph Monroe & labour with him for nonfulfillment of covenant vows by uniting with secret societies (contrary to the resolutions of the church) & a general disregard of the duties of religion

Feb. 11th 1855

Com to visit br. Joseph Monroe called on to report made a verbal report an br Monroe being present made a statement of his feelings to the breth present and after much deliberation Resolved to put the subject over one month to give br Monroe time for reflection

March 11, 1855

The case of br. Joseph Monroe called up said brother being present, he made many remarks in favor of the Sons of Temperance & asked the Church to show its errors. After a long discussion; br Monroe still refusing to withdraw from said Society & requesting his name erased from our records, therefore Resolved that we withdraw the hand of fellowship from said brother & that we regard him no longer a member with us in church relations

A motion to accept a temperance resolution presented by br Stephen Burdick after many remarks was laid on the table to be called up next meeting

April 8th 1855

Resumed the discussion of the Temperance resolution An Amendment offered by br C. D. Langworthy (see on file) Resolved to accept said amendment. After much discussion Resolved to adopt said amendment, by a unanimous vote.

In the files of letters and other papers that still exist today is found the Amendment on Temperance, as it was adopted on April 8, 1855, written in the hand of C. D. Langworthy:

Resolved that in the opinion of this church that the use of intoxicating liquors as a beverage (or the furnishing of them for others) is derogatory to the Christian character & a sin against our Creator, for he has said by his Apostle; that we much shun every appearance of evil: therefore all members of this Church who may thus use them, after the adoption of this resolution shall be liable to be dealt with in the same manner as other covenant breakers.

May the 13 1855

Resolved that breth P. K. Shaw & Freeborn W. Hamilton be a com. to make inquiries who are in the habit of disturbing Choir meetings and other meetings of the society.

The construction of the new meeting house at Bakers Bridge in 1856-1857 caused hard feelings within the membership. The reports of the committees that periodically traveled throughout the area to visit church families show the feelings of the less happy members.

. . . 1857

Visited Br. Amos Burdick & wife trying to live a Christian life and wished to keep their standing in the church Br Amos did not like the moving of the meeting house site did not seem like hom to him wished to keep his standing good if the church pleas to do under the circumstances

Visited Br. Stillman B. Witter & wife feelings were hurt on account of moving church site against the will of so many of the Brs & sisters did not feel free to attend meetings at new house of worship because he did not own a seat thare did not feel able to buy justly yet

July 11, 1859

Your com. report that Br Rial Wescott said he could not walk with the church on account of the removal of the site of meeting house & said he did not consider he belonged to the church--said he never expected to attend church with us in the house at the Bridge

Oct 9 1859

David C. Vincent & wife, Br. Vincent does not regard himself a member, & if the Church does, says he wishes them to drop him, or expell him, as he cannot walk with the church, so long as its house of Worship is owned by individuals

The church's being owned by individuals, as stated by Brother Vincent, is discussed in a later section of this book on monies.

The church met for business meetings once each month, on a regular basis, and committees were constantly appointed to investigate complaints of members about others. The time the

active members of the church committees spent in their investigations, as well as trying to collect equalization to pay church expenses, must have been a tremendous burden. One can only wonder when these men had time to work on their farms or at whatever job they performed to support their families.

Union Society

1856

Proceedings March 3/56
of a society meeting held by appointment
and notice at the 2d S day Baptist meeting
house Alfred March 3d 1856 - On Motion
Resolved that we appoint Stephen Burdick
Chairman and Freeborn Hamilton Secretary for
this meeting. Com. on Subscription and
location for new society house not prepared
to report therefore voted to resolve our-
selves into a com. of the whole on location
of said house & that F. W. Hamilton be
chairman of said com.

After some deliberation com. arose and re-
ported that they did not agree on location
and no decision. Voted to receive said
report. On motion of F. W. Hamilton
Resolved to proceed agreeable to previous
notice to take the votes of all subscribers
present including those who voted by proxy
on location of said house & also that a com.
be appointed to take the votes of such sub-
scribers as have not voted and present them
at a future meeting. Voted that F. W. H.
and John R. Shaw be said com. & that they
report at our next regular church meeting.
The votes were taken of those present &
those sent in by Com. for that purpose and
stood 24 for Bridge and 6 for present site.

On motion (of L. Burdick) Resolved to recind
from a resolution to decide location by a
plurality of votes of subscribers and refer

said decision to the Church, Resolved to adjourn one week from to day at one O clock P.M.

Stephen Burdick/Chair

Proceedings March 10th/56
of a Society meeting convened agreeable to adjournment at the meeting house March 10th 56

D. Potter was chosen chairman & F. W. Hamilton Clerk of the meeting

On motion Resolved that Stephen Burdick C. D. Langworthy & D Potter be a com to draft a constitution & by laws for this Society

Voted that Wm R. Burdick S Burdick P. K. Shaw S Palmiter & F. W. Hamilton be a Com to draft a plan of a house of worship for this Society with probable costs of said house. Res that we appoint a com to negotiate relative to a site in the vicinity of B Bridge. Res that C. D. Langworthy Wm R. Burdick Ezra Potter D. Satterlee P. K. Shaw be said Com and report next meeting. Res to adjourn to the School House at Bakers Bridge one week from to day at 1 O clock P.M.

D Potter/Chairman

March 17/56
Met agreeable to adjournment meeting called by Clerk of last meeting. On motion P. M. Vincent was chosen chairman of this meeting & F. W. Hamilton Secretary

Com on constitution presented a report which was received and laid on table

Res that the com on location of house of worship be continued till next meeting and also com on plan & cost of said house

Voted to adjourn 3 weeks from to day to the 2d Seventh day Baptist house of Alfred
C. D. Langworthy Chair. of Location Com
W. R. Burdick of plans of house

P. M. Vincent/Chair

Met pursuant to adjournment

April 7th On Motion Ezra Potter C D Langworthy was chosen Chairman & F. W. Hamilton Clerk

Constitution presented last meeting called for read & laid on the table. Res that we appoint 9 trustees Names of Trustees Ezra Potter 2 years, C. D. Langworthy 1, P. K. Shaw 1, Chancy Green 2, J. C. Burdick 1, Leroy Burdick 3, Edward Green 3, F. W. Hamilton 2, Joseph Cotrell 3.

Com on Site for house of Worship report that we have decided that the piece of land owned by S Russell Situated between Doct Greens & R. F. Burdick is the most suitable one we have seen at or near Bakers Bridge being about 150 feet on the road & 100 feet from front of the building back to the creek Price \$250 or including Ashery & appertinances 300.

C. D. Langworthy
P. K. Shaw
Ezra Potter

Report from Com on Constitution called for read & adopted, 1st 2d 3d & 6th articles
Your Committee to prepare a constitution would respectfull submit the following report.

The following is the Constitution of the Union Society as it was adopted in April, 1856:

Art 1st This Society shall be known by the name of the Union Society of the 2d Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred.

Art 2d The object of this organization is the promotion of Christianity with all its blessed benefits.

Art 3d The officers of this society shall consist of nine Trustees 3 of which Shall be elected annually and two or more Sextons who shall be elected annually, and hold their offices till others shall be elected in their place. The Trustees shall transact the business of the Society under the name of title of the Union Society of the 2d S. day B Church of Alfred. They shall choose their own President Secretary and Treasurer (the first two of which shall discharge the duties of such officers at meetings of the Society) and report to the society at its annual meetings, the condition of its finances

Art 4th For the purpose of carrying out the object of the organization we propose to purchase a suitable site for a house of worship, also ground for Sheds for conveniance of teams and proceed to the erection of said house of worship upon the following conditions

Cond. 1st This house Shall be built out of funds raised for that purpose by persons friendly to that object

Cond. 2nd The Sheds shall also be built of funds raised for that purpose

Cond. 3d Every person purchasing an interest in said house or sheds shall have the same secured to him by a lawful deed or deeds.

Art 4th All business meetings of the society shall be publicly notified in the house on at least two Sabaths previous to the time of meeting

Art 5th This Society Shall hold its annual meeting on the first Tuesday in January

Art 6th This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the Society by a vote of a majority of its members

There is some confusion about the numbering of the Articles in the Constitution, having two Articles 4th. Apparently this happened because of the original draft which included the second Article 4th as Condition 4th (of the first Article 4th). The original draft shows this entry being changed from Condition 4th to Article 5th and for some reason changed then to Article 4th. Consequently the 5th and 6th Articles remained as they were originally. Later, in 1865, the constitution was revised and the second Article 4th was apparently dropped, since it is not included in a copy of the Constitution appearing in the records in 1870.

By Laws

1st The expences of lights and fuel required to be used also general repairs shall be born by those owning an interest in said house proportioning the same according to the amount of property owned by each

- 2d The conditions ~~Stipulated~~ in the foregoing article shall not be applied to the furnishing of fuel and lights for the vestry
- 3d The Sextons Shall have power at all times to seat Strangers in any unoccupied seat - according to their judgment.

The second By Law lost, when a vote was taken, and was crossed out in the minutes, as it appears above.

Copy of Amendment to Constitution and By Laws adopted Jan 3d 1865

Art-3d be so amended so to have 6 trustees in place of 9 and elect 2 annually instead of 3

Art-4 condition 2d to read This Society may rent the seats of its house of worship annually to pay its incidental expenses and such of its indebtedness as it may decide expedient.

Condition 3d This Society may erect sheds for the convenience of teams and rent the stall annually to pay the expenses of building and when paid may rent for such other purposes as the Society may direct

Art-6th This Constitution may be amended at any annual meeting of the society by a vote of two thirds of the members present

We also recomend the erasing of the By law that requires an equalization on slips to pay incidentals and repairs.

The major functions of the Union Society were to procure funds for the building of the house of worship, to cover the operating expenses, and to raise money for the minister's salary. From time to time, however, the Society

made needed repairs, as well as changed the "singers" seats from one end to the other, and improved the method of lighting.

The Trustees of the Society met on February 26, 1857, and made an appraisal of 52 slips to be sold to cover the cost of constructing the new church building. The persons purchasing those slips then owned shares in the church.

Later, in 1860, it was determined that the sale of slips was illegal, and a system of seat rental was initiated.

In 1885 the rental of slips for seats in the house was replaced by the adoption of the envelope plan for raising funds. This, of course, left little for the Society to do.

The following is the last entry in the minutes of the Union Society:

The Annual Meeting of the Union Society of the 2nd Seventh day Baptist Church of Alfred, held Jan. 5th 1886 was called to order by the President F. W. Hamilton

*Prayer was offered by Eld. Summerbell
The report of the Treasurer was then called for and read and after some discussion was adopted.*

The following act of dissolution and resolution was then presented by H. W. Green.

*Act of Dissolution of the
Union Society of the 2nd Seventh day Baptist
Church of Alfred*

Whereas. There is ample power vested in the Church of Christ to manage its own temporal affairs, without the cooperation of any other organization and

Whereas. The working of the Union Society of the 2nd Seventh-day Baptist Church of Alfred in connection with the church, has been a source of confusion and weakness, rather than of unity and strength.

Therefore. Resolved. That The Union Society of the 2nd Seventh-day Baptist Church of Alfred be and is hereby dissolved, and that it pass over to said church all the business it has been accustomed to transact, and all the property it has held in connection with, and for the use of the church: to be held and used by said church in accordance with the provisions of the Statuts under which it may be incorporated.

On motion to adopt; the above was carried without a dissenting vote, after some discussion

After some discussion upon Methods for raising funds to pay indebtedness and future expenses, the meeting adjourned with prayer by Elder Summerbell.

H. G. Edwards Sec.

The House Improved

The attractive, Greek Revival, church building (which was built by Jeremiah Burdick and his sons, Daniel T., William R., and Stephen) has seen many changes throughout its 124 years. Changes have occurred in its surroundings, its interior and furnishings, as well as within the structure itself.

The building is of plank construction, with a large number of the planks being at least 22 inches wide or wider. Some are found to be nearly 3 feet wide. Five large beams span the width of the attic, holding the ceiling joists in place. Approximately 2 feet above these are five more beams, holding the large timber trusses which, in turn, support the roof. The entire timber structure is held together with wooden pegs and attached to two long beams running the length of the building and resting on many upright timbers concealed within the sidewalls of the church.

The ability of the carpenters to raise such a structure, hoisting the immense beams without the sophisticated machinery and tools which are available today, must be admired.

The church was, at first, lighted by lamps using lard oil for fuel. It was heated by two large, and long, wood-burning stoves which extended through the wall between the vestry and the sanctuary. Since there was no basement under the church at that time, the two stoves were able to heat the entire church building.

Soon after the church was completed, the need was apparent for a place for members to keep their teams of horses during church services and meetings. Discussion on this matter soon appeared in the minutes of the Union Society meetings.

At the annual meeting of the Union Society of the 2nd Seventh day Baptist Church of Alfred held Jan. 5th 1858

Res. That the trustees be authorized to lease the land designated for sheds to individuals for the purpose of erecting such sheds as contemplated in the constitution of the society, provided those erecting build of uniform construction, and that the funds obtained by such lease be appropriated to liquidate the present debt of the Society.

Jan. 19th 1858 (Trustees Meeting)

Res. that Daniel P. Stillman and Joseph Cottrell be a committee to draft and present a plan for building sheds, for the convenience of teams on meeting house lot, and present the same at the next society meeting

Feb. 8, 1858

Res. that the Trustees be requested to lease land for the erection of sheds according to their discretion.

It is assumed that sheds were soon to be constructed on the property. The records have no more about the sheds until many years later.

In 1860 the lighting for the church was improved by a change from the lard oil lamps to kerosene lamps.

Jan 3, 1860

Res. that the trustees be instructed to investigate the propriety of exchanging our

present lamps for cole [coal] oil lamps and if they think best, take measures to make the exchange.

Jan. 7, 1860 (Trustees Meeting)

Authorized D Patten and J. C. Burdick to fix the lamps belonging to the vestry suitable for burning cole oil.

The choir was moved from one end of the sanctuary to the other several times according to the Union Society minutes.

January 2nd 1872

On motion of John T. Green Resolved that the singers seats be removed to the other end of the house near the pulpit. After remarks by S. S. Swinney C D Langworthy Riley Burdick and Luther Lewis the motion carried

By 1880 the pulpit was showing enough wear to warrant the need of attention. The Minutes of the Ladies Industrial Society read:

Aug 11th (1880)

On motion it was decided that Mrs Thomas, and Mrs. Shaw see what can be done in regards to re-furnishing the pulpit.

Oct 13th (1880)

On motion it was decided to recushion desk, and purchase chairs and Table for the church. On motion Mrs S C Burdick, and Mrs Russel Burdick were appointed a committee to attend to this business.

Nov 10th (1880)

It was decided to accept the chairs and table. On motion it was decided to retain the same committee, to purchase two more chairs. On motion it was resolved to postpone recushioning the desk.

April 12 (1882)

Moved, and carried that a committee be appointed to purchase a desk, for the church or recushion the old one, and buy a chandelier, to light the pulpit.

June 21st 1882

On motion it was decided that Mrs F W Hamilton, advance the full amount of money required to purchase desk, for the Church.

Jan. 6th 1885

On motion consent was given for removing the platform occupied by the choir to the opposite end of the house.

At this time the choir was to get new seats. The Ladies Industrial Society, which had been organized in 1878, purchased fifteen chairs. This same organization was to help with church improvements for many years to come.

The Ladies Industrial Society minutes read:

January 14th 1885

On motion the Society give \$25 for the purpose of buying chairs for the use of the choir (actual cost, \$11.25)

Up until this time the seats in the sanctuary were plain (deacon bench type) wooden seats. The Ladies Industrial Society minutes continue:

July 8, 1885

On motion it was decided If possible to cushion the seats of this church before the coming Conference which is to be held at Alfred Centre. A committee was appointed to purchase material.

August 12th 1885

The com. report that they have obtained prices and samples of goods, and find that the cost of cushions will be \$2.65 for each seat. On motion it was decided to appoint a committee to solicit funds for cushions

September 9th 1885

Mrs F W Hamilton reports that she has collected \$35.50 towards the cushion fund. The cushion committee decided to employ Asher Stillman to make & finish the cushions at \$3.00 each, the same paid for when finished and accepted.

The following item appears in the Alfred Sun, October 1, 1885: "The seats in the church are all nicely cushioned, the work of Stillman and Shannon." These 55 red cushions made by the local wagon makers cost a total of \$165.00.

In 1889 major improvements were made when the church was raised and moved back. According to the Alfred Sun, dated as follows:

April 11, 1889

The church building is being raised and moved back some ten feet. A basement is to be placed under the building and several other improvements are to be made.

Excavation for the basement of the church has been commenced.

April 18, 1889

The committee have the church raised up and moved back, and the work on the basement is pretty well started.

May 2, 1889

The Sabbath services are being held in the schoolhouse while the church is not in condition to be used.

Two stone-masons from Friendship, arrived here and went to work on the basement wall of the church, Monday.

May 16, 1889

The walls of the basement of the church are all done except plastering.

A flood hit the Alfred (Station) area on Sabbath day, June 1, 1889, which took out the bridge and did much damage to the railroad. It is fortunate the stonework on the basement walls had been finished and the building was resting on them, or the effects of the flood on the church might have been devastating.

June 27, 1889

The church basement is finished outside and plastered inside ready for the carpenters. The sheds have been moved back and the grounds, have been nicely graded.

In July of 1889 the sanctuary was papered, the combined efforts of the Ladies Industrial Society and the Union Sewing Society. The paper hanger was E. B. Stillman.

August 8, 1889

The chapel of the church having been cleaned and repaired services were held there last Sabbath.

The summer of 1889 was indeed a busy one for the church, for as well as the moving and repairing of the building and the flood, the S.D.B. General Conference was held here in August.

During the next twenty years repairs and improvements to the building were numerous, the works of many individuals as well as groups within the church body. The following report,

found in the files, discusses the costs of repairs to the church made in 1889 and 1890.

To the Second Seventh day Babtist church of Alfred:

Your committee appointed to procure funds and make repairs on Said church (would respectfully report, that the cost of repairs on Said church was Seven hundred eleven & 99/100 dollars and that Said committee has procured Subscriptions to the amount of Six hundred Ninety five & 25/100 dollars which has all been paid less ten dollars of which M. S. Green is five dollars & Addison A. Hall is five dollars leaving a deficiency of Sixteen & 74/100 dollars which has been advanced by Milo Shaw and W. R. Burdick to cancel the indebtedness. Respectfully Submitted Alfred NY Jany 6-1891

W. R. Burdick
Chairman Comm.

As soon as the basement was placed under the building, the Ladies Industrial Society began to work toward furnishing the new dining room and kitchen. Ladies Industrial Society minutes read:

March 11, 1891

Decided on motion that we appropriate \$20.00 toward funding the kitchen in the basement of the Church, provided they finish it before the June meeting.

June 3, 1891

Decided on motion that we accept Miss Potters present of dishes and return her a note of thanks for the same.

Decided on motion that we appropriate what money there is left in the treasury after

paying the \$20.00 for the building fund for dishes.

June 18, 1891 (Alfred Sun)

Driven well in Basement of Church supplies water.

About this same time a report of the committee on church repairs reads: "Your Com on Church repairs would respectfully report that they have driven a well in the Church which has proven Satisfactory procured hitching posts for teams and cleared away the stones an rubbish in the Church yard."

August 12, 1891 (Ladies Industrial Society)

Moved and carried that Mrs. A V Potter be appointed a committee to solicit funds for a heater.

Sept 9th, 1891

Committee on heater reports (\$)80.00 collected Moved that the society pledge themselves to make up the heater fund to (\$)100.00 if necessary. Moved that we call a special meeting and invite the church to come & talk over the furnace business.

Sept 20th 1891

Moved & carried that the matter of purchasing a furnace for the church be given to the board of trustees.

Oct 14th 1891

Moved and carried that Mrs. Hadsell be a committee to ascertain how many yards of carpet are needed for the Church parlors.

The committee reported that it would require 58 yds. of carpet and 65 lbs of rags.

Moved and carried that we employ Mrs Hadsell to prepare and weave carpet.

Nov. 11th 1891

Moved and carried that the Society assume the responsibility of paying for the furnace. (Price \$120.00)

This furnace is assumed to have been coal-burning, since many entries are made in the Society's minutes about buying coal for the use of the church.

July 13, 1892

Moved & Seconded that Mrs A L Green and Mrs S E Hadsell be appointed to look up a stove and report it to the next meeting.

Aug 10, 1892

The report of the stove heard and excepted Moved & seconded that the Treas have an order on the Industrial Society to pay for the stove. (The stove was to be used in the basement and could have been a cookstove.)

Sept 14, 1892

Moved and seconded that Mrs Nora Burdick Mrs A V Potter and Mrs P. A. Shaw be appointed as a comm. to buy 4 doz chairs

Nov 9, 1892

Report on Chairs

4 doz ch @ \$4.10	\$16.40
2 rochers @ \$1.75	3.50
Freight on chairs	1.41
glue	1.30
Total	<u>\$21.61</u>

These chairs were assembled after arrival at the church. The November 9 minutes continue:

A vote of thanks was extended to Mr. Sherman for presenting \$3.00 towards chairs and to the gentlemen for setting them up.

Carpet bill presented

Weaving 60 1/2 yds @ .15	\$ 9.08
Coloring 9 colors @ .25	2.25
Dye	1.00
Total	<u>\$12.33</u>

Dec 22, 1892 (Alfred Sun)

The old wood stoves have been taken out of the Church & the openings where they set, through the partitions have been closed up with brick & mortar.

The next major improvement was the purchase of the stained glass windows, which are still admired and much enjoyed today.

Dec 12, 1894 (Ladies Industrial Society)

Moved to use what Money we have for windows

May 8, 1895

Moved & carried to have a com to present the window question to Church meeting.

June 12, 1895

The society Moved & carried to pledge \$100.00 towards windows.

May 13, 1896

Voted that the society will assume the debt of the church windows

Voted that Mrs Merkt be a comm to attend church meeting and bring the matter before the meeting of buying church windows

May 23rd, 1896 (Church Minutes)

A com. present from the Ladies Industrial Society proposed to put new windows into the church, if such action would meet the apro-bation of the church. Voted to accept the proposition of said Society, and also that we extend to them a vote of thanks for their generous offer.

Reports were also found in the Alfred Sun about the installation of the stained glass windows.

June 25, 1896

Mr. Booth of Buffalo, was in town Mon. and took the contract to furnish new stained windows for the church Building.

Aug 6, 1896

The new windows for the church are in place & the painter is putting the finishing touches on them.

The stained glass windows were made by George M. Booth and cost \$200.00. Material and labor for installation were \$12.00; painting was \$4.95; total cost of windows was \$216.95.

In 1897 and 1898 the Christian Endeavor raised funds for the bell which is in the belfry and purchased it. Cost of the bell was \$128.00.

Sept 15, 1897 (Alfred Sun)

Effort being made to raise money to buy a bell for the church.

Dec 1st, 1898 (Christian Endeavor)

Voted that the Sec. draw an order on the Treas. for \$1.50 in favor of Mr John P. Hamilton for lumber used in finishing the belfry.

In 1898 the present parsonage was built on property donated by Mrs. Nancy Frank. Discussion on this will appear in a later section, "The Pastoral Home."

May 14, 1899 (Church Minutes)

Voted to abandon the plan of a brick walk and substitute flagstone, which shall

be 4 ft wide length of church 1st, 8 ft wide in front of the church steps and 2 in. thick.

Sept 7, 1899 (Christian Endeavor)

Voted that Mrs. Champlin, Mrs. Hamilton and Miss Emma Robinson act as investigating com. to find out about another organ for society.

Oct 5, 1899

Voted that Mrs. Hamilton Alvah Clarke, Emma Robinson act as soliciting com. to raise money to pay for organ.

Nov. 13, 1899

Voted that we buy the \$20.00 organ of Merri-man at Hornellsville.

Voted that the Social com. hold an oyster supper the proceeds to go toward paying for organ.

This reed, pump organ was probably not placed in the sanctuary, but in the room where the Christian Endeavor held its meetings.

In 1899 and 1900 gas was piped into the church to be used for heating and lighting. The December 27, 1899, Alfred Sun states that "2 more gas lamps are on each side of the church."

Jan 31, 1900

The Church will soon be lighted & heated with gas.

Feb 14, 1900

The Church is using gas for heat & light as of this week.

A door was installed in 1900 for ventilation. This is the door in the east wall, directly behind the pulpit.

On February 20, 1902, four of the church sheds collapsed under the weight of snow on their roofs.

Feb 12th 1902 (Ladies Industrial Society)
Voted that Mrs [Eva] Champlin be a committee to investigate in regard to some extension tables for the dining room.

May 14, 1900
Table committee reported that she had purchased four 8 ft extension tables at a cost of \$19.84. Money had nearly all been raised by personal subscription.

New carpet was purchased in 1903 for the sanctuary at a cost of \$105.00 (\$.50 yd.).

In 1904 double doors were installed between the vestibule and the sanctuary. The Ladies Industrial Society minutes tell of this change.

January 13th 1904
Voted to call a special meeting and invite all the members of the church to come to decide about changing the doors in the audience room. Wed. Jan 20th at 2 P.M.

January 20th 1904
*Objections were made to putting the doors in the centre of the Wall.
The men present voted to express their willingness to have 2 doors where the single doors are, on each side of the audience room.*

The Alfred Sun and the Ladies Industrial Society minutes tell of the installation of the steel ceiling in the sanctuary.

Feb 16, 1904 (Ladies Industrial Society)

Voted that Mrs. S. E. Potter write to the metal ceiling Co. to see what could be done in regards to ceiling for the church.

April 13th 1904

The ceiling com. report that the Brooklyn ceiling Co. would send the ceiling for 90 dollars.

Voted that we purchase the ceiling.

Mrs. Hadsell was appointed to see to the purchasing of the furrowing strips and the paint for the ceiling.

May 11th 1904

Mrs. Hadsell reports that Mr. Humphry would furnish the furrowing strips for the ceiling for (\$)15.50. Mr. Roberts thought it would need 2 gallons of paint at a cost of 1.50 per gallon.

Aug 9th 1904

Ceiling committee reported that the ceiling is at the depot.

August 17, 1904 (Alfred Sun)

New steel ceiling being put up in the audience room of the church--no services next Saturday.

September 21, 1904

The new steel ceiling is in the audience room of the church. Has been painted by Mr. Roberts of Hornellsville.

The total cost of the steel ceiling was \$175.75.

The pulpit furniture which is still being used was donated by Mrs. Freeborn W. Hamilton in 1905.

Oct 25, 1905 (Church Minutes)

Voted to extend to Mrs. F. W. Hamilton a vote of thanks for the pulpit set presented to the church by her.

Cement floors were poured in the basement in 1907, and in 1908 the walls and ceiling of the basement were refinished.

In 1907 the Christian Endeavor built a stage in the corner of the dining room.

In 1909 Rev. Cottrell became pastor of the 2nd Alfred Church, and through his efforts the baptistry was installed. Up until this time baptisms had taken place in the creek behind the church.

Up until this time (1911) the seats in the church were of the "Deacon Bench" type. Two of these benches are still in the vestibule, painted black, and standing on either side of the front door. The Ladies Industrial Society minutes tell of the purchase of new pews to replace the old benches.

March (1911)

Motion carried that Mrs Potter be a com. to see about the price of church seats & etc. Voted to place to \$225 that is on deposit, in the fund for reseating the church.

June 14, 1911

Mrs Potter reported progress in looking up prices on Church seats & committee was continued. Motion carried to reseate the church. Mrs [Eva] Champlin Mrs. [Flora] Allen and Mrs. Potter were chosen com. to confer with trustees in regard to reseating church & given power to buy the seats.

April 10, 1912

Voted to get the money & finish paying for the new seats & buy a new carpet for stage in audience room of church.

May 15, 1912

Com on carpet for choir reported carpet purchased in Hornell for \$25. Also a bill of \$1.75 for finishing floor of platform & dye to color choir drapery. Also \$1.25 for labor on same platform by Bert Palmiter. Voted to sell the crating lumber of new seats to Bert Palmiter for \$2.25.

March 12, 1913

Voted to buy stove to heat dining room of /from/ L. C. Whitford at Alfred for \$9-

On June 4, 1916, the church voted to have Pastor Goff and the Trustees buy the Pool Room. This had once been the school house. In 1925 the minutes of the Trustees reported selling "the old school house and lot to M. L. Palmer." The old school house was for many years Clyde Willard's garage, and it is now The Bicycle Shop.

June 30, 1917 (Sabbath School Records)

Voted to have Henry Allen make tables for Primary Dept. same to be paid for by school upon completion.

In 1919 the Sabbath School presented the church with the individual Communion Service and the collection plates.

In 1923, 185 yards of green wool carpeting was placed in the sanctuary. The carpet was purchased for \$1.75 a yard. This carpet remained in the church until the sanctuary was renovated in 1949.

The hymn board was given to the church in the late 1920's by Jessamine Button (Allen).

Electric lights replaced the gas lights in 1927. This was the fourth type of lighting used since the building was constructed in 1857.

The Button property, between the church and the parsonage, was purchased in 1932 and used by the church as rental property. Since this did not prove to be a profitable investment, the property was sold to Arthur Burdick in 1940 and torn down. This left an attractive area where the new garage now stands.

A flood hit the Alfred Station area in July, 1935, causing much damage to property. The church basement received its share of water and mud, so much work was needed to clean and repair the damage. The cleanup work was done by Pastor Edgar Van Horn, as well as other dedicated people.

That same year the sanctuary was redecorated.

The year 1936 was exciting for many when the new Hammond organ was purchased through the efforts of many members of the church, both young and old. The Hammond organ will be discussed more in the section on music.

In 1940, after the Alfred-Almond Central School was built, the church purchased for \$1 the two-room brick school to be used as a community house. This was owned by the church for many years, then was sold to the Alfred Station Volunteer Fire Company for the same price in 1958.

Many of the old church sheds were torn down in 1938, since few families had a need

for a place to keep teams. The automobile had replaced the horse almost entirely by this time. The few remaining sheds were razed in 1946.

The Union Industrial Society paid to have two restrooms installed in the end of the vestibule in 1946. These were installed by Paul Button. When completed, they cost the Society \$570.

In 1948, during the pastorate of the Rev. Albert N. Rogers, an extensive redecoration project was undertaken in the church sanctuary. The rostrum holding the pulpit, the organ, and the choirs was dismantled and replaced by an attractive curving and graduated platform.

A lovely new communion table was given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Walter G. Ormsby by their family.

Behind the communion table an attractive dossal curtain was hung, and new carpeting was installed throughout the room.

The walls and ceiling were also painted, and new light fixtures were hung from the ceiling. The cost of this project was more than \$5,000.

Four new floor furnaces were installed in the church in 1948.

In 1953 the three large chandeliers now hanging in the sanctuary were given to the church by Alfred University. At the January 3, 1954, church business meeting, it was voted to *"thank Dean John McMahon for gift of lights to the church."*

In 1954 new Celotex walls were installed in the basement, and the kitchen was remodeled.

A new "toy" was given to the children of the church when the fire escape was installed on the back of the building in 1957. On many occasions small footsteps have been heard on the metal stairs during church services.

In the 1960's the need for more Sabbath School rooms was felt. Discussion had taken place on the possibility of an addition to the building for this purpose. Since this idea did not materialize, new folding partitions were installed in the basement. The following appears in the minutes of the church meetings.

November 12, 1967

Lyle Sutton made a recommendation from the Trustees that movable partitions be used in the basement to provide more classrooms. A motion was made and seconded that the Trustees be empowered to present plans at the January meeting for subdividing the basement with movable partitions including prices. This was carried.

April 7, 1968

The Trustees recommendation concerning the installation of wood, folding partitions in the basement (estimated cost has been projected around \$1600) was adopted. Motion was made that the trustees immediately proceed to purchase these doors with the power to borrow the money if necessary. Seconded and carried.

April 9, 1972

The Advisory Committee brought a recommendation to the church meeting that Memorial Fund moneys be spent for the church dining

room improvement. It was voted to accept the recommendation of the Advisory Committee and designate \$500 from the Memorial Fund for church basement improvement.

A new dropped ceiling with recessed lighting was installed in the basement in 1972. At this same time a new foundation was placed under the steps leading to the front doors of the church.

On June 21, 1972, another flood hit the area, leaving much mud and debris in the church basement.

April 13, 1975

Mrs. Luan Ellis moved that we put storm windows on all windows of the church and empower the Trustees to borrow money, if necessary, for this project.

October 25, 1975

The trustees have voted and recommend to the church that \$1,600 be borrowed to complete payment for the storm windows in the church.

January 25, 1976

It was reported that Fred Palmer was investigating the construction of a public address system for our church.

July 11, 1976

The Trustees reported concerning the repair and replacement of the church roof.

The Trustees recommend that the roof be replaced and repaired at the figures of \$4,150 during the month of July when no services are being held in the church.
Passed.

A new roof was installed with new flashing for the belfry.

January 9, 1977

The chairman of the Trustees reported that the new public address system has been installed by Fred Palmer. Fred asked that he be allowed to contribute the cost and his labor for the installation as a memorial to his father and mother, Milo and Matie Palmer, who were long-time members of the church.

August 21, 1977

It was voted that a new ceiling with three fluorescent lights be installed in the balcony.

October 9, 1977

It was voted that the balcony improvements be financed by the Independence Memorial Fund and that a suitable plaque would so state.

The new ceiling and lights were installed in early 1978.

On Sunday evening, September 16, 1979, fire destroyed the two-car garage, which had been built in 1978, next to the parsonage. The Church office, which was in the back room of the parsonage, was badly damaged by the fire. The parsonage was saved through the quick action of the local volunteer firemen.

A new garage and office complex were erected during the summer of 1980, and at this time (1981) many of the members of the church are busily finishing the interior of the new office--another facility of which the church will be proud!

The Pastoral Home

The early pastors, Elder Richard Hull and Elder Ray Green, were both local men who had been licensed to preach by the Seventh Day Baptist Church. Since they owned their own homes, the need for a parsonage was not felt by the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred until Rev. James H. Cochran moved from Erie County to become pastor in 1840. Where Elder Cochran lived locally is not found in the records.

The first mention of a pastoral home is found in the minutes of a special meeting held in 1846.

Special Church meeting 2nd Church of Alfred August 30th 1846 met agreeably to appointment Prayer by br Paul Witter Resolved unanimously that we wish br James H. Cochran to return and live with us and labour for us as our Pastor and Minister if we can give him a reasonable support

Resolved that we furnish br James H. Cochran a house and fire wood aside from the subscription Brethren Sisters & friends present subscribed cash \$66.75 cts Produce \$76, team work \$10, store pay \$3, total \$155.75 cts

Resolved we have a committee to get subscription from those who are not present and that brs Stephen R. Smither Edward Green and Daniel Maxon said committee & report to corresponding comm. one week from this day at br Paris Greens

In 1846 a lot was sold to the church for the purpose of building a parsonage (this lot was a short distance down the road and across the creek from the house of worship). The deed for this lot is recorded in the Allegany County Court House at Belmont in Book No. 23, page 323. The deed reads as follows:

Paris Green & wife To Phineas K. Shaw & other Trustees.

This Indenture made the Seventeenth day of December in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight hundred and forty Six Between Paris Green & Polly his wife of Alfred Allegany County State of New York of the first part and Phineas K. Shaw James L. Green and Stephen R. Burdick Trustees of the Parsonage Society of the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church at Alfred in the County of Allegany State of New York of the second part . . . in the consideration of the sum of Fifteen Dollars

This Deed was recorded September 7, 1847.

July 11, 1847 (Church Record Book)

Resolved that we appoint an equalization committee and Chs. D. Langworthy S. R. Smith & E. P. Burdick be said committee

Resolved that said committee equalize the expenses of the Pastoral house & lot among the taxable members of this church according to their ability

June 20, 1847

Called for a report of the Building Committee Resolved that Brother Charles D. Langworthy Paris Green W. G. Greenman be an auditing committee to confer with br P K Shaw and to report to said meeting

Committee reported Resolved said report
be received

Resolved that seventy five cents be ordered
for recording deed

Resolved that a committee of three be ap-
pointed to see whether the Church as a body
foot the expense of the pastoral house and
report to our next meet

July 11, 1847

Resolved that br James H. Cochran have the
privilege of building a suitable barn and
woodhouse on the Pastoral lot and that the
church remunerate him for said buildings
when he leavies [leaves] the church

August 13th, 1848

Resolved that 25 cts in the hands of S. R.
Smith raised to pay for recording deed of
Pastoral lot be endorsed on his order
against the church

Resolved that brothren S. R. Smith T. Hull
J. R. Shaw be a committee to superintend
the digging of a well on the pastoral lot

Resolved that br P. K. Shaw be a committee
to superintend the building of a bridge on
the pastoral lot

January 14th 1849

Resolved that P K Shaw have an order on the
Treasury for \$2.50 cts expenses of fense
boards of Pastoral Lot

Construction on the parsonage was begun
in 1848, and in 1849 it was completed and ready
for occupancy.

When Elder Cochran resigned in April 1849,
an immediate replacement could not be

obtained, so the new parsonage would not be occupied.

May 3, 1849

Resolved that brn Edward Green & Freeborn Hamilton be a committee to take care of the Pastoral house & lot to rent or occupy as they think will be for the interest of the church & not to rent longer than April next

August 12, 1849

Resolved that brn Jared Kenyon & S. R. Smith be a committee to superintend the digging of a well on the pastoral lot

Sept 9, 1849

Resolved that we endeavor to build a horse barn on the Pastoral Lot

Oct 14, 1849

Resolved that brn N. Langworthy P. K. Shaw & E. Lewis be a committee to build a horse barn on the Pastoral lot

July 13th, 1851

Resolved that C. D. Langworthy be a committee to procure materials for painting Parsonage house.

April 13th, 1856

P. K. Shaw com. to settle with Paul C. Witter for timber & labor on Pastoral barn and well of this church Report that he has settled with said P. C. Witter in full of all demands against this Church for the sum of Three dollars and a half

A committee report on the pastoral house and lot, dated June 8th, 1856, appears on page 73.

The Report a Committee appointed by the S. D. Church of Colford to take charge of the Pastoral Lot.

Alfred June 4th 1854

The Report a Committee appointed by the S. P. Church of Alfred
to take charge of historical house and lot

Your Committee reports that they let said house to Dr
Duke Green some two months and a half in the summer and
fall of 1853 and he'd pay two dollars and seventy ~~five~~ ^{five} ~~cents~~
cts and we further report that Dr Duke Green is now in
possession of said house and lot no certain price set for the
rent of said house and lot

we further report that the labor done on turning
breek and repairing fence and materials for same
amount to four dollars eighty seven cts
the above expenses was laid on historical lot

L. R. Shaw }
S. R. Shaw }
1854

The parsonage at Goose Pasture was still owned by the Church until 1866, when it was sold by order of the Trustees; and the money was used to help defray expenses of the church.

From 1866 until 1898 the church at Bakers Bridge did not have a parsonage. The parsonage at Goose Pasture was occupied by pastors and used for rental purposes from 1857 to 1866. This left a time span of forty-two years that the 2nd Seventh Day Baptist Church virtually did not have a permanent home for its pastors.

By the 1880's, members of the church were making an effort to find a parsonage, as the church was having to rent homes for its pastors during this time.

The minutes of the Ladies Industrial Society read:

Dec 12th, 1883

On motion it was resolved that we have a "Lunch Social" the proceeds to be used to start a fund for a parsonage.

Jan 9th, 1884

Com report they have decided to have the Lunch Social on Monday Eve, Jan 14th at the house of Mr. R. F. Burdick

Feb 13th, 1884

On motion the Society will hold a cake & coffee sociable at the house of J. C. Burdick on Monday next. Price 25 cts each proceeds to put in parsonage fund

March 12, 1884

On motion a sugar party is to be held some time before the next meeting at the house of Mrs Fuller.

May 14th, 1884

Sons of Temperance Soc sent \$1.93 for a Sugar party to be added to Parsonage fund.

Voted a dime social at the home of Burnett Whitford on Sat. evening May 24th

People from McHenry Valley sent \$6.87 for Parsonage fund.

When the ladies decided on a project, they worked diligently to see it to its completion. In 1898 the new parsonage was a reality. The Alfred Sun tells of the construction of the parsonage.

August 24, 1898

The new parsonage is to be built of brick veneer. H. D. Eaton has the contract and masons are now laying the foundation.

September 7, 1898

The lumber is on the ground by the parsonage and the carpenters have begun work on the timbers.

September 14, 1898

The framework for the parsonage is up and the work is being pushed.

October 12, 1898

Parsonage fast nearing completion. Putting on the tile roof now.

March 15, 1899

Charles Vincent was painting at the parsonage last week, putting on the finishing touches.

March 29, 1899

The parsonage is now ready to occupy. H. D. Eaton, the contractor, having fulfilled his contract to the letter.

The parsonage was built for \$1,385.62, not including much labor donated by church members.

The following was written some years ago by Rubie Clarke when the old barn was razed. This nicely tells of the property on which the parsonage now stands.

A Lasting Memorial

Last Sunday, Nov. 11th was a day to honor those who rendered service to our country.

At Alfred Station it should be remembered as a day to honor one whose gift to her church has served the community long and well--and will continue to do so for many years.

In 1884 Mrs. Nancy M. Frank became a member of the Second S. D. B. Church of Alfred at Alfred Station. That same year a committee was appointed to consider the building of a parsonage but no progress was made and it was voted to drop the matter for a while. (Incidentally, several houses were available for rent at that time for \$50 per yr. or less.)

In April, 1898 another comm. was appointed: Cyrenus Ormsby & wife, H. W. Green & wife, W. H. Langworthy & wife, F. W. Hamilton & wife, Floyd Champlin & wife, A. V. Potter & wife, Deacon T. B. Bardeen and wife. They reported on May 8, 1898 that Mrs. Nancy M. Frank had donated her house & lot for a parsonage site, to the church.

After a unanimous vote of heart felt thanks for her very liberal gift, the work really began. A good title was secured for the

church & a committee of ladies made plans, the old house was moved back and the new Parsonage built in front. At a cost of \$1385.62, plus much donated labor including that of the pastor, Rev. Frank E. Peterson. It was completed--all paid for--in December 1900.

Mrs. Frank continued to live in part of the old house until her death in Dec. 1901.

Later the old house was converted into a barn and used as such, or a garage, until it became too dilapidated for safety.

Last Sunday church men assisted by the Alfred Station Firemen, razed the old building & burned the rubbish--but the ascending smoke left behind a fine lot on which the parsonage stands--a lasting memorial to one who loved & served her church and God--
Mrs. Nancy M. Frank.

A new heating system was installed in the parsonage in 1971 by the men of the church.

August 21, 1977 (Special Church Meeting)

A motion to have the Trustees build a two-car garage was made and approved. Motion carried. It was voted that the church would pay cash as far as possible and to authorize the Trustees to borrow the balance.

In the spring of 1978 the components of the new garage were delivered, and many of the members of the church spent their next few Sundays erecting the garage adjacent to the parsonage.

Tragedy struck late Sunday evening, September 16, 1979, when fire destroyed the new garage, the pastor's car, and badly damaged

the porch and church office at the rear of the parsonage. The parsonage was threatened; but because of the excellent work of the Alfred Station Volunteer Fire Company, only minimal damage occurred to the roof.

During the summer of 1980, the roof on the parsonage was replaced, and repairs were made to the fascia which has been damaged in the fire.

Also in 1980 plans were made for a new garage/office complex. This building was constructed during the summer of 1980, and this spring (1981) many members of the church are busily finishing the interior of the new office.

There Must Be Money

Little money was needed to operate the church when it was first organized. The early pastors, Elder Hull and Elder Green, served with little or no remuneration. Money, for the few expenses there were, was raised by assessment of the members according to their ability to pay.

When Elder Cochran became pastor in 1840, the members reimbursed him for his services through equalization or subscriptions (pledges). These subscriptions were not always paid in money but could also have been given as produce, cattle, merchandise from a store, or even the use of a team of horses.

The minutes of a special church meeting held August 30, 1846, which appear in the chapter on "The Pastoral Home" shows how Elder Cochran was to be paid. Even though the church agreed to pay the pastor a certain amount, it was often quite difficult to collect.

When the first parsonage was built in 1848 and 1849, the money was raised by subscription.

Assessment committees were appointed yearly to draw up lists of the church members and state what each member should be expected to pay.

Feb 12, 1854

Resolved that we appoint three assessors for this church to ascertain who are the taxable inhabitants of this church and

amount each one should be assessed And
that Breth Dea N Lanphear C D Langworthy
and Amos Burdick be said assessors

Resolved that said assessors make out their
assessment and present it next meeting

May 14, 1854

Report of Assessing Com. called for Com.
not prepared to report

Resolved that said com. be instructed to
make preparations to report with assessed
Roll and thirty dollars tax levied thereon
at the next church meeting

There have been many instances in the min-
utes referring to the circulation of subscrip-
tions for payment for "pastoral labors." This
was done separately from regular church expenses.
If enough members were willing to give toward
the pastor's salary, it was indication to him
that he could remain in his position for another
year. If enough was not pledged, the pastor
would usually resign.

At times the committee to circulate sub-
scriptions did not do its job, for lack of time
or some other reason. An entry in the May 14,
1854, church minutes discusses this problem.

Report of Com on circulating subscription
for Eld Kenyon for pastoral labors called
for Com. not prepared to report Res that
com. be discharged and assessing com. be
instructed to circulate said subscription.

June 10, 1854

Resolved that brn Jared Kenyon H W Benjamin
be a committee to levy a tax of thirty
dollars at our next meeting, (after

agryreavances [sic] may be presented if any) & that the assesment be kept at elder Kenyons for examination till said time; and notice be given at sabbath meetings to that effect

July 9th 1854

Resolved that Elder J. Kenyon be a com. to circulate a subscription to make up deficiency due Elder Cocharan for his pastoral labors as voted by the church March 1849 and forward the same to his widow or heirs

The assessment committee which had been instructed to circulate subscriptions for Elder Kenyon's pastoral labors had nothing to report in June, July, August, or September; so in October the following action was taken.

Oct 8th 1854

Com. to circulate subscription for Elder Kenyon called on to report. Com. not prepared to report Therefore Resolved to discharge said com. On motion Resolved that brn F. W. Hamilton, J. R. Shaw & Jason Beebe be a com. to obtain Subscription & to remunerate our Pator [Pastor] Elder J. Kenyon for his services as such during the year from April 9th 1854.

December 10, 1854

Committee to obtain subscriptions for Elder Kenyon as Pastor the present year report that they have been through the Church & obtained subscriptions to the amount of \$92.00 cts

Resolved to receive said report & discharge said committee; report & subscription to be left with Elder Kenyon.

April 8th, 1855

Called up the subject of continuing Elder Jared Kenyon as our pastor. Church having voted a request for him to remain at a sabbath meeting, br Samuel Whitford on his own responsibility circulated a subscription; & reported that about \$150 could be obtained, but Elder Kenyon regarded it not sufficient for his support & regarded it his duty under all the circumstances to go to Independence Therefore Resolved that we appoint a committee to provide for the supplying the desk after next sabbath.

April 13th, 1856

Resolved that our equalizations in future shall be collected by the members equalized paying or forwarding to the Treasurer within one month (if they can conveniently do so) if not to forward their reasons why within the said time to the treasurer of the Church and that word be forwarded from the Church meeting where such equalization is made to each member thus equalized forthwith

Resolved to raise by equalization on taxable members of this Church the sum of twenty five dollars or there abouts to defray Church expenses

February 8, 1858 (Union Society Meeting)

Res that the trustees be requested to appropriate donations to the Society as referred to in the annual report of the trustees, also as much of the money obtained by leasing land for sheds as may be necessary to purchase a slip for use of the Pastor

Res that the trustees be requested to lease land for the erection of sheds according to their discretion

The appropriate donations referred to in the above resolution would be the selling of slips. On February 26, 1857, the Trustees of the Union Society had met and "made an appraisal of fifty two slips in the new church at B. Bridge. Entire cost of house \$3380."

These slips were sold to help pay for the construction of the new church building and also served as payment for seats in the meeting house. The slips ranged in appraisal from \$45 to \$80.

The appraisal list, as it was written by the Trustees, appears on pages 84 and 85. Pages 86 and 87 show the original list of names of the Union Society members who purchased slips in the church.

Slip number 46, which was sold to Nathan Lanphear on April 23, 1858, appears on page 88. Any person who purchased such a slip was part owner of the new house of worship.

Apparently the legality of selling slips to maintain the church was questioned. The following appears in the minutes of the Board of Trustees, December 18, 1859:

On motion it was voted that Ezra Potter & P. K. Shaw be a Com. to inquire into the legality of individuals owning and holding slips in the Church and report to the Society at its annual meeting next month.

Jan 3, 1860

Where it has been ascertained that selling of Church slips is illegal, therefore Res. that we recommend the trustees to confer with those who have purchased slips & labor to induce them to consider the purchase

Feb 20th 1857.

Trustees of the Union Society
of the 1st S. D. Baptist Church of
Alfred, met and made an appraisal
of fifty two slips in the new Church
at B. Bridge. Entire cost of house \$3380

Appraisal List

No. of Slip	Appraisal	No. of Slip
1	45.	37
2	50.	38
3	55.	39
4	60.	40
5	65.	41
6		42
7		43
8		44
9		45
10		46
11		47
12	60.	48

No. of Slip	Appraisal	No. of Slip
" 49 - - -	50.	" 52
" 50 - - -	55.	" 53
" 51 - - -	55.	" 54
" 13 - - -	50.	" 25
" 14 - - -	60.	" 26
" 15 - - -	70.	" 27
" 16 - - -	75.	" 28
" 17 - - -	80.	" 29
" 18 - - -	80.	" 30
" 19 - - -	75.	" 31
" 20 - - -	80.	" 32
" 21 - - -	80.	" 33
" 22 - - -	80.	" 34
" 23 - - -	75	" 35
" 24 - - -	free	" 36

Names of Individuals who
 purchased seats in meeting-house
 March the 11th 1857 also the No Bangs
 by each. Said slips being sold
 at their appraisal &c

Names	Apr	No
David Vincent	80	22
Milo Sweet	65	41
E. C. Green	65	42
Elijah Lewis	80	34
Luke Green 2 nd	55	3
Lewis S Burdick	50	2
Wm T Burdick	60	4
Joseph Stittman & Thos. Lewis	65	5
Joseph Cottrell	75	16
F. W. Hamilton	80	32
C. D. Langworthy	80	20
Riley W Burdick	65	6
Charles Saunders	55	53
David S. Satterlee	55	51
Wm T. Shaw	55	40

C. D. Langworthy as administrator

of John Langworthy Deceased

No 100 37 & 39

Thomas Williams	50	52
James Saunders	50	38
Chancey Green & Christopher Jeff	65	7
P. H. Shaw	80	38
G. Haskell & N. Burdick	55	50
Ezra Potter	80	29
Jesse Jeff	50	13
Ezra S. Clark	60	14
David Potter	65	47
Samuel T. Russell	80	21
Ezra Potter & Samuel Whitford	65	43
John C. Burdick	65	44
Benjamin H. Green	65	8
Nathan Lang	65	46
D. L. ...	60	26

Know all Men by these Presents, That we, the Trustees of the Union Society of the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of the town of Alfred, County of Allegany, and State of New York in consideration of the sum of Twenty Dollars Dollars, to us in hand paid, by John J. [unclear] of the town of Alfred in said County, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, do hereby Sell and Convey unto the said John J. [unclear] Twenty Dollars by [unclear] situated in the County of Allegany County, to have and to hold the same unto himself his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns Forever, subject to such Taxes and Assessments as may from time to time be laid thereon.

In Witness Whereof, we have caused our President and Secretary hereunto to set their Hands and Seals this 27th day of April in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty four.

Sealed and Delivered
in the Presence of
James H. Shaw Wm. H. [unclear]

money as a donation. But if they will not then give leases as they can agree, (which shall come within the limits of the law) also that they circulate a subscription to raise funds to finish paying for the house.

At the annual meeting of the Union Society, January 3, 1868, the constitution was amended and Article 4, which had to do with selling interests in the church, was changed to read:

Article 4th, Condition 2d

This society may rent the seats of its house of worship annually to pay its indebtedness as it may decide expedient

Condition 3rd

This society may erect sheds for the convenience of teams and rent the stalls annually to pay the expenses of building and when paid may rent for such other purposes as the society may direct

When the old parsonage at Goose Pasture was sold, the money was to be applied to the debt of the new church building.

January 2d, 1866

It was voted to recomend to the Trustees of the Society to sell the Parsonage and apply the avails toward liquidating the debt on the house of worship C. D. Langworthy was appointed to circulate a subscription through the society for purpose of procur-ing means to pay off the debt on the house of worship Ezra Potter was appointed to circulate a subscription outside of society for the same object

Up until this time the minister's salary has been paid through circulation of

subscription. In 1861 the following appears in the church minutes.

Feb 10th, 1861

Whereas it appears to be an impossibility to raise by a voluntary subscription a sufficient amount to support our minister and family therefore Res. that the 10th article of the Constitution of the 2nd S Day Baptist Church of Alfred be so amended as to include the Pastors salary in the necessary expenses of the Church . . .

Feb 24th, 1861 (Special Church Meeting)

The resolution presented last meeting to amend the 10th article of the constitution was called up and after due consideration was passed, 18 yeas, 2 nays.

Apparently this amendment to the constitution was not adhered to, as the minutes of the Union Society, several years later, show a similar action by that organization.

January 5/69

Res. That the Society consider the incidental expenses of the Society as provided by the Constitution to include the Support of the Minister. The foregoing Res. was adopted as follows 19 yeas 2 nays

Res. That we raise \$300 by equalisation on (40) seats to pay the minister and incidental expenses the ensuing year

These duplicate actions on the part of the two organizations are excellent examples of the "source of confusion" referred to in the dissolution statement of the Union Society, on page 47.

The incidental expenses of the church were small, as can be seen on the statements from J. R. Chase, dated December 31, 1870, and 1873, on pages 92 and 93. Wood for heating the building was donated by members, and money for needed repairs was usually raised through assessments or donations by the members.

Jan 4th, 1870

Resolved That we raise Five hundred & fifty dollars by renting seats--Five hundred dollars to be appropriated to minister and Fifty dollars for incidentals.

Resolved that we have a committee of three to assess the above Five hundred fifty dollars on forty eight seats and report next first day Jan 9th at 10 oclock A.M.

Jan 9th, 1879

Resolved That we proceed to rent the seats to the highest bidder commencing at the appraisal

Jan 2, 1883

Voted to add \$2.00 to the original appraisal of slips

Jan 6th, 1895

Moved and carried to adopt the envelope plan of raising funds for the church expenses for the ensuing year and that these envelopes be taken up every Sabbath at the usual time and in the usual way of taking up collections and the seats be absolutely free.

Although the envelope method of raising money for church expenses did continue, it was discussed and voted on for several years at the annual meetings before being permanently adopted.

Alfred Dec. 31 - 1870

Alfred Church

To J. F. Chase

1870

Feb'y

25 To 1

Box Matches 18⁻

March

3 To 1

Large Chimney 15⁻

"

4 " 3

Small Oil 40⁻

Sept

17 " 1

Box Matches 10⁻

Oct

7 " 1

Large Chimney 15⁻

"

22 " 2

Small Oil 40⁻

Dec. 28

" 1

Large Chimney 15⁻

Dr	
"	18
"	15
"	20
"	10
"	15
"	80
"	15
	273

Alfred Church

1872	July	17	6	Large Lamp wicks 2	"	12
	Feb	14	2	Gall ^s Kerosene Oil 35	"	70
	May	3	2	" " 35	"	70
	Oct	8	2	Box Matches 10	"	20
	Dec	6	2	Gall ^s Kerosene Oil 35	"	70
	"	"	1	Large Chimney 15	"	15
	"	21		Some Poor Kerosene Oil & Can, all	"	45
	"	"	1	Box Matches 10	"	10

\$ 3.12

Saw 7-1873 Recd Payment - J. R. Chase

Apparently it became increasingly more difficult and time-consuming to collect money pledged by members. At the church meeting of December 12, 1897, the following report was submitted:

Your committee to devise some plan to raise money for the church expenses, would make the following report.

1st It would recommend a membership fee of at least one dollar, but in no case shall this excuse any member from bearing the burden according to their ability.

2nd It is the sense of this committee that any member should realize the importance of the situation, and feel it their duty and under obligation to sign their name to the subscription list for the church expenses, at the beginning of each year without further solicitation. An opportunity shall be given at three successive church meetings, and also at some place designated by the church, for so doing; and all members who fail to sign their names as above mentioned, it shall be considered a violation of the covenant, a just cause for censure, and liable to such action as the church may deem proper.

The ladies organizations of the church have contributed a great deal toward the expenses. Throughout the thirty-nine years the Ladies Industrial Society was in existence, the minutes regularly tell of purchasing coal (until 1900) and giving \$5 or more per month toward the gas bills (after that date). This organization, as well as the Union Industrial Society, has given much in time and money for redecorating and furnishing the basement, vestibule, and sanctuary of the church.

In 1942, under the direction of the Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph, the Lord's Acre Plan was undertaken. One can well remember pleasure derived from growing produce, preserving foods, and making items to be sold for the benefit of the church. This project continued annually for 13 years and raised more than \$6,700 for the church.

On numerous occasions, memorial gifts have been given to the church. These gifts have also contributed much to the repair, redecoration, and purchase of new furniture, as well as pew Bibles and hymnals. The Allen organ, given in memory of Fred and Doris Palmer, is a good example of the use of memorial monies.

Many special functions, sponsored by the Finance Committee and other groups, are held annually. These functions--Roast Beef Dinners, Bake Sales, Strawberry Festivals, and many others--not only help to defray the expenses of the church but also provide much enjoyed fellowship for all who give their time and effort in service to their church.

Those Who Serve

The Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church has been served by many dedicated people over the past 150 years. In all, 32 ministers have served the church. There have been 37 members of the Deaconate.

The Pastors

Of the 32 pastors, 3 have served the church during two separate time-periods. The Rev. B. F. Rogers was supply pastor from January to July of 1867 and again from October 1902 to July 1903.

The Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn first served the church as its pastor from 1906 to 1909 and again from 1925 to 1938.

The Rev. Hurley Warren was interim pastor from July 1964 to August 1965 and again served as interim pastor from June 1968 to September 1969.

Although histories of the church written during the past fifty years do not include Elder Richard Hull as the first pastor, he will be included as the first pastor in this history. The original records do not clearly state whether the pastor was Elder Hull or Elder Ray Green. The following is taken from a historical sketch written in 1910 by Mr. F. W. Hamilton:

Elder Hull served the church as pastor until the spring of 1836, when the next

year he removed to Fulton County Ill., where he died May 11th 1838. His health had, all this time been failing and towards the last he surrendered nearly all the pastoral work to others. Ray Greene was ordained Aug. 23d, 1832 and occupied the pulpit fully as often as Elder Hull, so that he is often spoken of as the first pastor of this church.

A complete list of the pastors and supply or interim pastors follows: (If a pastor was ordained while serving this church, it is so indicated.)

Elder Richard Hull	1831 - 1836
Elder Ray Green	1831 - 1840
Ordained Aug. 23, 1832	
Elder James H. Cochran	1840 - April 1849
Rev. Jared Kenyon	June 1850 - Apr. 1855
Ordained June 1850	
Shared Pastorate:	
Rev. Stephen Burdick	Apr. 1855 - Apr. 1857
Rev. Alvin A. Lewis	Apr. 1855 - Apr. 1857
Rev. James Irish	Apr. 1857 - Jan. 1859
Rev. Charles A. Burdick	Jan. to July 1867
(Student at Alfred University)	
Rev. B. F. Rogers	July 1867 - July 1869
(Student at Alfred University)	
Rev. L. R. Swinney	Oct. 1869 - July 1877
Ordained Oct. 4, 1869	
Rev. A. H. Lewis (A. U. Theology Prof.)	
Supply	July 1877 - Jan. 1878
Pastor	Jan. 1878 - Jan. 1880
Rev. D. E. Maxson	Jan. 1880 - Jan. 1883
Rev. James Summerbell	Jan. 1883 - Apr. 1890
Rev. L. C. Rogers	Apr. 1890 - Jan. 1895
Rev. A. P. Amhurst	Jan. 1895 - Jan. 1897
Rev. M. B. Kelly	Jan. 1897 - Feb. 1899
Rev. F. E. Peterson	Apr. 1899 - Oct. 1902

Rev. B. F. Rogers (supply)	1902 - July 1903
Rev. C. S. Sayer	July 1903 - Mar. 1903
Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn	Mar. 1906 - June 1909
Rev. Ira L. Cottrell	June 1909 - May 1915
Rev. Ira S. Goff	May 1915 - July 1918
Ordained August 21, 1915	
Rev. Wm. M. Simpson	July 1918 - Feb. 1925
Rev. E. D. Van Horn	May 1925 - Dec. 1938
Rev. Elmo Fitz Randolph	Jan. 1939 - June 1943
Ordained Aug. 11, 1939	
Rev. Albert N. Rogers	Jan. 1944 - July 1956
Rev. J. Paul Greene, Jr.	Feb. 1957 - Nov. 1961
Ordained April 29, 1961	
Rev. Victor W. Skaggs	Dec. 1961 - July 1964
Rev. Hurley Warren (interim)	July 1964 - Aug. 1965
Rev. Ernest K. Bee, Jr.	Sept. 1965 - July 1968
Rev. Hurley Warren (interim)	June 1968 - Sept. 1969
Rev. Edward Sutton	Sept. 1969 - June 1973
Rev. Henry Rood (interim)	1973 - Sept. 1974
Rev. Rex E. Zwiebel	Oct. 1974 -

The Deaconate

The members of the Deaconate follow, as they are recorded in the Secretary's Book, dated April 4, 1965, to September 26, 1975:

Amos Burdick, a constituent member, had been a deacon in the First Alfred Church, was recognized as such in the Second Church 1831-77.

Nathan Lanphear ordained as deacon in 1832

Stephen R. Smith ordained as deacon in 1832

Nathan Lanphear--dismissed to Andover 1871

Charles D. Langworthy--united by letter and served as deacon from 1845 until his death in 1876.

John Langworthy, deacon from First Hopkinton, R.I., united with this church in 1843, and served as deacon until his death.

Daniel Potter united with the church in 1858 and served as deacon to 1865.

Freeborn W. Hamilton joined the church in 1847, was ordained deacon June 24, 1866 and served until his death in 1911.

John T. Green was ordained also in June 1866 and served until his removal from the state.

J. N. Forbes was ordained to fill the vacancy, serving until his removal.

Lyman H. Lewis was ordained to the office of deacon in 1867, and served until his decease in 1870.

Joseph Edwards joined the church in January, 1879; was ordained as deacon in February 1888 serving until his death in November 1896.

Sylvanus C. Whitford joined the church by baptism in 1878, was ordained as deacon in February 1888 and served until his death in August 1909.

William H. Langworthy joined by baptism in 1871, was ordained as deacon in February 1888 and served until his death in August 1941.

Thomas B. Bardeen joined by letter in July, 1893 and was recognized as a deacon in July, 1896, serving until his death in March, 1911.

Fred J. Palmiter joined by baptism in June 1893, was ordained deacon March 13, 1912, and served until his death in June 1941.

Ernest N. Brague joined by letter in September 1899, was ordained deacon March 13, 1912, and served until his death in 1948.

Frederick J. Pierce joined by baptism in March 1898, was ordained as deacon March 13, 1912, and served until his death in June 1965.

Orson Witter joined by letter Feb. 13, 1915, recognized as deacon and served until his death in 1923.

Deacon F. N. Ayars united by letter, August 1916, was recognized and served as deacon until his death in April 1935.

Deacon George L. Maxson united by letter March 5, 1921, was recognized as deacon and served until April 1929, when he removed to the Battle Creek Church.

Deacon Silas S. Whitford bro't his letter from Hartsville Church (S.D.B.) and united with us in March 1926. He served as deacon until his death in June 1957.

Irving V. Palmiter joined the church by baptism in February 1912. He was ordained in 1940 and served as deacon until his sudden death in a car accident February 1961.

Robert W. Ormsby joined the church by baptism in April 1916. He was ordained 1940 and served as deacon until his death February 21, 1976.

Leon L. Lewis joined the church by baptism in February 1915. He was ordained deacon Aug. 7, 1954, and served until his death June 22, 1966.

Donald S. Pierce joined the church by baptism September 1930 and was ordained deacon Aug. 7, 1954.

Bertha Austin was baptized and joined the church in May 1905. As Mrs. Bertha (Earl) Burdick she was ordained as deaconess August 7, 1954. She served as deaconess until she removed her membership to Richburg, following her marriage to Hal Drake, Oct. 1959.

Edna Pierce was baptized and joined the church in July 1908. On August 7, 1954, as Mrs. Leon Lewis, she was ordained a deaconess.

Mrs. Nina Davis joined the church by letter from the Hartsville S.D.B. Church in June 1925. She was ordained as deaconess August 7, 1954. She served until her death June 8, 1971.

Lloyd W. Pierce was baptized and joined the church in July 1927. He was ordained as a deacon April 13, 1963.

Jean Lewis was baptized and joined the church in June 1933. On April 13, 1963, as Mrs. Donald S. Pierce, she was ordained as deaconess.

Robert L. Bond united with the church by letter from Lost Creek, W. Virginia, in December 1957. He was ordained as a deacon April 13, 1963. He left by letter June 16, 1977.

Mrs. Leola Van Horn (Robert) Bond united with the church by letter from Lost Creek, West Virginia. She was ordained as a deaconess April 13, 1963. She left by letter June 16, 1977.

Bernice Niles joined the church by baptism May 1923. As Mrs. Donald Van Horn she was

ordained deaconess Nov. 11, 1972, and served until her death March 20, 1978.

Donald Van Horn joined the church by letter in June 1925. He was ordained deacon Nov. 11, 1972.

Carroll Burdick was a deacon of the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church. He became a deacon of the Alfred Station Church March 22, 1975, when the Independence Church merged with the Alfred Station Church.

Wayne Crandall was a deacon of the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church and became deacon of the Alfred Station Church March 22, 1975, when the Independence Church merged with the Alfred Station Church. He served until his death Nov. 8, 1980.

Kathryn Crandall was a deaconess of the Independence Seventh Day Baptist Church and became deaconess of the Alfred Station Church March 22, 1975, when the Independence Church merged with the Alfred Station Church.

Many others have served their church in various capacities, such as moderator (president), clerk (secretary), treasurer, trustee, choir director, organist--the list could go on and on. A list of names of these dedicated people would be much too long to include. Their dedication to the church, however, cannot be forgotten.

The Gift of Music

*Yea Music is the profits art!
Among the gifts that God has sent,
One of the most magnificent.*

--Longfellow

Music has played an important part in the fellowship of the Alfred Station Church throughout most of its history.

The use of music in the worship services was probably on an irregular basis, if at all, during the first ten or more years of the church's existence. The following few entries in the minutes give reason to form such a conclusion.

The first mention of music appeared in the September 12, 1847, minutes.

*Resolved that we adopt the new hymn book
of our denomination*

Dec 19, 1847

*Resolved that the new hymn books be used
in our meeting of Worship a proportion of
the time at the discretion of the paster.*

January 14, 1849

*Called up the case of S. B. Witter
Committee report that they visited him and
that he could not join in worship with us
on the sabbath on account of the singing
Thinks it is no better than idol worship*

*Resolved that bren J. H. Cochran S. R.
Smith Harvey W Benjamin H. G. Green &*

Chas. D. Langworthy be committee on
singing

Resolved that in our opinion it would not
be best to have singing schools in the
meeting house for common

Samuel Whitford did conduct singing
schools, on a regular basis, in the church for
many years.

May 13th, 1849

A list of tunes for singing in worship re-
ported by the comm on singing Resolved to
receive and adopt said report

June 8, 1856

Resolved to appoint br Samuel Whitford
Church Choirister in place of H. W. Benjamin
during the pleasure of the Church

July 12th, 1857

Br Samuel Whitford requests to be released
from acting as choirister

Dec 13th, 1857

Resolved that John C Burdick be appointed
Church Choirister

Jan 13, 1880

Voted that D E Maxson and J. C. Burdick be
a committee to look after a new singing book
for the use of the Church and report at
next ch meeting

Nov 14, 1880

Committee to procure singing Books Report
they have 40 copies of Servise of Song and
have sold 25 copies at 88¢ per copy. 14
copies remain in the hands of the com.
which they desire to dispose of at the same
rate as soon as possible

As will be seen, new hymnals were purchased on many occasions to replace old and worn "singing books."

The first mention of a musical instrument to accompany the singing was found in the Alfred Sun in 1885. What instruments were used until this time can only be a matter of speculation.

August 24, 1885 (Alfred Sun)

Clara Hadsell presided at the new organ in church

January 5th, 1892 (Church Minutes)

Voted that we elect church choirster at our annual church meeting each year.

On motion Luther W. Lewis was elected church choirster for the ensuing year

In 1898 a second organ was purchased by the Christian Endeavor Society to be used in the balcony by that society.

May 3, 1899 (Alfred Sun)

Mrs Eva Champlin is regular Church Organist.

Apr. 14, 1901 (Church Minutes)

Voted to adopt for use in our Church, the book entitled "Lifetime Hymns."

Voted that the chairman appoint a com. to solicit funds and procure 100 copies of the above named hymn book. Pastor Peterson and Mrs. Eva Champlin appointed Committee.

January 5, 1904

Voted to appoint Mrs Mable Sayer Choirster & Organist for ensuing year.

Some of the many who have served through the years as organists and choir directors follow:

Organists: Clara Hadsell, Eva Champlin, Arlene Vincent, Harriet B. Van Horn, Nellie Langworthy, Mrs. Fred Turk, Catherine Langworthy, Doris Potter Palmer, Mildred Vincent, Francis Palmer, Janette Rogers, Denise Green, Roberta Clarke Ellis, Wayne Cruzan, Phyllis Mattison, and others. The organist at the present time is Irene Conderman.

Choir Directors: H. W. Benjamin, Samuel Whitford, John C. Burdick, Luther Lewis, Emma Robinson, Emma Vincent, Milo Palmer, Pastor E. D. Van Horn, Ira Pierce, Fred Palmer, Lois Scholes, Pastor Albert N. Rogers, Madeline Fitz-Randolph, and others. Amanda Stevens Snyder is now the minister of music.

January 5, 1926

Motion made and carried that Pastor Van Horn, Emma Vincent, George Maxson, Flora Allen, and Doris Palmer act as committee to secure new Hymn books for the church.

During the pastorate of Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn, in 1936 the church purchased a new organ. This electronic Hammond organ was, at that time, a completely new concept in church organs.

The organ was purchased entirely through the generosity of friends and members of the church. A chart was made representing the keys of the organ, and any person or group could purchase a key for a set price. When the keys had all been "purchased," the organ was paid for.

The new Hammond organ was dedicated at a recital presented December 26, 1936; and it added much to the services and programs of the church for many years.

By the late 1970's the Hammond organ, which had served well, was showing signs of needing much repair, or possibly replacement.

October 8, 1978

The Trustees' recommendation that the undesignated money in the Fred Palmer Memorial Fund be established as a fund for a new church organ and that a committee be named to begin investigation of suitable organs was adopted. The committee is to be composed of Amanda Snyder, Phyllis Mattison, Russell Allen, James Palmer, and Francis Palmer.

In February of 1979 a new Allen MDC (Modified Digital Computer) organ was ordered by a vote of the church.

April 8, 1979

It is to be noted that the new Allen organ was delivered and installed on March 29, 1979, with the help of Don Pierce, Russell Allen, and James Palmer.

The old Hammond organ was removed and given to the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Toronto, Canada.

What a magnificent instrument we now have to enhance our worship services! It must surely be enjoyed by all as its pipe-like tones accompany the voices of the Youth Choir and add much to the anthems of the Senior Choir, as well as the singing of the congregation.

Ladies, Benevolent

Ladies' organizations have played a very important part in the church. Over the years there have been several different ladies' organizations that have helped greatly to support the church by paying for improvements and furnishings as well as helping those in need.

The first ladies' organization was formed in 1858.

LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY OF THE SECOND CHURCH OF ALFRED AND VICINITY

According to public notice the Ladies of the 2nd Church of Alfred, and vicinity, met at the house of Eld. James R. Irish, on the afternoon of Apr. 13th/58

After a season [session] of prayer, Mrs Charlotte C. Irish was chosen President, Protom. Mrs Harriet M. Green Secretary.

After free conference, it was Resolved that we proceed to organize a Sewing Society. The following persons were appointed as committee to draft a Constitution. Alma Stillman, Huldah Stillman, Elizabeth Sweet, Eusebia Stillman, Amanda Lewis.

The first two articles of the Constitution of the society were as follows:

Art. 1st

This society shall be called the Ladies Benevolent Society of the Second Church of Alfred and vicinity

Art 2d

The object of this Society shall be to raise funds to be appropriated as the Society may determine.

The society originally had 32 members, including Elder James R. Irish, and began to help the church soon after its organization.

June 8th/58

Resolved that Society, procure window blinds for the meeting house

June 27th/58

Res That an order to give br J. R. Irish for \$37.97 for Blinds for Society.

The Benevolent Society was short-lived, as the last entry in the book of record was on April 17, 1860. A new need had been felt, with the onset of the Civil War.

The next entry in the book was on May 12, 1863.

Resolved That whereas the present troubles of our country have called many loved ones from our midst, to suffer in camps, field, and hospital, and all the horrors that follow in the track of war; and, whereas, an earnest call has been made to the benevolent women of this Union, to help in this our country's time of need; and whereas, but little can be done without systematic effort, therefore, we have concluded to organize ourselves into a society for the furtherance of this great work.

Art. 1st

This organization shall be known as the Ladies Soldiers Aid Society of Alfred.

Art. 4th

All whose names are herewith subscribed agree to assist in furnishing such articles as shall be for the benefit of the sick and wounded soldiers in our country.

Art. 5th

This society shall hold a session as often as once in two weeks during the existing war, or as long as there exists a call for such labor.

Twenty-one names appear on the membership list; however, no more entries are made in the book about the Ladies Soldiers Aid Society of Alfred. The ladies were obviously more concerned with their work than with the need to keep records.

After the war, no other ladies' society was organized until 1875.

THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY SABBATH TRACT SOCIETY
OF THE SECOND SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH
OF ALFRED

The Women's Auxiliary Sabbath Tract Society of the Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred was organized around 1875. The 20 members organized the society for the purpose of raising money for the Missionary Tract Societies.

Meetings were held quarterly, and funds were raised by appointed committees which collected donations from society members as well as interested area residents.

The name of the organization was changed to the Women's Evangelical Society of the Second Alfred Church about 1890. This group merged with the Ladies Industrial Society in July 1908.

LADIES INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

June 26, 1878

Agreeable to previous appointment ladies of this vicinity met at the residence of Mrs. R. W. Burdick for the purpose of organizing a Sewing Society.

Mrs. J. N. Forbes was appointed chairman of the meeting, Mrs. F. W. Hamilton Secretary.

On motion it was decided that the name of the Society should be The Ladies Industrial Society of 2nd Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church.

The com. [on Constitution] submitted the following.

1st The object of this Society shall be to aid the Church and such benevolent causes as need assistance.

2d All persons uniting with this Society pledge themselves to labor faithfully to promote its interests, and by kind courtesy and Christian forbearance strive to give to ourselves a better life, and to extend to others an influence for good.

"Aid the Church" the society truly did. Much was done to support missionary work, and many things were made and sent to Randolph House, as well as to the Home of the Friendless in New York City. Clothing and other

necessities were constantly made and given to needy families in the area.

The following is a partial list of church improvement projects supported or completely financed by the Ladies Industrial Society:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 1883 | Started parsonage fund |
| 1889 | Helped finance basement project |
| 1891 | Purchased 4 dozen chairs for church parlors |
| 1892 | Carpeted the sanctuary |
| 1892 | Purchased furnace for church |
| 1896 | Stained glass windows |
| 1904 | Double doors between sanctuary and vestibule |
| 1906 | Gas lights for basement |
| 1912 | Purchased new pews for sanctuary |

Many other projects were undertaken by this society before it merged with the Union Sewing Society in 1917 to form the Union Industrial Society.

UNION SEWING SOCIETY

A sewing society was organized about 1877 at the home of Joshua Davis. The society met monthly at the homes of its members for the purpose of making articles of clothing and bedding. Most of the funds used were free will offerings of the members and friends, or gifts of cloth, yarn, and thread.

The following is taken from the Constitution and Bylaws of the organization.

Art. 1st (Constitution)

The Society shall be called the Union Sewing Society

Art. 7th (Bylaws)

Each member may donate to this Society in work or funds or both according to will.

Art. 8th (Bylaws)

This society shall be conducted in a manner that shall be for the advancement and improvement of all its members in all pleasant conversation with love and charity to all and malice towards none.

The hostess for each meeting was to furnish the noon meal for members of the society. This was used as one way to raise funds for the society. Article 9 of the Bylaws reads:

Art. 9th

Table furnished with one kind of bread one kind of cake or pie with some kind of fruit if convenient with butter, tea, cold meat or cheese & pickles and if any of the members wish to do more they may be fined one dollar for every extra dish, at the table, said fine to go to the society.

On December 9, 1889, the Society amended Article 9 by adding "potatoes or beans to the bill of fare."

The last part of the same article was also changed to read:

. . . if any of the members wish to do more, they may be fined 5 cents for each extra dish at the table; and each member that partakes will pay 5 cts for each extra dish, said fine to go to the Society.

The Union Sewing Society was not an organization of the church but of local women, dedicating their time and money to help others

in need. The Society, however, on many occasions, did give money to the societies of the church to help with various projects.

The Union Sewing Society continued its good work until 1917, when it merged with the Ladies Industrial Society.

The following is taken from articles by Mae Sherman Whitford, found in the Centennial booklet of the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church, published in 1931:

ORPHA SOCIETY

The Society was organized by Mrs. Orpha Witter Babcock about 1882. They met at the different homes once each month. Dinner was served at this time and ten cents were charged each person for the same.

Three churches were represented in this organization, namely: Second Alfred, Andover and Hartsville. Money from their treasury was often divided among the three churches. Many needy or unfortunate families received clothing, comfortables, or other kind help from this society. Money was sent to the Tract and Missionary Societies, or given toward the pastor's salary.

. . . This society discontinued in September, 1912.

THE DORIS SUNSHINE SOCIETY

On May 5th, 1905, the Doris Sunshine Society was organized as a branch of the International Sunshine Society of New York.

With forty-five active members it founded a \$1000 scholarship in Alfred University. The use of the same has been given to many of our young people.

Boxes of canned fruit and jellies have been sent to the Sunshine Home.

Sewing has been done and to be a kind help to the needy was one of the main objects of this organization.

UNION INDUSTRIAL SOCIETY

This was organized in 1917, by the uniting of the Union Sewing Society with the Ladies' Industrial Society of the Second Alfred church. The Tract and Evangelical Society having previously merged into the Ladies Industrial Society, the same pledging to do that work.

The Constitution of the Union Industrial Society is as follows:

The purpose shall be to help the needy, to assist the church and promote any cause to help the community, also to contribute to the Women's Board.

Three divisions existed in the previous society. Now it seemed necessary to rearrange into four divisions, which was done.

This society pledged to help the needy and contribute to the Women's Board. It has proven of value in helping finance the denomination, and provide for the up-keep and furnishing of the church and parsonage. To carpet and paper the church, help pay for the paint, provide new chairs for the choir, and share expense of putting in electricity has been a part of the work. Three new stoves, a parlor suite, new dining chairs and six tables have been placed in the church basement recently.

Here dinners are served in turn by the four divisions, on the second Wednesday of each month. We also raise money by serving chicken dinners, dinners for reunions and other organizations; such as judging teams and class dinners. For our regular society dinner we charge twenty-five cents, chicken dinners 60 cents, or as the society may direct. A large part of our finance is raised in this way.

The days of the 25 and 60 cent dinners are long gone, and the monthly dinners which were held on the first Wednesday of each month in recent years are no longer.

These dinners were regularly served until about two years ago, when they were stopped because of the difficulty of getting persons to work on a regular basis. About this same time, however, the Union Industrial Society began to serve or cater banquets on special occasions for organizations around the local area. The banquets have proven to be a successful and profitable enterprise for the Society.

The U. I. S. holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of each month and now, as it has for many years, prepares and serves dinners for families of deceased community and church members--just one more needed and much appreciated service the dedicated ladies have given to their church and community.

Church Schools

The church apparently did not conduct any church schools during its early years. The first recorded discussion on Sabbath School is found in 1847.

August 8, 1847

*Sabbath School resolution presented by
br Larkin adopted See on file*

What was contained in brother Larkin's resolution is not found; and although the church had adopted the resolution, apparently little more was done about organizing a Sabbath School until 1854.

April 9th, 1854

*Resolved that brn Jared Kenyon H. W.
Benjamin A. A. Lewis Stephen Burdick &
F. W. Hamilton be a comm. on Sabbath Schools.*

May 14th 1854

*Report of Sabbath School Committee called
for Chairman of said com. reported. Res.
that report be received and com. continued*

*Resolved that a fund be raised by sub-
scription to purchase a sabbath school
Library*

*Resolved that br. H. W. Benjamin be Librarian
for the ensuing year*

June 18, 1854

*The com. on Sabbath School report that they
have organized three subdivisions of
Sabbath School*

Resolved that we approve said report and that the com. be continued

The com. on raising funds for the sabbath school library Report that some 21 dollars have been raised for the purpose Resolved to receive said report

Again the church had voted to organize a Sabbath School; but as in 1847, the idea did not go beyond the record book, as in 1857 the idea appears again.

July 12, 1857

On a motion of Eld Irish Resolved to engage in the Sabbath School enterprise; also voted that Elder Irish be supt. of our sabbath school

Res. that Br. O. A. Burdick be Librarian to take charge of the Sabbath School library.

Still again the church has decided to conduct Sabbath School classes. If classes did begin at this time is unclear, and somewhat doubtful, for tradition tells us that Elder Nathan Wardner "gathered the children together in a school to study God's word," in 1859.

Silinda Burdick was the first recorded church member to "conduct" a school in 1864.

From this point on, records have been kept which show superintendents, secretaries, and teachers. Some of the early superintendents are familiar names, being found in many other capacities within the church: Lyman Lewis, F. W. Hamilton, Mrs. F. W. Hamilton, J. N. Forbes, James Summerbell, L. C. Rogers, Luther Lewis, and many more. In later years the list

includes such names as Eva Champlin, Nettie Brague, Mary Whitford, Mary Odell, Alvah Clark, Schuyler Whitford, Edna Lewis, Lynn Langworthy, and numerous others have followed and served well. The superintendent at this time is Jean Lewis Pierce, who conducts an opening service and business meeting for the Sabbath School the first Sabbath of each month.

Harrison W. Green and Flora Stillman (Allen) are the first Sabbath School secretaries recorded in 1885-1886. The present secretary, Laurie Jeanne Allen, is a great-granddaughter of Flora Stillman Allen.

In 1920 Pastor William M. Simpson organized the first summer Bible School. These summer religious education classes have been continued nearly every year since that time.

From time to time, the summer Church School classes have been held through the combined efforts of the Alfred Station Church and the churches of the Alfred community (First Alfred S. D. B. Church, Union University Church, and the Methodist Church).

For the past several years, classes have been conducted by this church, with good enrollment, under the name of Vacation Church School.

The Name of This Church Shall Be

When the church was constituted in 1831, it was customary for Seventh Day Baptists to name a church not only for the town or township in which it was organized but also by an ordinal number. If no other Seventh Day Baptist Church existed in a township, the church would be given the name "The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of _____." This was done with the idea that the denomination's growth could necessitate the building of more churches in an area. Any successive churches would be named "The Second Seventh Day Baptist Church," "The Third . . . ," etc.

The First Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred had been founded in the 1820's, so the new church in Goose Pasture, in 1831, was logically named "The Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Christ in Alfred." This name remained with the church until the new meeting house was constructed at Bakers Bridge.

In 1858 the church name was changed to "The Second Seventh Day Baptist Church in Alfred."

In 1871 a new church was founded in Andover, and many members of the Second Alfred Church lived near that village in Lanphear and East valleys. Many of these members were involved in the organization of the new Andover church.

Jan 14, 1872

A letter from the Church Clerk of Andover was presented containing a list of names from this church who have entered into fellowship with the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Andover and request that their names be dropped from our Church Book

On motion it was voted that communication from Andover Ch be laid on the table for one month . . .

March 11, 1872

The communication for the Andover church was taken from the table and the following action was taken,

Whereas the following persons whose names are appended, being members of our church have through the advice of Sister Churches entered into an organization to be known as the Seventh day Baptist Church of Andover. And now request to be released from this church. Therefore resolved that their request be granted.

The list referred to in the above resolution contained thirty names, including that of Deacon Nathan Lanphear.

Only the men of the Second Alfred Church had a voice in church matters from the time of its organization. In 1878, this changed, when the constitution was amended to include the ladies as voting members.

February 17, 1878

Moved that Article 3, 9 & 10 of the Constitution be amended by striking out the word "Male" as provided by Article 11.

From this point on, the names of women of the church began to appear in the minutes as serving on committees as well as performing other duties.

In January of 1886 the church voted to incorporate under the "Diossy's Edition of the Statute Laws of New York State," which had been passed in 1876.

Jan 16, 1886

Whereas the Union society of the second Seventh day Baptist Church of Alfred at its last annual meeting voted to dissolve said Society and pass over to the Second Alfred Church funds and property held by it.

Therefore Resolved that we accept Such trusts and proceed to elect six Church Trustees to take cahрге of the same.

The following Brethren were elected by ballot.

2 years	F W Hamilton
	President of Trustees
3 "	Milo Shaw
1 "	H G. Witter
2 "	A W Davis
1 "	H W Green
3 "	S C Whitford

Voted that the trustees be instructed to have the Church incorporated under the name of the Second Seventh day Baptist Church of Alfred.

On February 6, 1886, the corporation papers were signed.

Although the official name was the "Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred," the church was, for many years, referred to as the

"Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church."
This name appeared on bulletins, correspondence, and in church records.

A "Centennial Celebration of the Second Alfred Seventh Day Baptist Church" was held January 23-25, 1931, during the pastorate of the Rev. Edgar D. Van Horn.

In 1956, 84 years after its founding, the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Andover closed its doors in dissolution. Its members transferred to other churches throughout the area. A few of the Andover people joined in fellowship with the Second Alfred Church in March of that year.

A second centennial celebration was held May 30-31, 1958, with the "Centennial Observance of the Church Home." The Rev. J. Paul Green was pastor at the time of this observance.

January 5, 1964, the church constitution was revised. Article I had read:

The name of this church shall be The Second Seventh Day Baptist Church of Alfred.

With the new revision to the constitution, Article I was changed to read (and now reads):

The name of this church shall be The Alfred Station Seventh Day Baptist Church. Its object shall be to promote the public worship of God, the private practice of Christian virtue, and the spread of Christ's kingdom as understood by Seventh Day Baptists.

The name may have been changed from the traditional, but the reason for the original name, "THE SECOND SEVENTH DAY BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHRIST IN ALFRED," must not be forgotten. It is one of many important and interesting parts of our Seventh Day Baptist heritage.