

*It's
Building
Time
Again!*

Nov., 1958



Why It Is Essential

I CAN STATE quite simply why our Church educational building program is essential:

I believe the Christian faith and way is relevant and necessary to the attainment of the best life here and hereafter; that it is the power for triumphant, victorious living.

I believe that the Judeo-Christian religion is the source of freedom and democracy, and all concomitant blessings we hold most dear.

I believe that Christianity offers the best hope of earth for brotherhood and world community, so urgently needed for survival and the better life for all.

I believe that this way of life and these values are important. I want them for myself, my children, and all mankind.

I believe that the Church is the one Body charged with the specific responsibility of proclaiming the Gospel, the teachings of Jesus, the Christian faith and way. I believe that this is a world-wide mission, but a mission no stronger than its point of origin – the local Church.

I believe that the first responsibility of the local Church is to serve the needs of the community, to proclaim the Gospel, to minister to the suffering and sorrowing, to call all to repentance and faith, to teach the young the eternal truths of Christ.

To fulfill this responsibility, especially to provide Christian education for our children and youth, knocking at our doors in ever increasing numbers, more space and facilities are urgently needed by the Church.

I believe this is an opportunity to exercise real churchmanship and Christian devotion, responding to Jesus who said, "Whosoever would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow Me."

I believe that a great spiritual adventure awaits those who thus respond.

— CARL G. METTLING
Minister

It's Building Time Again

THE BARRINGTON METHODIST CHURCH is confronted with a serious problem, but it is a happy problem — one that has grown out of success; it is the problem of a vigorous, expanding church whose program has outgrown its facilities.

Success and expansion are part of this historic Church's tradition. In 1840 six settlers living in Barrington Center banded together to form a Methodist Church and worshiped in a schoolhouse whenever the circuit-riding preacher came by. Four years later they had their first building campaign and put up a log structure to serve both as church and school. By 1858, with 85 members, it was considered to be "the strongest church on the Dundee circuit."

The ensuing century saw this upward trend continue. In 1858, the first edifice solely for church purposes was built on the North Side; in 1872, the Cook Street Church (now the Masonic Temple) was erected; in 1915 its entire interior was modernized; in 1928, the Zion Evangelical Church was purchased and remodeled in 1931; in 1952, the educational wing was added.

Now, it's building time again!

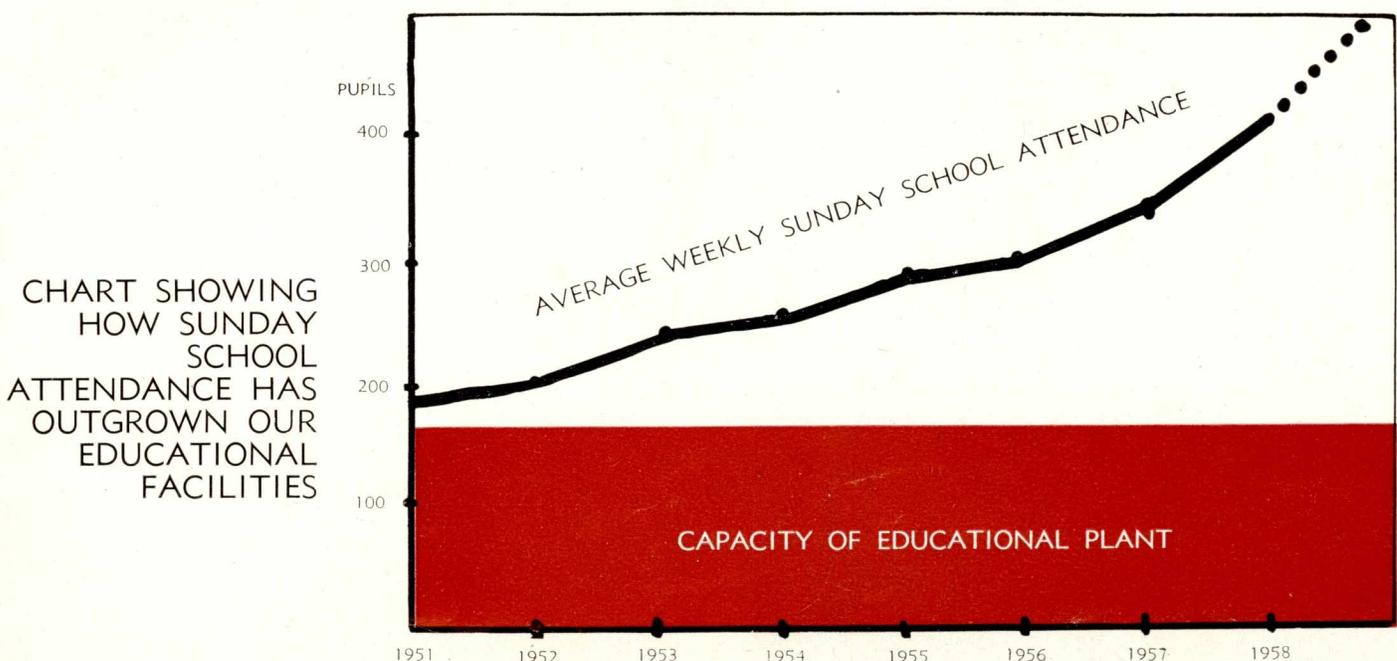
A Matter for Concern

It is primarily the welfare of our boys and girls that concerns us at this juncture. The chart below puts this in graphic form. It shows a gratifying 15% increase in attendance year by year. Note that the figures are based on

average weekly attendance and that on many Sundays considerably larger numbers are present. The normal capacity of our present facilities for one session, rated according to the "fair" amount of space per pupil recommended by our General Board of Education, is 173 boys and girls (as shown in red below). Our attendance has exceeded that number ever since our educational wing was built.

It was sheer good fortune that Hough Street School happens to be located directly across the street and that nine unused classrooms could be rented. However, this is only a temporary remedy. The Church has received notice that, by 1960, the School Board will have to begin withdrawing these rooms from our use. Without these, the task of accommodating even our present Sunday School would be completely impossible.

Other aspects of our church life are likewise handicapped by lack of space. We have outgrown our social hall and, with increasing frequency, church suppers and other affairs overflow into adjoining rooms. For the latest all-church meeting, two identical dinners had to be held. Moreover, the kitchen is crowded and poorly arranged. The choir contends with unsatisfactory robing and rehearsal space. There is almost no storage for the equipment and supplies of various church organizations. Even the Church Lounge has had to yield a corner to office purposes. Similarly, through many of our activities, lack of space is frustrating the progress of a thriving church.





USED TO CAPACITY

Overcrowded conditions characterize too many places in our Sunday School. TOP: Crowded elbow to elbow, good teaching becomes difficult. MIDDLE: this 4th grade class could use much more space to advantage. BELOW: First lessons in worship are given in this crowded beginner's class.



A Vision that Can Come True

For more than two years, committees of the Official Board have been formulating the best answer to these needs of our children and, indeed, of other participants in our church life. Their answer has crystallized in the vision of a new addition to our plant.

In effect, this is an "L" shaped structure attached to the south side of the church and occupying the vacant corner where the parsonage once stood. Of brick construction in the Colonial manner, it will harmonize with and set off to advantage our beautiful white church. The new building will have a fully used semi-basement, a first floor, and a second floor which will be partially finished at the beginning, plus a substantial amount of additional space which can be turned into classrooms when needed. In addition, a number of improvements and alterations in the existing plant are contemplated.

An investment in this construction project will be rewarded by rich dividends. Here are some of them:

- ▶ All our Sunday School activities can be conducted under one roof (no more mid-morning promenades across the street), and there will be facilities for two complete sessions.
- ▶ Teachers will have the proper conditions for effective instruction: adequate space, more freedom from distracting noise and confusion, rooms logically arranged and fitted for the needs of different age groups, storage for equipment and supplies.
- ▶ All the little children will be on the first floor. Toddlers will no longer have to contend with stairways.
- ▶ The sizes and arrangement of rooms are expressly planned for flexibility in respect to possible changes in teaching methods and for multiple usage.
- ▶ There will be a Fellowship Hall half again as large as our present room under the sanctuary. It will have a large stage and will have convenient access to the kitchen, although out of range of kitchen noises.
- ▶ For the first time, our Church will have a small Chapel. This will find many uses: for a junior church service, for Sunday School worship services, an additional classroom, for adult devotional periods, for meditation and prayer,

Working One Day A Month For Your Church

WHEN THIS CHURCH was founded, more than a century ago, it is probable that the cost of building the first edifice was contributed in other ways than by money. Some members may have cut and given the timber. A blacksmith may have made the nails. Many contributed their labor.

Today it is less practical to donate the products of one's trade or offer one's skill to the construction project. Yet the idea has an appeal. Any of us would feel happy if our particular abilities could help build our new addition.

Is there any way to accomplish this?

Yes, there is! In many churches across the land, it has been discovered that if all the members would contribute the equivalent of one day's income a month over a three-year span, great things could be accomplished — new churches built or expanded, buildings renovated or modernized, whole communities better served. Will you consider a subscription on this scale?

It is not intended that this scale should be mathematically correct. Many will give out of capital substantially above this scale while some may be obliged to give less. The amounts of

the pledges, therefore, will not reveal anyone's particular circumstances. Nevertheless, the one-day's-income-per-month plan is a sound starting point for your family's thinking in considering your share in this project.

For instance, daily incomes ranging from \$10 to \$30 would suggest pledges as follows:

Approximate annual income	Daily income	Suggested 36-month pledge
\$3,650	\$10	\$360
5,474	15	540
7,300	20	720
11,000	30	1,080

Subscriptions in any particular amount, of course, are not compulsory; they are merely suggested units of giving. To be realistic, however, it should be understood that it is a widespread acceptance of giving in this general range that will make our new Educational Wing become a reality.

To those who do give on this scale will come the satisfaction of feeling that, just as surely as though you were laying bricks or pouring concrete, on one day of every month you are working not for yourself but for your Church.

We expect much from this skilled and hard-working group of teachers. In turn, we should give them the best possible conditions and equipment for effective teaching.



Answers To Your Questions

Who decided there would be a campaign?

You, the congregation, at officially called identical meetings on November 18 and 19 considered the reports of the building and planning committees and voted "full speed ahead."

What is the goal of the program?

Our objective is to expand and improve our capacity for teaching our boys and girls the eternal verities of life and to enrich other facets of our Church life. The accomplishment of these ends will require a major addition to our church plant, and this, in turn, will require some \$240,000.

When can construction be started?

When the returns from the campaign are in it is hoped that the Official Board will authorize the completion of the working drawings so that construction can be started next spring and the building be ready for use in the summer of 1960.

What is my share?

Only *you* can determine what is a reasonable contribution for one in your particular circumstances. To raise \$240,000 from a membership of this size, however, means that there must be a number of five-figure gifts and widespread acceptance of giving in the general range of the One - Day's - Work - a - Month plan (as explained on the previous page).

Do we need to do this all at once?

The planning committees have carefully considered the matter of costs. They are convinced that the needs enumerated are minimum, and can be met most economically by constructing the structure shown all at one time.

May I budget my subscription?

Yes, by all means. Although single-payment gifts will be welcomed as expressions of good will, the success of this project really hinges upon the willingness of most of the contribu-

tors to subscribe in amounts which they could not well pay except by spreading the payments over a three-year span.

How may I pay my subscription?

If you choose to pay weekly or monthly (as the majority will), special envelopes will be furnished so that your subscription payments will be dropped into the collection plate or mailed. Reminders will be sent to those who prefer to pay quarterly, semi-annually, or annually.

May I give securities?

Yes, stock, bonds or real estate may be given instead of money, and often with substantial tax advantages. Whenever a stock, for example, is worth more today than when purchased, by giving some shares to the Barrington Methodist Church, the donor will be relieved of paying the capital gains tax that would be incurred if the stock was first sold. Such gifts will be counted at their market value when received, and this (not the cost) is the correct figure to enter as a charitable deduction on your next tax return.

Will my gift be tax-deductible?

Yes, the payments on your subscription in any one year may be deducted in computing taxable income up to a maximum of 30% of adjusted gross income. This means that a considerable portion of your gift (from 22% to 91%, according to your tax bracket) will be offset by the amount of tax you will save by making this gift. This may show you that you can afford a larger gift than you had at first contemplated.

How will gifts be recognized?

The Church is to have a *Book of Remembrance* for the permanent recording of gifts. Here will be listed in alphabetical order the names, without amounts, of all who gave to this project. Other pages will be devoted to each gift of a memorial room in the new building, stating the names of the donor and the person or persons in whose beloved memory the room is dedicated.

There Is Much At Stake!

A GIFT to our new building is more than money for bricks and mortar. It is a prudent investment in the community well-being of Barrington. It is a way to insure the future strength of the Methodist Church. It is an advance payment for the future happiness of thousands of boys and girls who, in the long years to come, will be influenced for the good by the program that this building will make possible.

What are we willing to invest now to increase the probability of happy and fruitful lives for more of our children, our grandchildren, and our neighbors' children? We attempt to insure their ability to make a good living by providing good schools. We strive to protect them from physical dangers by safety programs and inoculations. But — may there not be impending misfortunes in the realm of the spirit, too?

Is there anything we can do *now* to guard more of the next generation against the emptiness of an adult career which has no Christian motivation to give it meaning and purpose? Or, against the ruin which so often ensues when men and women have no yardstick of Christian principles against which to measure conduct? Or, against the hopeless misery of one who is

unable to call upon the healing force of faith in time of crisis?

Yes, there *is* something we can do. No one has yet come forth with a surer method of building good moral and spiritual health than the progressive course of instruction given over the formative years by a Sunday School, when it has a first-class program implemented by first-class facilities. The new addition to Barrington Methodist Church will provide just that.

There are moments of soul searching at hand for each of us. But when you who read these words have made your own private decision to participate in this undertaking with work, with prayer, and with a sharing of your money to an extent which satisfies your innermost conscience — then this endeavor will be remembered as one of the exciting and satisfying experiences of your life. For, as the new building arises, brick by brick, you will know that you have built yourself into this splendid structure. And you will have shared in bringing to pass in Barrington, Illinois, what Isaiah prophesied of old:

*And all the children shall be taught of the Lord;
and great shall be the peace of thy children!*



We can make no contribution more important than one that will help to lead our children and young people into a commitment to Christ.

Barrington Methodist Church

Barrington, Illinois

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Press deadline did not permit the listing of team captains and members, but to those men and women the Campaign Committee wishes to extend its warm appreciation for the sacrifice of time and for the untiring efforts that will be manifested during the coming weeks of this campaign.