

## NEW FRONT DOORS DEDICATED AT KETTLEBY UNITED CHURCH

1957

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When the handsome new front doors of the eighty-four old Kettleby United Church were opened for the first time on Sunday, November 17, a congregation streamed in to fill the church to capacity within a few minutes. The occasion was a special service at which the following gifts were presented to the congregation and dedicated to the glory of God.

(A) A front door (double) of the finest material and workmanship, the gift of Mrs. Fannie Heacock, as a memorial to her husband, the late Silas J. Heacock, who was for many years a highly esteemed and active member of the Kettleby congregation. Mrs. George Cambridge made the presentation on behalf of her Mother who was unable to be present.

(B) A pair of elegant pedestals or flower stands done in cedar-wood, the work and the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Brown of Kettleby.

The gifts were received by representatives of the Official Board of the church, and were dedicated in a simple and impressive ceremony, conducted by the minister, Rev. R. Graham, who paid tribute to Mrs. Heacock's life long interest and activity in the life and work of Kettleby church. He made touching reference to the loyal and ever helpful services of the late "Si" Heacock, as he sang in the choir, took his turn in office, and was always on hand and willing when there was need of improvement or repair to the property.

The service was enhanced by contributions from both senior and junior choirs. Six members of the senior choir who had sung with Mr. Heacock sang one of his favorite hymns "In the Garden". The sextet included Messrs. Ed. Williams, Roy Geer, Jack Maginn, Mrs. M. Wassink, Mrs. T. Proctor and Mrs. K. Rogers. A duet "Have Thine Own Way" by Mr. Williams and Mrs. Bert Cherry, and a hymn "Celestial Voices" by the junior choir were further enjoyable additions to the praise service.

KETTLEBY CHURCH BEAUTIFIED TO MARK CENTURY  
OF SERVICE

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Sunday, December 7, 1953, saw another milestone set up in the life story of Kettleby United Church. The congregation was founded 105 years ago and the present church building has been its home for the past 90 years. A large and eager company of members, former members, neighbours and friends assembled for the dedication of the new vestibule and other additions and improvements to the property.

The service was conducted by the minister, Rev. R. Graham with the Rev. Charles E. Cragg of Toronto, as guest speaker. Following the anthem "My Dedication" sung by the senior and junior choirs, Mr. Norman Blatchford gave a brief review of the work planned and now completed. He told of the every member visitation carried out in the spring and of the heart warming response of members to the appeal for funds. The result was a decision by the congregation to have the outside walls refinished in white stucco, and a fifteen by twelve vestibule added to the building. A handsome church sign board was the gift of Mr. Ray Marshall.

An impressive act of dedication followed from which these sentences are quoted: The minister: "As a tribute of gratitude and love, a freewill offering of thankfulness and praise from those who have given of their thought, their substance and their labor, so as to add to the use and beauty of this House." The people: We dedicate the purpose of our hearts and the work of our hands to the glory and service of God and His Church".

Following the dedication prayer, the Kettleby Male Quartette, Messrs. Sturgess, Booth, Gilmore and Burt-Gerrans, sang "Bless This House". The anthem "Abide With Me" by the senior choir and a second number by the Quartette, "Sweet Peace" further enhanced the fine praise service with Mrs. Ray Marshall as organist and Mrs. Bert Cherry as choir leader.

The Rev. C. E. Cragg, M.A., who some years ago, served a very successful period on the Kettleby charge, was heartily welcomed by all. His subject was "Christians are Different" and his inspiring message, delivered with all his former force and vigor, was a fitting climax to an outstanding worship service. He congratulated the minister and people on the number and quality of the recent additions and improvements to painting and decorating done a year ago, a new broadloom carpet for the platform, the addition of a choice communion table with richly embroidered runner and brass alter cross, pulpit drape, oak baptismal font, a pair of handsome flower stands, two silk flags (Union Jack and Christian) and a

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miniature replica of the church before its recent face-lifting, and two beautiful memorial front doors. Further improvements, including the landscaping of grounds have been planned for the spring.

The congregation included several former members of Kettleby church who were heartily welcomed, and who enjoyed meeting old friends and exchanging memories. Tribute was paid to the work carried out by the two committees under Gordon Cook and Carl Proctor, and to the construction work headed by Messrs. Harry Stephenson and Fred Schmidt and to the willing help rendered by various members whenever needed.

The treasurer was happy to report that the cost of the undertaking was covered by the free-will offerings of the people.

CHURCH GIFTS ARE DEDICATED AT  
SPECIAL OPENING SERVICE

A special service marked the reopening of Kettleby United Church on Sunday, September 8th, 1959, after extensive decoration, some structural changes and the addition of several items of handsome church furnishings.

The service, conducted by the minister, Rev. R. Graham, was largely attended by members and friends, and proved an interesting milestone in the one hundred and four year history of the Kettleby congregation.

An impressive part of the service was the reception and dedication of various gifts, listed as follows: the painting of the walls and ceiling, and the alterations to the choir loft and platform were the gift of the members of the congregation, whose generous response to the recent every member canvass made the project possible.

The communion table of choice design in oak, matching the pulpit, baptismal font and chairs. This gift was purchased through funds from the will of the late Mrs. Joseph Webster of Glenville. The presentation was made by Mrs. Carl Proctor, daughter of Mrs. Webster. Another choice and very acceptable gift, a sixteen inch solid brass cross for the communion table was given by Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Armstrong.

Standing with the minister to receive these gifts were Mr. Roy Geer, chairman of the trustees, and Mr. Ray Marshall, representing the elders. A brief dedication service followed in which the entire congregation took part. Assisting in the service were Mr. Gordon Cook, chairman of the decoration committee, and Mr. Jack MacDonald, representing the stewards. The praise was led by the Kettleby choir with Mrs. Ray Marshall as organist and Mrs. Bert Cherry as choir leader. The service was enhanced by three outstandingly beautiful numbers from the Melville male quartette, whose rendering was about perfect on both voice and expression, an inspiration to every worshipper present. Following the service members of the quartette and their friends were entertained at the manse.



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## NEW KETTLEBY MINISTER COMES FROM ETOBICOKE

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Rev. Harold W. Kemp, B.A.BD., is the new minister of the Kettleby, Pottageville, Snowball charge of the United Church of Canada, and was inducted last week at a service at Kettleby. He succeeds Rev. Robert Graham who has retired to Toronto.

Mr. Kemp's induction service was under Rev. Gordon Winch, Oak Ridges, with Rev. Gordon Elliott, Schomberg, preaching the sermon to the congregation, and Rev. A. Wright, Markham, preaching to the minister. Ray Marshall presented Mr. Kemp to the congregation and spoke for Kettleby; Mrs. Wm. Turner for Snowball and Mrs. S. Proctor for Pottageville.

The Kemps are still living in Toronto, but will move to the Kettleby manse the end of this month.

Mr. Kemp formerly served as minister of Kenforth Baptist Church in Etobicoke but was received into the Toronto conference of the United Church in May of this year. He grew up on a farm at Broadview, Sask., attended Brandon College and McMaster University.

Mrs. Kemp is a registered nurse, whose home was Camrose, Alberta. They have two sons, David 10 and Robert 12, at present in the west with their mother visiting relatives.

Next month the family will be together at their cottage on Muldew Lake near Gravenhurst. For 17 years Mr. Kemp has served in the city.

## CENTURY OLD TOWERING TREES GIVE THEIR NAME TO NEW CHURCH

### IT'S "YORK PINES UNITED"

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One hundred and twenty members and adherents of Kettleby Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada, meeting in the Community Hall at Schomberg on Wednesday strongly favored "York Pines" as the name for their new church.

The new church, under construction a quarter mile east of Highway 400 on the north side of the Aurora-Schomberg road, is surrounded by tall pines, many of them nearing one hundred years of age, and the name seems most suitable.

The church is being built to accommodate the combined congregations of Snowball, Kettleby and Pottageville United Churches. The decision to amalgamate the churches was made last June, and construction began on the \$105,000. building in October, 1965.

The meeting at Schomberg was the initial meeting of the new congregation. William Hodgson, chairman of the council, which has coordinated the work of seven committees set up to handle the project, gave special recognition to members of these committees. Forty persons rose as their names were called by way of recognition.

Mr. Hodgson reported that the brick and stone structure is now closed in, and that work is being carried on in the interior. To date about 20 percent of the total cost has been contributed, and it is expected that when the building is opened on May 29, 1966, it will be half paid for. The remainder of the cost should be taken care of in a couple of years.

Rev. Albion R. Wright, minister of St. Andrew's United Church, Markham, and Chairman of York Presbytery, conducted the service of Institution by which the three congregations became one.

In presenting names for the new church, Mrs. Harry Burns noted that over fifty suggestions were originally submitted. A committee, elected for the purpose, narrowed them down to two. By a ballot vote, 82 percent favored York Pines as the most desirable name.

A slate of officers for the new congregation was presented by Mrs. William Hodgson and accepted by the meeting. The following will be officers during the first year:

Church Session - J. Ellison, A. Kerr, Mrs. W. Hodgson, H. Burns, L. White, Mrs. J. Adams, N. Blatchford, J. Maginn, J. MacDonald, Mrs. S. Proctor, Mrs. H. Sheardown, B. Patton, Mrs. C. Copson, J. Webster and F. Curtis.

Committee of Stewards - J. Adams, W. Groombridge, M. Woods, W. Hodgson, C. Doan, R. Orr, W. Davidson, Mrs. J. Maginn, W. Ard, G. Cook, Mrs. A. Kerr, D. Hodgson, Mrs. R. Snider, N. Hamilton, L. Heacock, S. Proctor, G. Cambourne and Mrs. M. Cook.

Board of Trustees - J. Maginn, C. Tilson, S. Proctor, W. Davidson and J. Adams.

Norman Blatchford presented the new budget and this was adopted without change.

Rev. R. Norman Pick, minister of Trinity United Church, Newmarket and secretary of York Presbytery, conducted a devotional service at the conclusion of the business meeting.

Rev. Harold W. Kemp, minister of the new congregation, expressed appreciation to the Schomberg United Church Women for the delicious meal they provided, to Mrs. Ray Rogers for the special solo rendered, and to Mrs. M. Cook for accompanying her. Special mention was made of the dinner music arranged by Miss Doris Mitchell. Mrs. Albion Wright and Mrs. Norman Pick accompanied their husbands and were thanked for their consent to count the ballots cast in the naming of the new church.

Many fine comments were made by those present on the significance and quality of this first meeting of York Pines United Church in the Township of King, and hopes for a strong religious and cultural centre for the larger community were envisaged.



Rev. Harold Kemp, who will be minister of the new congregation.



BOTH CHOIRS OF THE CHURCH -- the chancel choir and the youth choir -- combined for the special

event. Organist and chancel choir director, John F. Willis, is at right end of back row.



The chancel is contemporary in feeling with the chancel choir on one side and the youth choir on the other. The lovely Conn organ is situated on the west side with the younger choir. The pulpit is also on the right side.

On the left is the lectern with the gold markers with the Latin cross. The communion table is situated in the centre of the chancel with the brass altar and Pri-seat. The altar desk holds the Bible.

Long narrow windows with perpendicular window panes run along the sides of the sanctuary. The panes contain colored glass in two shades of amber and a wine colour.

Indirect lighting shines on the cross hanging on the stone column. Two rows of brass hanging fixtures are suspended from the ceiling.

Folding doors at the back of the church divide the chapel from the main section of the church.

On the main floor there is a church office, the minister's study, a nursery room, kitchenette, washrooms and a church fellowship room. The fellowship room contains upholstered furniture and resembles a lounge. The room contains a pair of clear glass windows in addition to the coloured windows to match the decor of the rest of the church. There is a pass through to the kitchenette.

Downstairs (two stairways) contains five large classrooms for church school purposes suitable for team teaching. This section contains the utilities including a modern kitchen. The auditorium has a full stage with two dressing rooms. There is a seating capacity of 300 in this room. A public address system has been installed throughout the building with 16 speakers in the sanctuary and 12 in the auditorium.

## CONDENSED HISTORY OF KETTLEBY UNITED CHURCH

The history of this church goes back to the year 1853 when the methodist minister at Lloydtown began having services in the Temperance Hall at Kettleby. In those early years the membership was very small and Kettleby's portion of the minister's salary was 9 pounds - about \$40.00. In those days there were no roads worthy of the name and the only safe mode of travel was by horseback, giving the name "saddle bag preachers" to those who served.

The circuit first consisted of Lloydtown, Monkman's, Rich Hill and Proctor's. Kettleby was added in 1853. Brownsville, Schomberg and Rottenham in 1884. Because of the very large area and so much driving a second minister was called in 1878 at a salary of \$140.00 a year with \$100.00 for board and \$60.00 for horse keep.

By 1872 the congregation at Kettleby had grown to such an extent a church was needed. A lot was purchased in the village for \$105.00 and the new church dedicated in 1873.

In 1879 the circuit of Lloydtown became divided into three circuits - Rottenham, Schomberg and Lloydtown. The Lloydtown circuit consisted of Lloydtown, Proctor's and Kettleby appointments. Pottageville first appears in the records in 1884. In 1894 the Glenville appointment was transferred from Holland Landing to Lloydtown. What a drive that must have been on a cold winter morning from Lloydtown to Glenville for service at eleven o'clock!

In 1902 the Kettleby circuit was formed consisting of Kettleby, Pottageville, Glenville and Snowball. Up to this time the latter had formed part of the King circuit. The first minister of the newly formed circuit was the Rev. J. B. Freebury and the story is that on two occasions he walked from Lloydtown to Pottageville when the roads were so drifted a horse could not get through in order that the few who did get out to church would not be disappointed. In June 1952 the Glenville church was closed due mostly to the fact it was difficult to obtain a minister willing to take on a four point charge.

## CONDENSED HISTORY OF KETTLEBY UNITED CHURCH

The first parsonage was purchased in 1903 for \$600.00 and an old carriage shop bought for \$150.00 was moved to the rear to serve as a horse stable and drive shed. This first parsonage was burned in 1923 and a new brick home was built on the same site and is still used as the Manse.

Through the years many improvements were made to the church itself such as a vestibule added, the church refinished in white stucco with two beautiful memorial front doors and the interior tastefully decorated.

Time marches on and under the leadership of Rev. Harold Kemp the decision was made to amalgamate Snowball, Pottageville and Kettleby United churches. Construction of a new building was begun in October 1965 to be known as York Pines United Church. This church was opened and dedicated at a very impressive service on the afternoon of Sunday, May 29th, 1966, with the Right Rev. James R. Mutchmor, past Moderator of the United Church of Canada, as guest preacher.

In the morning of the same day the doors of the old churches, which had served their respected communities for so many years, were closed in grateful memory of those who had been faithful in all the years gone by.

The old church in Kettleby now houses an impressive antique shop together with living quarters. Snowball and Pottageville churches have been renovated into permanent homes.

Prepared and given at  
a U.C.W. meeting at  
York Pines United Church  
on June 17th, 1975, by -  
Ruth Hambleton Maginn