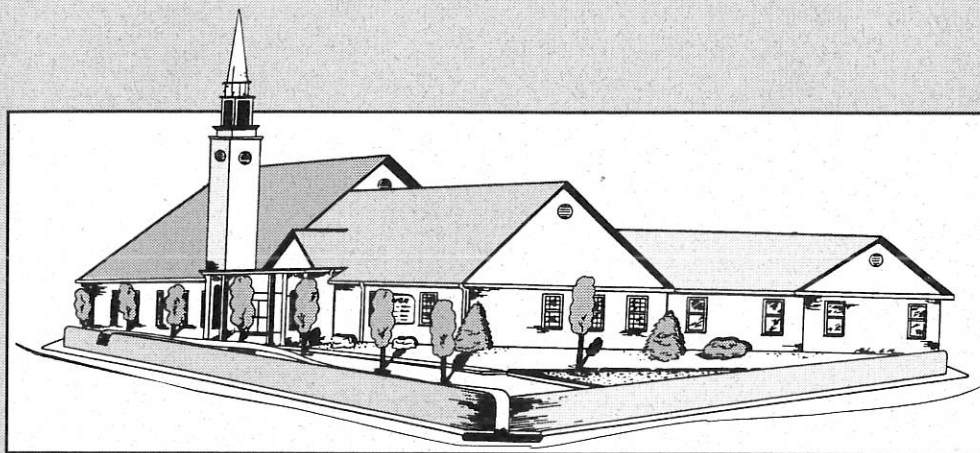


50th Anniversary



Dover Avenue Alliance Church



Great is God's faithfulness.

April 22-24, 1994

Welcome:

We welcome our visitors and guests and thank all of you for joining our celebration of God's great faithfulness to His body of believers at Dover Avenue Alliance Church. We hope you will find this brief recollection of God's work among us interesting and inspiring. Our thanks to all who have worked to make this celebration possible.



**Dover Avenue Alliance Church
Orange City, Iowa**



Dover Avenue Alliance Church is a part of the worldwide ministry of The Christian and Missionary Alliance based in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Since its beginnings, the Alliance emblem has stood for the adequacy of the gospel of Christ to meet our needs. They are:

What does salvation do? It saves us from the guilt of sin, the wrath of



**CHRIST
OUR
SAVIOR**

God, the fear of dying and beyond all else, eternal death. It brings us the forgiveness of all our sins and it opens the way for all the blessings that follow.

Before we can be saved we must first see our need and our danger. The Holy Spirit brings this to our mind and our heart and conscience. There must next be a turning from sin. This means to have the whole will and purpose of heart turned from sin to God.

Salvation occurs by coming to Jesus, believing that Christ has accepted us and confessing Him as Savior.

Sanctification is not conversion. Sanctification is not your own work, is not self-perfection.



**CHRIST
OUR
SANCTIFIER**

Sanctification is dedication to God and separation from sin. We have Jesus Himself, as our sanctifier. It does not come to us by our efforts, but it is made over to us as the purchase of His death on the cross.

We must come to see Jesus as our Sanctifier and make an entire surrender to Him. We must next believe He receives the consecration we make.

We are also to live a life of obedience, ever hearkening to God's voice. In every time of conflict or temptation, we are to draw near to God and give the matter over to Him.



Divine healing is not medical healing. We have nothing to say against the use of remedies, for they have some value as far as they go. But there is a better help.



**CHRIST
OUR
HEALER**

Neither is divine healing mind cure or Christian Science. Divine healing is the direct power of the almighty hand of God Himself. It is founded, not on the reasoning of man or the testimony of those who have been healed, but on the Word of God alone.

Divine healing is part of the redemptive work of Jesus. Its foundation stone is the cross. "Himself took our infirmities, and bare our sickness" (Matthew 8:17).

The Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ is a distinct and important part of the apostolic gospel. The truth and hope of the Lord's return is the church's great and blessed hope.



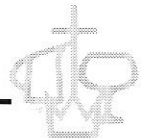
**CHRIST
OUR COMING
LORD**

The more we know Jesus spiritually, the more we will long for His personal and eternal presence.

Christ shall reign with his saints on earth. It is a time of victory, joy and glory.

Let us then be ready and watching. Let us be faithful and diligent. The world is to be forewarned. The church is to be prepared.

Arouse thee, O Christian!



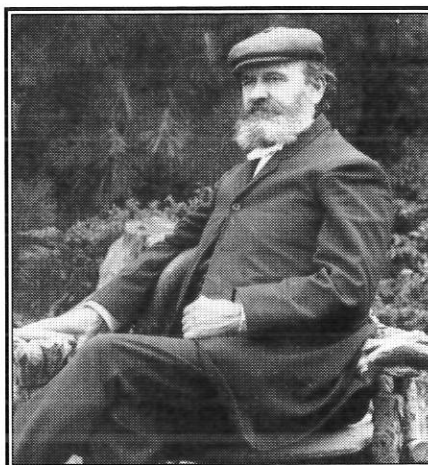
GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Our Historical Roots!

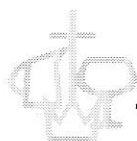
Fifty years of God's faithfulness are certainly reason to celebrate the character of our God and His workings among us. While Dover Avenue Alliance Church (Dover) had its official formation in April 1944, the story of God's faithfulness precedes formal recognition of Dover's historical roots.

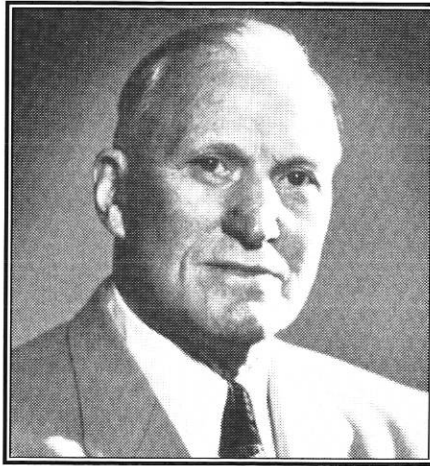
The Christian and Missionary Alliance (CMA) had its roots in the post Civil War industrial revolution, the philosophical advent of liberalism, the developing religious interest in biblical prophecy, particularly the premillennial view that judgment will come upon the earth with the appearing of Christ before the millennium will be ushered in, and the great evangelistic meetings of Dwight L. Moody and others. Out of this environment Albert B. Simpson, born in 1843 and ordained a Presbyterian minister at the age of 22 in 1865, developed a vision of reaching both the masses in urban slums, and later, foreign missions. When his efforts to reach the masses in the Italian quarters of New York proved unacceptable to the members of the Thirteenth Street Church, to which he had accepted a call in 1880, he felt compelled to withdraw from the Presbytery on grounds of conscience concerning infant baptism. He had come to the conviction that immersion was the New Testament teaching, and acting upon that conviction, was immersed at a Baptist chapel in New York in October 1881.

Dr. Simpson began meetings in a new ministry thereafter in November 1881 while urging members of the Thirteenth Street Church to remain loyal. In February 1881 an organization of seventeen members was formed and the foundation of the Christian and Missionary Alliance was laid, although the Christian Alliance and The Evangelical



Dr. Albert B. Simpson, founder of the Christian and Missionary Alliance





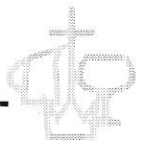
Dr. R.R. Brown

Missionary Alliance would not coalesce until April 1897. Dover's tie to the Alliance's beginning was Dr. R.R. Brown (aka Rah Rah Brown). Dr. Brown was a soloist and song leader for Dr. Simpson. He later became the first superintendent of the Western District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, the founder of the Omaha Gospel Tabernacle (now Christ Community Church), and a pioneer in radio ministry. Among those who became a part of the World Radio Congregation on

WOW Radio, which began on April 8, 1923, were the founders of the Orange City Gospel Church which today is Dover Avenue Alliance Church.

Some ten years later, the dream of what is now the Okoboji Bible and Missionary Conference began to take shape. The purpose was to provide a summer Bible and missionary conference for the World Radio Congregation. Lake Okoboji, in northwest Iowa, seemed centrally located for the conference. The first conference, was held August 4-11, 1935. The purpose of the conference as set forth in its Articles of Incorporation in 1946, was and remains "... to conduct summer Bible and missionary conferences and other religious activities incident to the propagation of the gospel of Jesus Christ in the United States and foreign lands, and the promotion of the work of the church of Christ both at home and abroad." Among those who participated in and learned from the wealth of speakers and missionaries at the interdenominational conference were the founders of Dover. Among the speakers were Billy Graham and Dr. Richard De Haan.

Through these ministries and times of Bible study and prayer that began in 1942, the interested believers, who became part of the founders of Dover Avenue Alliance Church, were convicted of their personal need to seek a life of true spiritual worship upon the confession and forgiveness of sin by Jesus Christ and the desire to lead others to this spiritual victory. The former conviction lead to a belief in believers baptism by



immersion. Several of the founders acted upon this conviction at the summer conferences by being baptized in the waters of Lake Okoboji. The latter conviction lead this group of believers to sponsor various meetings in the town hall in Orange City. Separate meetings relating to the prophetic teachings of scripture with an emphasis on the premillennial return of the Lord Jesus Christ and missionary conferences were held.

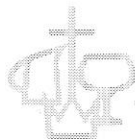


Charter members, back row: C. De Vries, A. Vogel, J. Jacobs, J. Steensma front row: Mrs. C. De Vries, Mrs. A. Vogel, Mrs. J. Steensma - at the 25th Anniversary

On April 20, 1944, at the home of Andrew and Jennie Vogel, the founders adopted a constitution for what was later named the Orange City Gospel Church. This meeting was chaired by the Rev. J.H. Woodward, who had been conducting the times of home Bible study and prayer. On May 25, 1944, the founders met to adopt the name of the church and to set the following policies for the church which, with the exception of item 4, remain a part of our governing bylaws today:

1. *To develop and maintain a spiritual church, cultivating true worship, seeking to lead people to Christ and into a life of spiritual victory through sanctification of the Spirit.*
2. *The pulpit would be open to honored servants of God regardless of their denominational distinctions.*
3. *To hold Bible and Missionary Conferences and special meetings from time to time.*
4. *To seek to give Gospel privileges to the neglected school districts in this area.*
5. *To promote foreign missions on a world wide basis.*
6. *To financially support the work through tithes and offerings. When a special need arises, the matter shall be presented to the Lord and special offerings taken. No funds shall be raised by assessments or charges of any kind.*

The first special meeting was held on Sunday, May 7, 1944, with the Palermo Brothers. The first evangelistic meeting with Dr. J.H. Hagar



was scheduled for September 11-15, 1944 and the first Missionary Convention was held October 22-27, 1944 with Dr. Turner, Rev. Woodward presenting slides, Rev. Ben DeJong, Dr. R.R. Brown and undesignated missionaries.

Regular services were set on Sundays as follows:

1:30 p.m. Regular Service
3:00 p.m. Sunday School
7:45 p.m. Song Service
8:00 p.m. Regular Service

COMING TO ORANGE CITY
at the CITY HALL

**The Gospel Palermo
Musical Four**

Sunday, May 7

Afternoon 2 til 2:30
Evening 8 til 10 o'clock

Come and hear the Gospel in Music, Song, and Speech. The Palermos of Italian descent are highly gifted musicians. They can be heard daily at 4 p.m. over W'NAX

Rev. J. Woodward will have a brief message in the afternoon.

Everyone is WELCOME. Over 1,000 free seats. Especially good for young people.

Under auspices of Orange City Gospel church

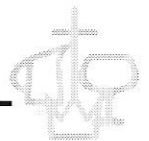
Newspaper ad from May 4, 1944.

Communion was served the first Sunday of each month. The second Sunday of every month was Missionary Sunday.

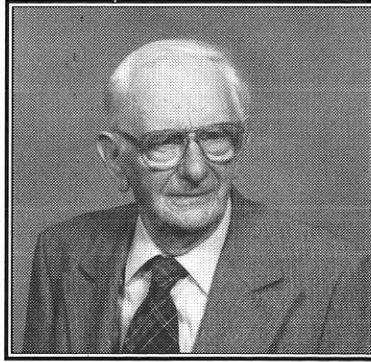
The following became the charter members of The Orange City Gospel Church:

Mrs. Elizabeth Bekman*	Charles H. De Vries*
Mrs. Charles H. De Vries	Harvey De Vries
John Jacobs*	Ruth Jacobs
Albert Kooy*	Mrs. Albert Kooy*
Viola Kooy	Evangeline Kooy
Joe Steensma*	Mrs. Joe Steensma*
Andrew Vogel	Mrs. Andrew Vogel*
Herman Wobbema*	Mrs. Herman Wobbema*
Clarice Wobbema	*Deceased

Added later as charter members, consistent with normal practice, were the first Pastor and his wife, Rev. J.H. Woodward* and Mrs. Woodward,* when Rev. Woodward accepted the call to the Orange City Gospel Church on October 17, 1944. Rev. Woodward's farewell sermon was to be delivered December 12, 1948, but he served until the



Watchnight Service December 31, 1948.



Andrew Vogel, current and surviving charter member of the Orange City Gospel Church.



Jennie De Vries, current and surviving charter member of the Orange City Gospel Church.

Other Pastors serving the Lord and the church through the years and the approximate periods of service were:

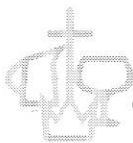
Rev. Harry Swanson:	May 1949 - November 1950
Rev. Richard J. Abrams Sr.:	September 1951 - January 1953
Rev. John Berentschott:	January 1954 - January 1956
Rev. Harley Heckman:	October 1956 - April 1960
Rev. David S. Hadley:	August 1960 - July 1966
Rev. Jacob Van Kekerix:	October 1967 - August 1973
Rev. Henry A. Elgersma:	October 1973 - January 1990
Rev. Paul Frederick:	June 1990 - present

Also serving the congregation, are its present staff Rev. Burt Manchester as Director of Christian Education and Rev. Orville Kool as Associate Pastor of Community Outreach.

GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Our History of Missions!

Throughout its history, Dover Avenue Alliance Church has had a keen interest in supporting foreign missions. However, early Sunday School records show support was given to such organizations as The Bronx



Messianic Center for its work among the Jewish population in New York and Indian mission work started by C. J. Mason, a past superintendent of the Northwest District of the CMA. This interest was in missions developed honestly coming from the larger denomination. Dr. A.B. Simpson in his seventeenth report to Council (the CMA's governing body) in 1913-1914 defined the character of the Alliance:

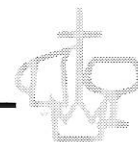
God has given us a missionary movement unique in its polity, worldwide in its scope, lofty in its aims, and inspiring in its motives; and it seems fitting that at this time we should be fully baptized into the very heart of this movement until we ourselves shall go forth as living epistles and apostles for the evangelization of the world.

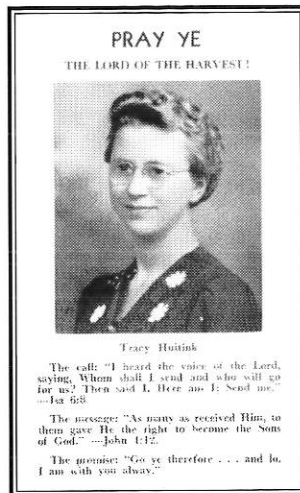
Dr. Simpson identified ten characteristics of this missionary movement called the Christian and Missionary Alliance. They are:

1. *An Evangelical movement that has stood for the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints.*
2. *An evangelistic movement aiming to preach the gospel immediately to every member of our fallen race.*
3. *A spiritual movement seeking and sending missionaries that have been baptized with the Holy Spirit.*
4. *An interdenominational movement welcoming the cooperation of Christians and missionaries of every evangelical denomination.*
5. *An international movement interested in the welfare of every race and tongue.*
6. *A pioneer movement not duplicating existing agencies but reaching to regions beyond.*
7. *An economical movement avoiding expensive establishments.*
8. *A premillennial movement seeking to gather a people for His name and looking and hastening forward the coming of the Lord.*
9. *A lay movement seeking to create a new battalion in the army of the Lord.*
10. *Characterized by a spirit of sacrifice.*

The focus of this heritage came through at the Okoboji Conference and when supplemented by the missionaries speaking there, it was only natural that Dover's founders learned to share this interest.

The first missionary sent by the Gospel Church was Tracy Huitink. She went to Arabia under the auspices of the Sudan Interior Mission (SIM).





Tracy Huitink's mission card.

At that time the Gospel Church committed the sum of \$345.00 for her transportation and undertook her total support for one year in the sum of \$500.00. This support was underwritten by Andrew and Jennie Vogel. Tracy was commissioned on December 16, 1945, with the Rev. Harold B. Street speaking. While Tracy's overseas mission was cut short by medical difficulties, she faithfully served the Lord on her return to the States both in her profession as a nurse and in child evangelism work. She continues with her interest in young children by volunteering at the Orange City Community Day Care Center.

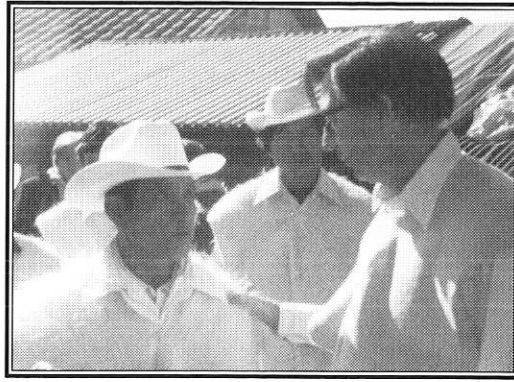
Among others listening to the World Radio Congregation was a young girl in Boone, Iowa now known as Darlene Deibler Rose. She first heard that Jesus Christ had died for her on Dr. R. R. Brown's radio program at the age of nine. It was at the age of ten, when Dr. Brown came to a missionary conference, that she felt called to the mission field. After her internment in a Japanese prisoner of war camp and her recovery after the war, she became the second missionary supported by the small congregation, Charles and Jennie De Vries assuming responsibility for her support to return to the Netherlands East Indies. You can read her story in her book *Evidence Not Seen*, Harper & Row, San Francisco (1988).



Jerry and Darlene Rose with sons Bruce and Brian.



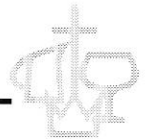
work for Wycliffe Translators are Ken and Elaine Jacobs. Ken, son of John Jacobs, originally set out to become an accountant but under the ministry of Rev. Woodward and the prompting of the Holy Spirit he became convinced of the need to bring the gospel message to others who had not yet heard. He changed schools going to



Ken Jacobs with Chamula Indian man. —

St. Paul Bible College (now Crown College) where he met his wife, Elaine. They later went to the Summer Institute of Linguistics at the University of Oklahoma at Norman in 1950, where pushing the age of thirty they were told by some mission organizations they were too old to start a pioneering mission work. However, Uncle Cam Townsend, founder of Wycliffe, asked them if they had considered becoming Bible translators. Uncle Cam simply told them "*we need you!*" It became their call. They have since spent their time working to translate the Bible into the language of the Chamula Indians in the Chiapas, Mexico area, which has recently been in the news as an area of political unrest. The first step was to reduce the language to writing. Thirty years later on January 2, 1980, the entire New Testament was dedicated and made available for public distribution. Several members of Dover's congregation were able to be in attendance at the dedication along with over 3000 Chamula believers. This was more than double the number known to Ken and Elaine. With God's faithful protection, the Old Testament will soon be completed. The Reformed Church assumed responsibility for the original publication and distribution of the Chamula New Testament. The full story can be read in *They Dared to be Different*, (Revised Edition) Wycliffe Bible Translators, Huntington Beach, California (1976).

Despite their now advanced age, Lee and Nita Hanemaayer continue to serve the Lord by holding Child Evangelism programs in northwest Arkansas. Lee first felt the call to minister to the more isolated mountain people of Kentucky and West Virginia. It was there Lee met Nita, who was already teaching God's Word to the people who lived there.



The Orange City Gospel Church
Orange City, Iowa

cordially invites you and your friends to attend the first

**ANNUAL MISSIONARY
CONFERENCE**

Sunday, Oct. 22 to Friday, Oct. 27

Orange City Auditorium

Speakers

Rev. R. R. Brown, D. D., Omaha, Radio Minister WOW.

Rev. H. L. Turner, Dean, Dept. of Bible, St. Paul Bible Institute, St. Paul, Minnesota.

Rev. Benjamin De Jong, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, Ashton, Iowa.

Rev. J. W. Brill, Missionary to Netherlands East Indies.

Rev. E. A. Prentice, Missionary to Columbia, South America.

Rev. J. H. Woodward, Pastor, Formerly Missionary Canadian Northwest.

SPECIAL FEATURES, Slides, Motion Pictures.

SOLOIST—Miss Genevieve Westerfield, Radio Soloist of Omaha

Servants: Sunday, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Weekdays, 8 p.m.

1944 Missionary Conference ad.

ization - in keeping with desires of Dr. Simpson when he founded the Christian and Missionary Alliance. Hopefully on the local level it has and will continue to be a place where there is "a work for everyone and everyone (is) at work," in keeping with Dr. Simpson's motto for the church.

Dover has had ministries for young people, Alliance Woman, active Sunday School programs, community programs like AWANA, MOPS



Dover's Alliance Women

The preceding individuals are only a few of the missionaries and work supported throughout the years by the people of Dover. While much of Dover's financial giving has gone and continues to go to The Great Commission Fund of the Christian and Missionary Alliance, many of the names found on current giving lists work with para-church organizations.

Throughout its history Dover Avenue Alliance Church has sought to maintain a ministry in which the church was the people - a living organism not an organ-

Wally White Evangelistic Party

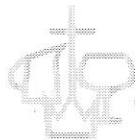
Tuesday, July 29
SINGLED MUSIC CONCEPT — and parts THREE — THROUGH CONQUEST TO VICTORY
The program will be held at the Orange City Auditorium, 1000 N. 1st St., Orange City, Iowa.

Wednesday, July 30
"GOD IS THE HARVEST"
At 6:30 — Jesus Dies
The program will be held at the Orange City Auditorium, 1000 N. 1st St., Orange City, Iowa.

Orange City Town Hall
JULY 29, 30 - 8:00 p.m.
U.S. ADULT-ADULT CHARGE

1953 Evangelistic Party

and Moms in Touch, mini-missions conferences like the most recent one in February 1994, emphasizing the work in Chile. Foreign missions continues to be a point of emphasis with different members of the congregation involved in mini-missions



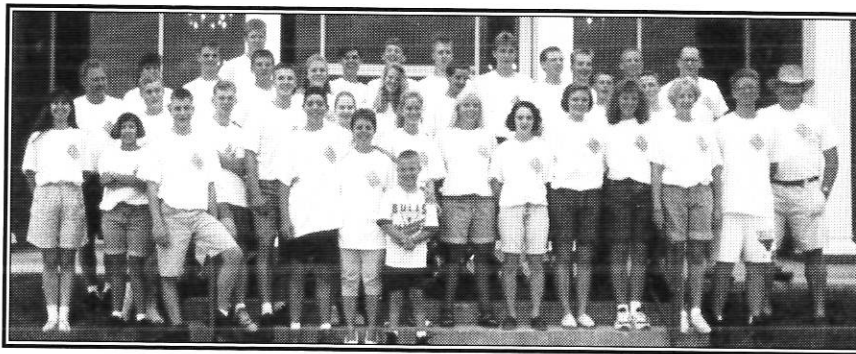


One of the AWANA groups.

trips of service and the active support of those involved in full time missions work. These efforts to make known opportunities of service follow the example of our founders.

Alliance Women, formerly Women's Missionary Prayer Fellowship, have been faithful throughout the years in their work of active Bible training, education about Alliance missionaries and their fields of work, organizing supplies for use overseas, raising money for special needs, and perhaps most important for their prayer support for the church, its ministries and missionaries.

AWANA (Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed) provides regular work in the memorization of scripture for our youth and community young people. MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) provides a time of support and spiritual help for new and busy mothers with young children. Moms in Touch continues with prayers to overshadow and protect school age children. Just last summer, our young people went on a missions trip to Mexico to experience firsthand the joy of the Lord in serving others. Again this is not a full rendition of our members willingness to serve but a mere sampling that will continue to encourage us to be responsive to the Lord's call in ministering to the spiritual needs of our world.



Youth group who went to Mexico on a mission trip.



GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!

Our Leadership!

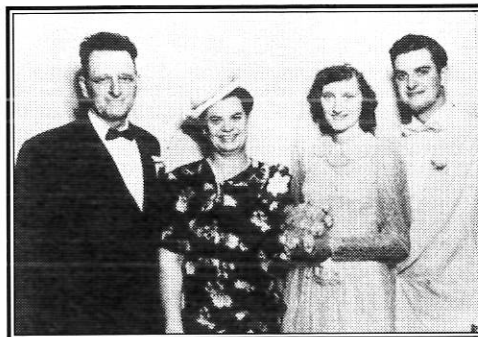
Over the fifty years, nine pastors have faithfully served the congregation.



back row: Pearl, Joyce, Muriel front row:
Faith, Rev. and Mrs. Woodward _____

Rev. J. H. Woodward became the first pastor when he accepted the call on October 17, 1944. He served until delivering his farewell sermon on December 31, 1948. His salary was \$30.00 per week "provided he has no other source of income from secular labors." Rev. Woodward died in 1979.

Rev. Harry Swanson served from April 1949 to November 1950. Rev. Swanson passed away in 1950.

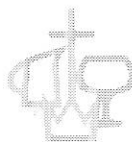


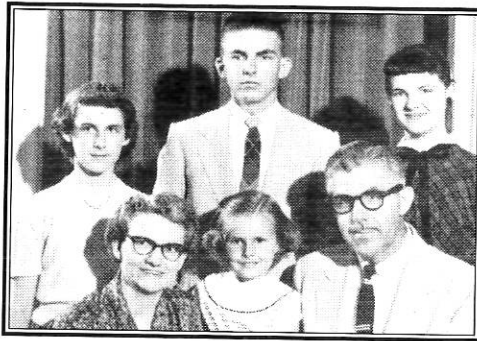
Rev. and Mrs. Swanson, Joan and Gerald _____



Rev. R.J. Abrams _____

Rev. R.J. Abrams served from September 1951-January 1953. Rev. R.J. Abrams died in 1981.

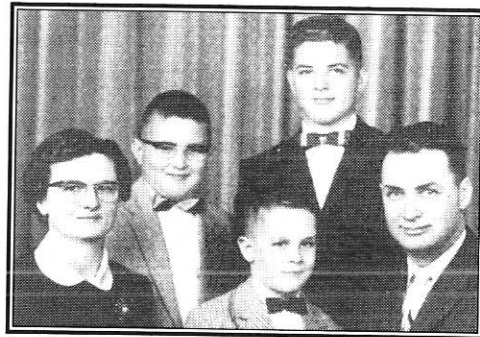




back row: Carmen, Scotty and Karen front
row: Rev. and Mrs. Brentschot and Louise

Our fourth minister, Rev. John Brentschot, delivered his first message on October 4, 1953, and his farewell message in June of 1956. Rev. Brentschot and his wife are retired and residing in Sun City, California. He originally came to the Gospel Church to conduct a series of special meetings before accepting the call to become pastor.

Rev. Harley Heckman served from October 1956 to April 1960. He now resides in Cedarburg, Wisconsin and serves as Pastor of Visitation at the Alliance Bible Church.



back row: Dale and Darrel front row: Rev.
and Mrs. H. Heckman and Myron



back row: Rev. and Mrs. David
Hadley and Ruth Front: Ann and
Mary Gail

Rev. David Hadley served from August 1960 until July 1966. It was during his tenure that the first church building was replaced with a red brick colonial structure and the name was changed to Dover Avenue Alliance. Rev. and Mrs. Hadley are presently living in Rochester, Minnesota.



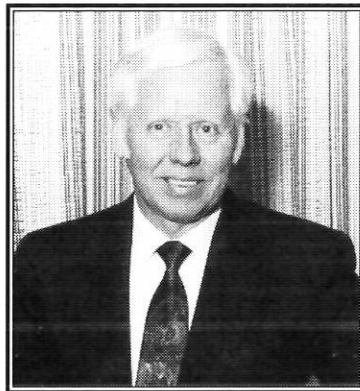


back row: James, Jacque and Jolyn
front row: Rev. and Mrs. Van
Kekerix and Julie

Rev. Henry Elgersma served the congregation from October 1973 until January 1990. It was during these years that the church's attendance increased rapidly. During Rev. Elgersma's pastorate, a new parsonage, an office and educational wing, fellowship hall and new sanctuary were built. Rev. Elgersma and his family are currently residing in Orange City, Iowa.



back row: Lynnae and Elise front
row: Rev. and Mrs. Elgersma, Kalie,
Aubyn and Henry

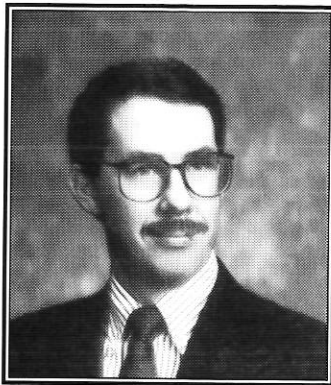


Rev. Paul Fredrick

Our present minister is Rev. Paul Fredrick. Rev. Fredrick came to serve the congregation as Senior Pastor in June 1990.

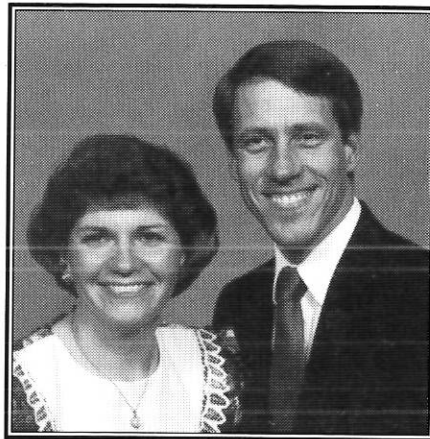


As Dover grew other staff members faithfully serving the congregation include:

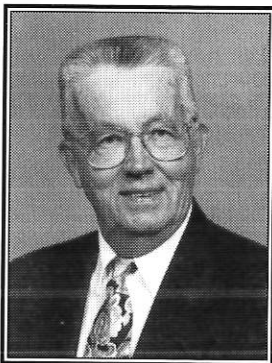


Dr. Dave Smidt _____

Dr. Dave Smidt, served as Christian Education director on a part time basis from 1979 to 1985. Dave and his family continue to reside in Orange City and he continues to work in his veterinarian business.



Rev. and Mrs. Burt Manchester _____



Rev. Orville Kool _____

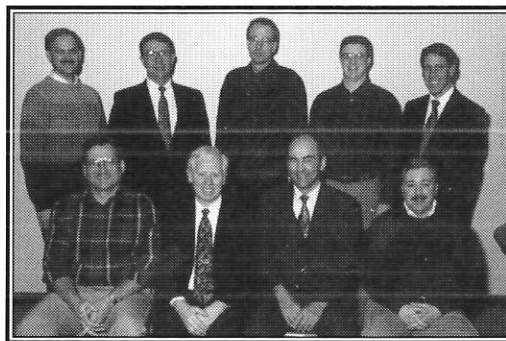
In 1993, Rev. Orville Kool became part of the staff as Pastor of Community Outreach. Pastor Kool is the son-in-law of our Pastor Woodward, our first pastor. He comes to us from many years of service as a Southern Baptist minister.



In 1944, the church voted in their first officers. They included:

Secretary	Herman Wobbema
Treasurer	Joe Steensma
Elders:	Andrew Vogel
	Albert Kooy
Deacons:	Joe Steensma
	Charles H. De Vries
Financial Secretary	Charles H. De Vries
Sunday School Supt.	Albert Kooy
Communion Steward	Herman Wobbema

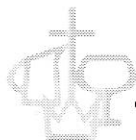
For years the church board consisted of the pastor, two elders, two deacons and the Sunday School superintendent. Later the Constitution was updated to include a church board secretary, church treasurer, mission treasurer and three elders and deacons rather than two.

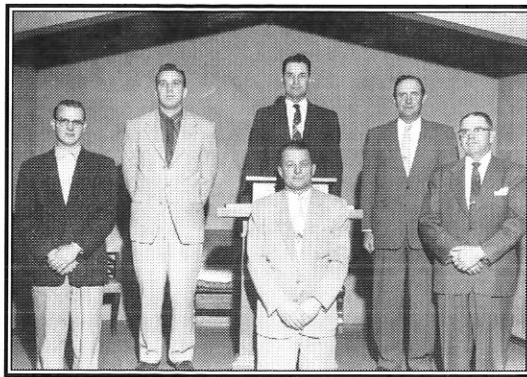


1994 Governing Board back row: Ken Fry, Duane Beekhuizen, Cal De Jong, Dirk Roghair and Rev. Manchester front: Merrill Holmquist, Rev. Frederick, Merlyn Jasper and Don Keith (not pictured: Ed Mortenson and Donna Mortenson)

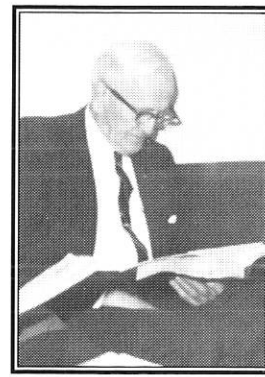
As the church grew in attendance, it necessitated a larger church board. The elders and deacons became separate boards consisting of nine on each board. The elder board assists in the spiritual work of the church and the deacon board is responsible to maintain all church properties. These boards advise and recommend to the Governing Board of the church. The Governing Board consists of

the pastor, church treasurer, church board secretary, mission treasurer, Christian Education director, two third year elders, two second year year elders, two third year deacons and two second year deacons.





Church Board (sometime between 1956 and 1960) back row : Art Vogel, Cliff Pals, Rev. Heckman, Davy Crockett and Cornie Pals front: John Jacobs

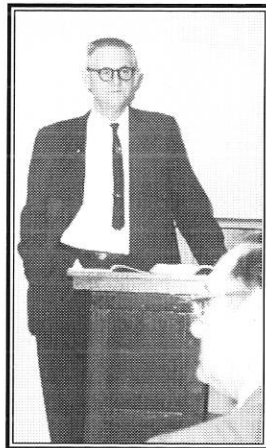


Charles Vander Ploeg attending Sunday school.

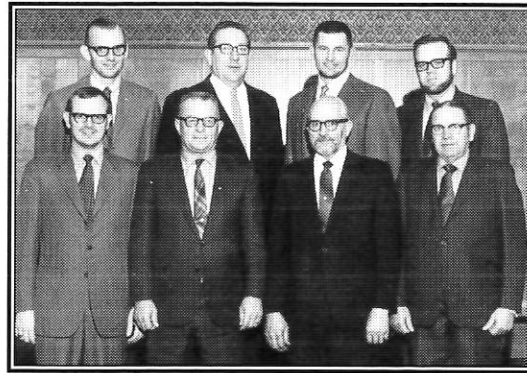
Throughout the years, many people have served in other roles such as Sunday School teachers, choir and other ministries.



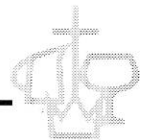
Dover Alliance choir.



Joe Steensma teaching men's Sunday school class (Davy Crockett in foreground)



Church Board of 1970 back row: Marv Vogel, Rev. Van Kekerix, Rog Roghair and Al Pals front: Art Vogel, John Jacobs, Pete Van Vugt and Cornie Pals (missing is Davy Crockett)



GREAT IS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS!



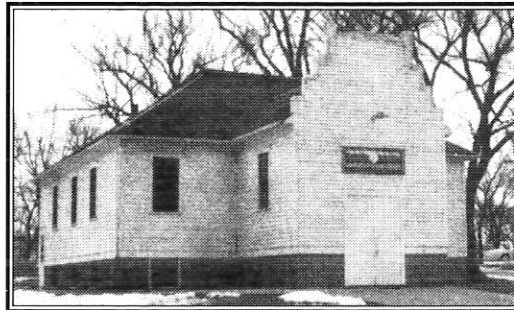
First congregation, met at the Orange City town hall.

Physical Properties:

The Orange City Gospel Church was organized but without a formal place to meet. On May 25, 1944, the congregation agreed on the basement of the Orange City Town Hall as a public meeting place. The congregation made a commitment to rent the basement for twenty (20) weeks at the rate of \$2.50 per week on June 29, 1944.

On January 1, 1945 a special board meeting was held to consider a proposal to purchase the present church property from Brother Steensma and Brother Vogel. Upon motion by H. Wobbema, supported by A. Kooy, the following resolution was adopted and submitted to the congregation at a meeting held on January 11, 1945:

Whereas the building on the property offered by the brethren Steensma and Vogel can be conveniently made into a suitable meeting place for our various church meetings; and Whereas the grounds are adaptable for tent meetings; The Board recommends to the congregation the purchase of said property from the above named brethren for the consideration of \$3350.00, this being the price for which this property has just been purchased.

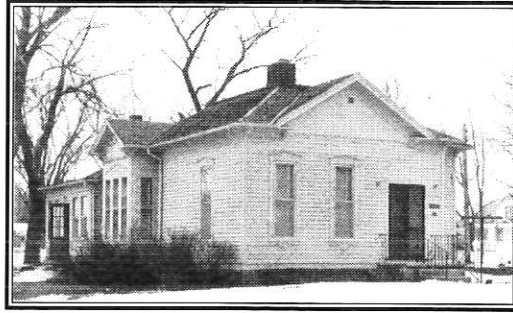


The First Church

The congregation unanimously supported the board's recommendation. The purchase was funded by a special building fund offering on February 18, 1945 which raised \$2644.32. The sum of \$2050.00 was



applied to the purchase price and the balance was financed by a note and mortgage for the sum of \$1300.00 for one year. The balance of the offering was retained in the building fund. The note and mortgage were to be retired by the use of the entire afternoon offering of the last Sunday of each month.

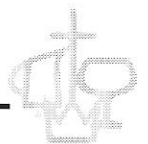


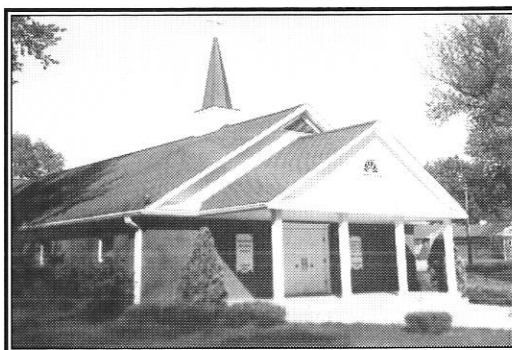
The Parsonage

On May 14, 1945, Brothers Steensma and Vogel were authorized to represent the Orange City Gospel Church, with the power to act at an auction of the Middleburg Christian School. No purchase price is noted in the records of the church. The May 28 minutes show a report by the building committee as to the purchase of the building and plans for a basement on the church property and moveing of the building. The August 30, 1945, minutes reflect the building was on its foundation on the church's property. This would be east of the current library. The board recommended to the congregation spending the sum of \$1500.00 to make improvements to the building which the congregation increased to \$2000.00. The first church service in the new building was held on Sunday, December 16, 1945, and on the same Sunday Tracy Huitink was commissioned as a missionary to Arabia. The Rev. Harold B. Street was the guest speaker. The building was dedicated in March 1946 with Rev. Benjamin DeJong of Ashton conducting a week of services. This was shortly after the special congregational meeting on January 1, 1946, to adopt the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws to formally incorporate the church as a legal entity.

Pews were first purchased for the Gospel Church from A.B. Simpson Memorial Church in St. Paul for \$300.00 on October 1, 1951.

The membership of the church did not increase greatly for some time but as it grew there developed a strong desire to erect a new church building. In August 1964 plans for a new building were formulated and the new edifice was dedicated on October 31, 1965, during the tenure of Rev.

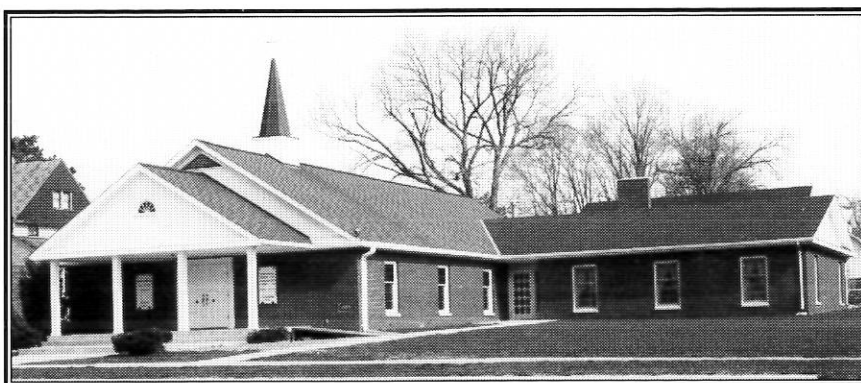




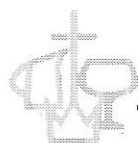
New Church erected in 1965.

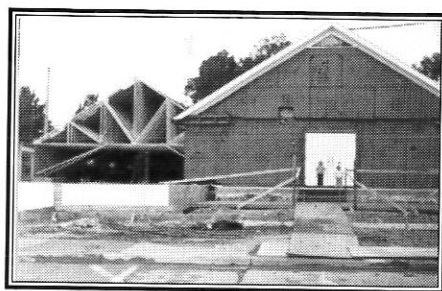
age was replaced with the present structure built at cost of \$66,550.00. Later, during the tenure of Rev. H. Elgersma, an educational and office wing was added in 1978 at a cost of \$90,832.00. This wing was dedicated on September 17, 1978. As the church continued its rapid growth it became necessary to build the present sanctuary, fellowship hall and nursery area. These areas were added at a cost of \$562,591.00 in 1982 and were dedicated on April 11, 1982. These sections were completed in 1988 at the cost of \$100,601.00 all during the tenure of Rev. Elgersma.

Church offices and Sunday School facilities were updated in 1992 at a cost of \$30,208.00. Present improvements to the front of the church building, parking and sidewalks should be completed in 1994. Expenditures to date total \$47,617.04.



New educational and office wing.





Existing building (right) with sanctuary addition (left) under construction.

The financial report of the church as of the first annual meeting in October 1945 showed:

ASSETS:

Cash in Bank	\$1718.03
Parsonage & Lot	3500.00
Church & Lot	<u>1500.00</u>

TOTAL ASSETS **\$6718.03**

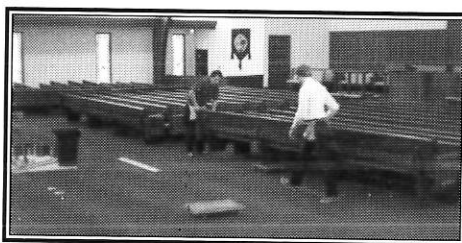
LIABILITIES & NET WORTH:

Parsonage & lot	\$1300.00
Current Bills Payable	700.00
Net Worth	<u>4718.03</u>

TOTAL **\$6718.03**



Putting the steeple on present church. —

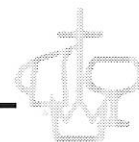


Installing pews in new sanctuary. —

CASH RECEIPTS:

General Fund	\$1761.34
Mission Fund	2813.69
Building Fund	<u>4094.51</u>

TOTAL **\$8669.54**



Compare the same reports for the year ended December 30, 1993:

ASSETS:

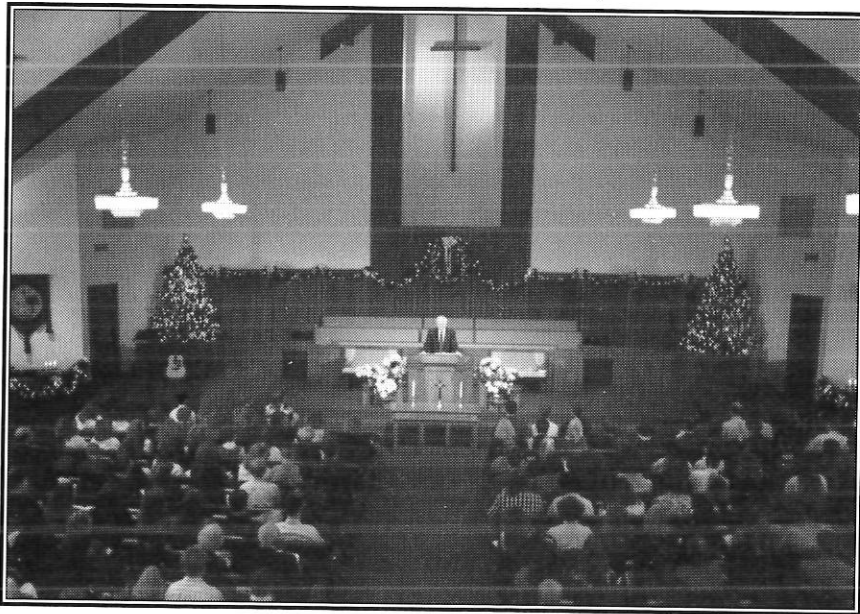
Cash (all Funds)	\$35,867.72
Bldgs & Equipment (cost)	<u>1,029,881.12</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,065,748.84x

LIABILITIES:

Long Term-Bldg.	35,000.00
Retained Excess Value	1,018,746.57
Current Excess	<u>12,002.27</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & FUNDS	1,065,748.84

CASH RECEIPTS; (exclusive of interest and funds on hand)

General Fund	160,023.09
Mission Fund	103,221.60
Building Fund	17,092.31
Specials	<u>9,800.87</u>
TOTAL	290,137.87



The current sanctuary

