

Look at MAUMC Past

By Debby Hyde

The month of June brings Father's Day.

Women from the Methodist faith were instrumental in creating Mother's Day and Father's Day as National Holidays. Encouraged by Anna Jarvis who developed and fought to have Mother's Day made a holiday, Grace Golden Clayton wished to develop a holiday in honor of Fathers in 1908. She along with an estimated 1000 children in Monongoh, West Virginia, lost her father (a Methodist Circuit Minister) in the devastating Monongoh Mine Disaster of December 6, 1907, but the day just didn't catch on. There were many attempts over the years to make Father's Day a national holiday but unfortunately this didn't happen until 1972.

I mentioned last month I felt that the Mothers are the backbone of a church, so that must make the Fathers the muscles. Traditionally their role, in churches, have been that of leaders, decision makers and builders.

In my searching of MAUMCs history I found a poster board from former pastors. In a "Pastor's Report" by Chester Mahan he said it best "*Perhaps the most rewarding single factor here is the large number of strong, capable and dedicated men who are carrying heavy responsibilities in the church and the community.*" This report was created in 1969, the year following the setting of the cornerstone for the new sanctuary.



MAUMC Men's Bible Class (prior to 1919). It was listed as the Maple Avenue ME Church and was donated by Mrs. Minnie M. Loser. The photographer George B Hostettler moved from Terre Haute in 1919.

The men of MAUMC serve on several committees and boards for the church. They participate monthly in the Men's Breakfast on the third Saturday of each month. There are also several men in the congregation that lend helping hands with the funeral dinners, Block Party, Rummage Sale and the 12 Points Community Meal. I have also been told what a wonderful job they do making breakfast and lunch available for purchase during the Christmas Bazaar.

Pictures from Last Month

Unfortunately at this time none of the women from the large picture have been identified, but the second picture of the women and children brought a few responses.

One from Sharon Koie who thought the woman on the right holding the little girl might be her mother.

Lois Nickel, member and former secretary to MAUMC wrote from Arizona. The picture was not of the Mother's Club, as previously thought, but was the Kindergarten Sunday School Class. The class was located in the old building under the stairs and to the left of the sanctuary.

The woman on the far right holding the child was Doris Plimmer Pelkey, wife of Lewis and mother of Ruth Ellen Pelkey Dean and Donald Pelkey. The Pelkey family were very active in the church especially in Sunday School and the Boy Scout Troup #4 and Girl Scouts.

Cindy Zimmerly and Marcie Syester were able to identify two other ladies from the picture. The lady on the left leaning over to a little girl is Margaret Smock, mother of Don Smock and grandmother to Cindy. Cindy believes that one of the little girls was her Aunt Susie but they are not sure at this time which one she is.

Marcie felt that the lady standing next to her was Mrs. Stovall, the wife of Pastor Thomas Stovall.



Thank you, Sharon, Lois, Cindy and Marcie for your help!