

Dedication of
**THE PARKMAN CHAPEL
THE DOUGLASS PAUL TESCHNER
CHANCEL
and
CHURCH SCHOOL BUILDING**



THE PARKMAN CHAPEL

EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Westborough, Massachusetts

Sunday, November 22, 1964

HISTORY OF THE CHURCH

Three hundred years ago, the region now occupied by the towns of the Worcester South Association was inhabited only by Indians. None of the present towns had been incorporated. Westborough was the one hundredth town to be incorporated into the Commonwealth on November 18, 1717.

Perhaps the religious life of our community began with the occasion of the burning of the Marlborough meeting house on Sunday morning, March 26, 1676 by the Indians. Phillip of Pokanoket had been ravaging the homes of the New England settlers in a last attempt to maintain Indian supremacy. The few inhabitants fled to older settlements but after Phillip's death, decided to return. They worshipped in homes before petitioning the General Court in 1688 to "build a meeting house" on the same site. Those living to the west who for fourteen years had walked the six miles to town meeting and worship and who lived in the area later called Chauncy Village, named for the Rev. Charles Chauncy, second president of Harvard College, did not wish it built on the same site. For many years this small group awaited answers to their petitions for land grants nearer their dwellings. Finally, on the 13th of March, 1709, the men of Chauncy received a grant of "50 acres of land for the benefit of the ministry, in the western part of Marlboro' called Chauncy". Forty acres of this was on and east of Powder Hill (now Lyman School), the other ten were in the Great Middle Meadow near Hocomocco Pond.

Until peace was signed in 1713, our people were in constant dread of the Indians and no less than 26 dwellings had been made into garrisons. In 1716 came the historic meeting to draw up a petition to become a precinct or township. On October 31st, 1717 it was read in the House of Representatives and the matter of incorporation presented which passed without opposition. It was sent up for concurrence and consented to by Samuel Shute, Governor, November 18, 1717.

THE REVEREND EBENEZER PARKMAN

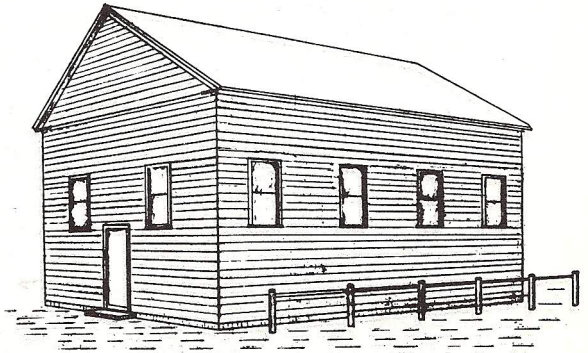


It was completed in 1724 in time for the ordination of the young minister, Rev. Ebenezer Parkman. He had entered Harvard College at the age of fourteen and was graduated on July 5, 1721. On October 28, 1724, the church was first organized, the minister installed and besides this young pastor, twelve men constituted the new church. Mr. Parkman kept a record of the fifty-eight years of his service until his failing hands closed it for the last time on October 27, 1782, forty-three

(Continued on Page 7)

THE FIRST MEETING HOUSE

The population had perceptibly increased and at the first town meeting, the first article was: "Resolved: To build a meeting house". It was located on the present Lyman School hill and also voted "that it shall be 40 feet long, 30 feet wide, 19 feet between joints". The committee were to have three shillings per day and they were to allow a man with a team of four oxen, six shillings per day. Five years elapsed before a vote was carried to finish it and at the first meeting held in it there was no floor nor seats.



THE CHURCH TODAY

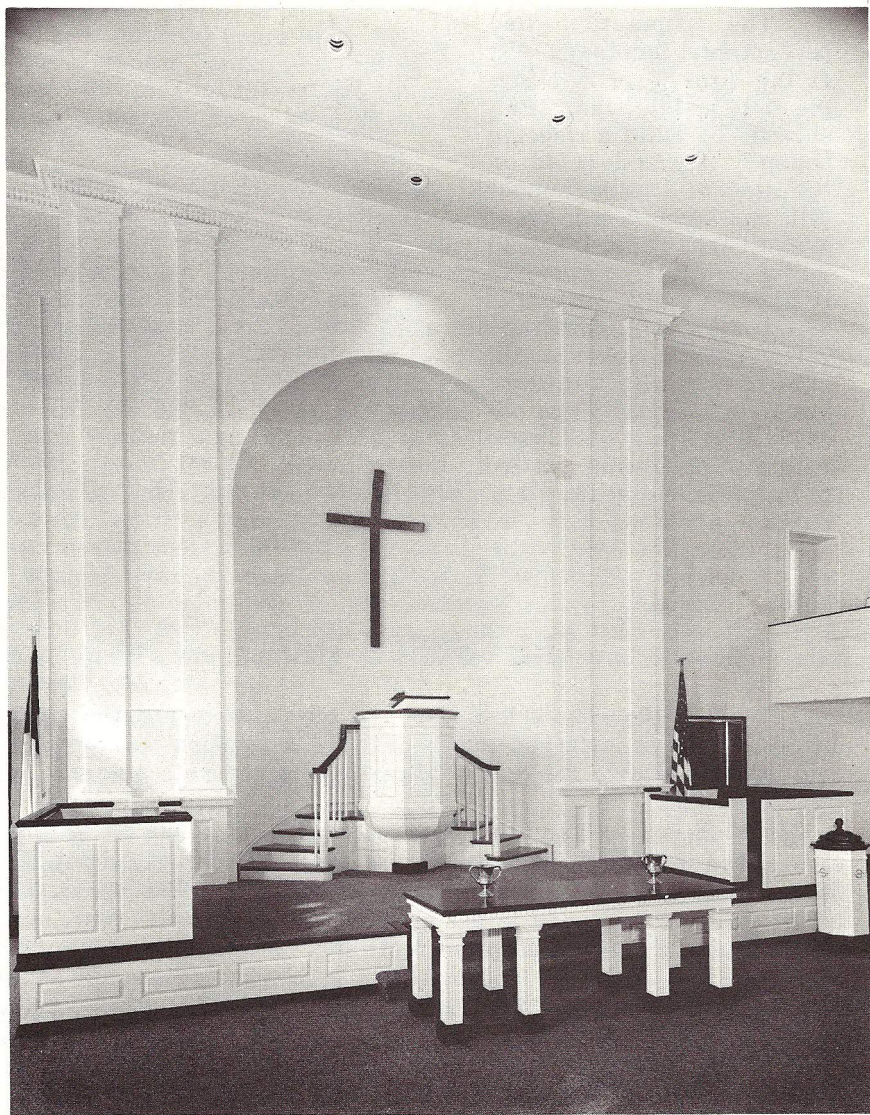
By 1729 the church had grown to 89 members and the meeting house had to be enlarged. Early in 1744 a petition was presented and granted to give the north side people a separate precinct, now Northborough.

In 1748 it was voted to build a new meeting house on "the north side of the County Road where now a pine bush grows, about 25 or 30 rods easterly of the burying place" (Memorial Cemetery). The pulpit which now stands in our narthex, the ministerial pew, nails, boards and such timber as could profitably be used was to be utilized in the new building. This building known in later years as the "Old Arcade" stood until it was torn down in 1892. The present Arcade Building stands on the site on Main Street between Milk and Summer Streets.



In 1834, due to many reasons and causes, one being the railroad which now ran up the present Summer Street, a new church building was constructed, the one now standing on the present site. It was dedicated on December 17, 1834 with appropriate ceremonies. The Rev. Mr. Rockwood took for his text, "Except that the Lord build the house, they labor in vain that build it". Remodeled in 1869, today we dedicate our new Parkman Chapel, new facilities and our Chancel.

(Continued on Page 7)



THE DOUGLASS PAUL TESCHNER CHANCEL

At the Special Church Meeting on October 7, 1964 it was un-
animously voted "That the chancel of our church be known as the
Douglass Paul Teschner Memorial Chancel and that a suitably in-
scribed plaque be placed in the chancel area". At the time of his
death on February 1, 1964, Mr. Teschner was a member of the
Stewardship Committee of our church.

EVENTS OF DEDICATION SUNDAY

- 10:30 A. M. Worship service with the Rev. S. Bruce Wagner as preacher. Mr. Wagner is a former neighbor and close friend of our minister.
- 6:00 P. M. Dedication Sunday supper with Dr. Francis G. Walett as after-dinner speaker. His subject will be: "The Life and Times of the Rev. Ebenezer Parkman". Dr. Walett has been working on the preparation of thirty-eight years of the Rev. Mr. Parkman's personal diary. Portions of it have already been published in the American Antiquarian Society's Minutes.

Honored guests will include Mrs. Lyndon S. Beardslee, widow of a minister of this church; the Rev. Kenneth Brookes, former minister of this church; Dr. Ruth Richards Miller, daughter of the Rev. Thomas Richards, former pastor of this church; Dr. Arland A. Dirlam, Architect for our building program, and Mr. George H. Guertin, agent for the William H. Guertin Construction Company, Contractor.

SERVICE OF DEDICATION

8:00 P. M.

- PRELUDE "Our Father in Heaven who Art" Bach
- * HYMN NO. 366 CWM RHONDA
God of Grace and God of Glory
- * CALL TO WORSHIP
- INVOCATION The Rev. F. Robert Brown
- OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 84 The Rev. Donald A. Simpson
- ANTHEM "How Beautiful Upon the Mountains" Harker
William Mitchell, Jr.,
Tenor Soloist
- WORDS OF GREETING:
From the Westborough churches The Rev. George W. Webb
From the Worcester Association of The Rev. Robert I. Howland,
Congregational Churches Moderator
From the Massachusetts The Rev. Donald A. Simpson
Congregational Conference *Field Secretary Central Area*
- ANTHEM "Lo, God is Here" Mueller
- NEW TESTAMENT LESSON The Rev. Kenneth Brookes
Ephesians 6: 10-20
- SERMON "All in One Place" The Rev. Robert W. Spike
Executive Director of the National Council of Churches' Emergency Commission on Religion and Race.

(Continued on Page 6)

SERVICE of DEDICATION

(Continued from Page 5)

LITANY OF DEDICATION

Minister: Fellow members of the household of God, we rejoice that God has put into the hearts of his people in times past to build this house to the glory of his name, and to inspire this present generation to renovate this church. Let us now accept this place of worship, strengthened and enhanced, and again set it apart for the worship of Almighty God and the service of all men.

To the glory of God, the Father, who has called us by his grace,
To the honor of his Son, who gave himself for all mankind,
To the praise of the Holy Spirit, who illumines heart and mind.

PEOPLE: WE DEDICATE THIS HOUSE ANEW.

MINISTER: For the worship of God in prayer and praise;
For the preaching of the good news of salvation,
For the celebration of the holy Sacraments,
In loving memory of Douglass Paul Teschner,

PEOPLE: We DEDICATE THIS CHANCEL ANEW.

MINISTER: For the worship of almighty God.
As children of our church school and youth fellowships;
In comfort of those who mourn;
For prayer and personal meditation; And
In honor of the first minister of this church,
the Rev. Ebenezer Parkman,

PEOPLE: WE DEDICATE THIS CHAPEL

MINISTER: For the instruction of our children in Christian ways
and for fellowship of all,

PEOPLE: WE DEDICATE THIS CHURCH SCHOOL BUILDING

MINISTER: In grateful remembrance of those who have gone before
us;
In gratitude for those whose fellowship is courage and strength,
In the joy of that Kingdom which is and is to come,

PEOPLE: WE NOW, MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH, MINDFUL OF THE INHERITANCE INTO WHICH WE HAVE ENTERED: AND THE GLORIOUS COMPANY, SEEN AND UNSEEN, WHOSE COMMUNION WE SHARE: AND DEEPLY SENSIBLE OF THOSE BONDS BY WHICH WE ARE BOUND TO THE LORD OF LIFE AND TO EACH OTHER: DO COVENANT TOGETHER IN THIS ACT OF DEDICATION, OFFERING OURSELVES ANEW TO GOD AS HIS SERVANTS FOR THE HEALING OF HUMANITY, THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

The Rev. S. Bruce Wagner **

(Continued on Page 7)

SERVICE of DEDICATION

(Continued from Page 6)

* HYMN NO. 1

Our God, our help in ages past

ST. ANNE

BENEDICTION

ANTHEM

"Hallelujah Chorus"

Handel

POSTLUDE

"A Prelude and Fugue in G Minor"

Bach

* THE CONGREGATION WILL STAND

Following this service all are welcome to an informal reception in the church vestry.

** Associate Chaplain in Research, Presbyterian Hospital, New York City

THE REVEREND EBENEZER PARKMAN

(Continued from Page 2)

days before his death on December 9, 1782. This is the man for whom our new Chapel is named and dedicated this November 22, 1964.

THE CHURCH TODAY

(Continued from Page 3)

From the 200th anniversary address of the Rev. Lyndon S. Beardslee -- "As we consider the history of this church, we need to pause and consider its inner life -- to realize that underneath the external historical events, a true history will lead us to look down into the soul of earnest seekers after the Truth".

*From Early Records
By Rachel R. Dearing*

MINISTER

Fred B. Spyker

F. Robert Brown, Associate

BOARD OF DEACONS

Charles E. Soule, Chairman

William L. Alden
Frank R. Goodwin
Edgar M. Ridley
Helmer E. Anderson
Dexter E. Bannister
William E. Kennedy
Edwin A. Heckman
Harry C. Winchell, Jr.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Roland C. Kimball, Chairman

Edwin E. Heckman
Harold W. Howard
Mrs. Harold B. Cushing
Ralph J. Johnson
Mrs. Wayne Horner, *Clerk*

ARCHITECT

Dr. Arland A. Dirlam, AIA

BUILDING COMMITTEE

John A. Heywood, Chairman

Helmer E. Anderson
Mrs. Gustaf H. Carlson
R. Lester DeArmond
Charles E. Hackett, Jr.
John R. Hero
Roland C. Kimball
Paul S. Shelton
Mrs. Raymond H. Tolman

DEDICATION COMMITTEE

Orville M. Witherell, Chairman

Mrs. Carroll Dearing
John A. Heywood
Mrs. E. Irving Hulbert
Roland C. Kimball
Charles E. Soule
Mrs. Raymond H. Tolman